

### ***Michael Erdman Bio***

Michael Erdman developed his keen interest in gardening and horticulture when he bought his first house in Toronto's Riverdale neighbourhood in the late 80's. Although his grandfathers in Waterloo had tutored him as a child in the culture of roses and growing vegetables, there was a long interlude between opportunities to get his hands dirty. With a blank slate of a yard at his new house and being a researcher by trade, Michael threw himself into learning about perennials, roses, shrubs and within a couple of years had no grass left in his yard. Without his knowledge, a friend entered him in a couple of garden contests, and in two years his garden won first prizes in the Riverdale ward and White Rose Nursery's city-wide garden contest.



Moving to the Beach neighbourhood in the '90's for more arable land, Michael co-authored books on perennial gardening and indoor gardening, and eventually became president of the Beach Garden Society. His Beach garden has been featured in local summer garden tours, and in numerous magazines, newspapers and TV programs. He tends hundreds of houseplants, including camellias and orchids. Always looking for new challenges, he completed the RBG and Garden Clubs of Ontario horticultural and floral design judging certification courses. Michael's floral designs have won many awards at major juried shows such as Canada Blooms, the CNE, and the Garden Clubs of Ontario Triennial Shows.

He is currently a member of Milne House Garden Club, the Garden Club of Toronto, and heads up the Greater Toronto Bulb Society.

#### Speaking topics:

- Daffodils/Narcissi
- Tulips and other spring bulbs
- Summer bulbs
- Flowering indoor plants
- Houseplant "clinic" – diagnosing / remedies for ailing plants
- Alliums – Beautiful and Edible
- Perennials
- Growing hardy and tropical gingers
- Gardens of Bangkok and Singapore
- Floral design (various styles, including:)
  - Christmas/other holiday-themed arrangements
  - Water-focused (underwater, water-viewing, visible use of water, etc.)
  - Line/line mass (traditional and modern)
  - Traditional mass/modern mass

- Handheld bouquets and Tussie-mussies

A/V Resources:

- Can provide my own laptop and computer projector for in-person presentations
- Maintain a Zoom account allowing up to 100 meeting participants