NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2023

Sprucedale & District Horticultural Society



MINI FLOWER/VEGGIE SHOW

There will be a Mini Flower/Veggie Show at our September meeting. This is a super fun event for our members to share their beautiful gardens – both flower and vegetable.

It will be a People's Choice competition. No pressure – just lots of fun. Vote for your favourite in each category.

- BEST SPECIMEN FLOWER
- BEST FLOWER DISPLAY
- BIGGEST VEGETABLE

The categories are:

MOST QUIRKY VEGETABLE





Get creative, share and bring one OR something from all categories when you come to the September meeting. Any questions contact: Lori Sild at 705-787-5758.

FUNDRAISING - PLANT A BUTTERNUT TREE

As a fundraising event for our Society we are planning on purchasing a number of bare root butternut trees to sell to our members as well as the Plant Sale in May 2024.



The Butternut tree is native to Ontario and listed on the endangered species list. Their edible fruits are sweet and prized by wildlife and humans too. The more of these trees that we can plant, the more success there will be in preserving this important tree for our future generations.

Please let Lori Sild know if you would be interested in adding your name to the list of those interested in purchasing one or more of these trees. Details to follow at our September Meeting.

Sprucedale & District Horticultural Society **SEPTEMBER MEETING** When: Monday, Sept 18, 2023 Time: 7:00 pm - doors open at 6:30 Place: Emsdale Anglican Church 2190-Hwy 592 Emsdale **PROGRAM: Hugelkultur Gardening** SPEAKER: Lori Sild and PROGRAM: Garden Decor SPEAKER: Jeanette Dunke plus MINI FLOWER/VEGGIE SHOW Refreshments too Save the Environment Bring your own Mug Please think Membership Dues about \$7.00/year MEET...LEARN...SHARE...GROW...SMILE

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"Shoreline Vegetation Removal and Replanting"

Our August meeting's guest speaker was Katie Parochy, Project Manager and Biologist of Zygoptera Consulting.

Zygoptera Consulting offers a variety of services such as Environmental Assessments, Lake Monitoring and Biological Surveys, Permit Management, Shoreline and Property Naturalization and Educational presentations.

The topic of our meeting was aimed at learning all about what a property owner needs to know about shoreline plant pruning and removal, permit requirements and how to ensure that you have a healthy habitat along your shoreline. Provincial and municipal environmental rules and regulations were also covered.

We learned that there is a buffer zone required from the shoreline which involves a variety of factors such as what percentage of foliage needs to remain, what type of foliage and who to contact for advice and permits if needed. A typical vegetative buffer includes undisturbed native plants, a diversity of plants including shrubs and a full tree canopy that supports a healthy wildlife habitat.



Different municipalities have lots of rules to follow and it is encouraged to contact your local municipality when you are considering building on waterfront property or removing any established growth. It is important to determine what plants to leave, or remove such as dying or non-native varieties. There may be numerous permits required depending on the scope of your project.

When contacting your local municipality it is important to take notes and names of individuals that provided information and to follow up the conversation with an email outlining the details of your discussions. It was advised to involve a professional such as an Environmental Consultant or Professional Planner especially with a larger project to avoid any problems in ensuring all rules are followed to avoid costly fines, etc.

A resource to check is: Muskoka Watershed Council: https://www.muskokawatershed.org/

With so many factors and so many things to think about when endeavouring to start a project that is located on a shoreline, it may be prudent to contact an expert in the field such as: Zygoptera Consulting. They cover the areas of: Haliburton, Muskoka, Simcoe & Parry Sound, Huntsville, Minden, Gravenhurst, Orillia, Oro-Medonte, Haliburton, Magnetawan, Burks Falls and beyond.

Take a look at their website: www.zygoptera.ca.

Thank you to Katie for the very informative presentation.