



# Wasaga Beach Horticultural Society

October 2023

## Upcoming events

### General Meeting

Date: October 3rd

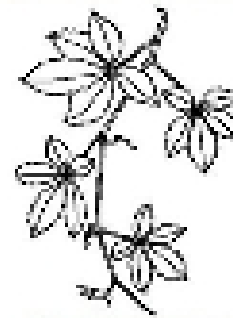
Time: 7:00 p.m. meet and greet 7:30 meeting begins

Speaker: Kate Harries of Return of the Native

Topic: Butterfly Gardens

**About Kate:** A lifelong gardener, with roots in Simcoe County for 40 years. A graduate of the Master Naturalist course at Lakehead University, she is a member of the Midland-Penetanguishene Field Naturalists Club, the North American Native Plant Society and Ontario Nature.

**RETURN**



**OF THE  
NATIVE**



We received a good number of entries.

We will vote at our next meeting (Oct. 3)

Three members' photos will be chosen. 1 from each category for a prize of a gift card

Good luck entrants.

**Our year end is fast approaching and it's now time for us to renew our memberships. Cheque or cash will be accepted at our October meeting. New members \$20 renewing members \$15**

**MEMBERSHIP  
RENEWAL**



## **OHA District 16 Fall Seminar**

**Saturday October 21, 2023**

**Barrie Legion**

**410 St Vincent Street, with entrance off Ferris Lane**

**\$40 per person, includes**

**Morning coffee/tea and Muffins,  
Morning refreshment break, Soup and  
Sandwich lunch**

**Speakers - Helen Battersby –**

**The Garden of Regrets**

**and**

**Vicky Culbert, OHA 1st Vice  
President, Workshop**

**“What the OHA Can Do For You”**

**District 16 Flower Show**

**Silent Auction by Painswick Garden  
Club**

**Registration deadline, October 11, 2023  
Capacity limited**

# Seed Saving Tips



## Tomatoes

- Usually don't cross with other varieties (exception: potato leaf types such as Brandywine.)
- Seeds need to be fermented for 2-3 days to remove gel coating



## Peppers

- Sweet peppers will cross with hot peppers growing nearby
- Scrape seeds out of ripe pepper and lay out to dry



## Cucumbers

- Cucumbers can cross with other varieties growing within 1/2 mile
- Let fruit get overripe and hard on the plant, like a gourd, for seeds



## Summer Squash/Zucchini

- Summer squash and zucchini can cross with some winter squash and with pumpkins growing up to 1/2 mile away
- Let fruits get large and hard on the plant, like a winter squash



## Winter Squash/Pumpkins

- Winter squash can cross with pumpkins and summer squash growing up to 1/2 mile away



## Corn

- Save seeds from at least 100 corn plants to avoid inbreeding
- Corn can cross with other varieties growing up to 2 miles away
- Save seeds from open-pollinated (OP) varieties, not hybrids (F1)



## Lettuce

- Let some plants bolt to make seeds
- Harvest seed by bending lettuce flowers over a paper bag and rubbing the flowers with your hand



## Green Beans

- Green beans usually don't cross with other varieties
- For seeds, leave some pods on the vine until they start to dry out

## Grow Me Instead



ENGLISH IVY is native to Europe, western Asia and northern Africa. It has been developed into hundreds of varieties and can now be found in gardens throughout North America.

Although technically a vine, this evergreen perennial is commonly used as a groundcover in dense shade.

Whether in shade or sun, English ivy will persist and spread vegetatively through its long vines that root at the nodes in almost any soil type. It is easily identified by its dark green three lobed leaves placed alternately on its flexible woody vine.

Despite its pervasiveness in gardens and nearby natural areas, not a single North American animal uses English ivy for food. Indeed, this is one of the causes of its invasive nature, the other being its considerable adaptability.



**Garden use:** ground cover for sunny gardens

**Growing conditions:** sun; sand, loam or clay; dry to average soil

**Size and shape:** low-growing and spreading; 15 cm tall

**Flower and fruit:** small white flowers in late-spring; small edible red berries early-summer

**Leaves:** three-lobed and toothed

**Additional info:** spreads by runners and forms colonies



## Five bulb planting tips for a successful spring garden

After watching our gardens flourish this season and as autumn approaches, it's time to start preparing for the next bloom. In other words: It's bulb season.

To successfully ensure a beautiful spring yard, here are five tips you should follow this fall. Prepare the bed

**Preparing a bed** for your bulbs isn't as simple as planting a bulb in a hole. The bed needs to be meticulously prepared — you should remove weeds, loosen the soil, add compost for nutrients and make sure the soil is well-drained to avoid the possibility of rot. Poor soil conditions are often reflected by a weak bloom come spring.

### **Choose the right bulbs**

While many bulbs are planted in the fall, there are some exceptions. For example, plants like daffodils and tulips are better suited for the late summer, while dahlias should be planted in the spring. When planting in the fall, make sure you're choosing bulbs that are meant to bloom in the spring.

### **Ditch the fertilizer**

After you've planted your bulbs of choice they stay dormant until the blooming season. For this reason, there's no need to fertilize the soil and waste nutrients in the process. Instead, wait until you see the first signs of a bloom and then add fertilizer to supplement root growth.

### **Choose the right spot to plant**

Some bulbs require full sun — at least six hours of direct sunlight per day — while others need shady environments or partial sunlight. It's important to read the directions to ensure you've planted your bulbs in the ideal location.

### **Timing is everything**

Warmer climates may trick your bulbs into blooming in the fall instead of the spring, which makes timing your planting of utmost importance. Spring bulbs require a colder temperature to bloom — an optimal time to plant is around six weeks prior to when you expect the ground to freeze or when nightly temperatures hover around five to 10 C.

## How To Make Oven Dried Tomatoes



Slice cherry or grape tomatoes in half, or thickly slice large tomatoes, try to keep all the same size as they will all dry more evenly.

Place them cut side up on parchment paper on a cookie sheet. Season with salt.

Slow-roast at low heat...250F degrees until desired dryness....about 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 hours. Careful at the end not to burn them.

Cool and pack loosely in tight container, store in fridge to use in salads, pasta, pizza, etc. Store up to a week or more.

Or pack in jars, cover with olive oil, dried herbs, garlic, store in fridge.

These make a great pesto when puréed in a food processor....add your own grated cheese and nuts of choice.

From Arlene Edwards

## Let's be Environmentally Friendly

What are you collecting for your favorite cause? Jean Dickson is still collecting pop tabs. Now she is also collecting the outer bags from milk bags. Let's all keep collecting for her. Let us know if you're collecting pop tabs, grocery tapes, or any small item. What a great environmentally sound idea that will keep these items out of our landfill sites.



Remember to "Lug a Mug" beverages and dessert will be served

## 2023 Wasaga Beach Horticultural Society Board Members

President	Joyce Morgan	519-415-9102
Treasurer	Debbie Grant	705-422-1109
Secretary	Bev Noddle	705-352-1202
Program Director	Arlene Edwards	705-429-6049
Director, Special Events	Mary Ann Stumpf	416-588-4699
Director, Communications	Eva Caulfield	705-718-4647
Director, Membership	Joyce Morgan	519-415-9102
Director, Volunteer Hours	Susan Joyce	705-352-8612

## Committee Chairs

Refreshment Coordinator	Susan Walley	705-429-6782
Garden Volunteer Coordinator	Linda Marshall	705-429-1622
Lighthouse Gardens Coordinator	Daria Malan	705-352-1142
Newsletter Coordinator	Eva Caulfield	705-718-4647
Archivist	Glenna Oleksinski	705-730-4987

### contact us

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