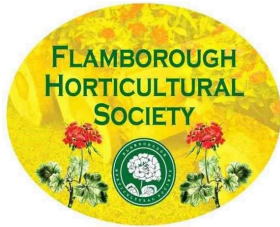


Flamborough Horticultural Society

April 2024 Newsletter



President's Message

Greetings FHS Members

We wish a warm welcome to new member Terri Taggart. You have joined a great group of gardeners! This month, as usual, Liz has added lots of good information here. For those of you who didn't get to hear Darrell Bley at the District 6 meeting, he's back to discuss pest identification and management on April 17.

Thankyou Sharon Hall for updating the forms for the Plant Sale Committee and to Connie Godyn both of whom are the main organizers of the plants sale. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we hope lots of people can donate bare root plants at the potting up events April 15 and 26 at my place in Waterdown. Liz has more details in the newsletter. We had some additional expenses this year so it's important to rebuild our funds. The sign up list will be circulating at the next meeting and the suggested plant list and guide is attached with this Newsletter.

Liz provided you with some interesting details about the Carolinian Zone. Did you know that you can register your garden with [Carolinian Canada](#) and track your garden site? The Tracker will also give you tips about healthy gardens. This network of gardeners is growing healthy landscapes to save local wildlife and water.

District 7 and 8 are hosting the OHA convention in Guelph. They have worked very hard and deserve our support. As a member of the OHA, it's important we support all of our sister districts wherever possible. This year's venue is closest to our Society in District 6 and there will be some "must see" tours including Robert Pavlis's 6 acres of gardens and ponds. Liz has all the links for you to peruse. Please remember to submit for the competitions. Already, one of our life members, Rosemary Brown who is 102 years old, has a watercolour submission for the convention competitions. I will be attending, so even if you cannot attend, please consider submitting something for the competitions and I can take it to the convention for you. One exception is that photos are to be sent online with a deadline in May. Please review the convention website and competitions. There are options for one day registration as well. Even visiting the competitions is worth the quick trip to Guelph (about 37 km or 41 minutes from Waterdown).

Best wishes Susan MacMillan

Meeting and Speaker Information

Date: Wed., Apr. 17, 2024

Time: 7:30 pm

Refreshments served at 7pm prior to the meeting

Speaker: Darrell Bley

Topic: Pest Problems

Flower Show: An arrangement using spring blooms in a container of your choice.

Location: St. Thomas the Apostle Church
715 Centre Rd, Waterdown



Horticultural Events

District 6 AGM: Hosted by the Haldimand Horticultural Society

Date: Sat. April 20, 2024.

Location: Caledonia Lions Hall, 100 Haddington St. Caledonia

Time: 8am Doors Open, Meeting 9:00 - 12

Speaker: Lorraine Johnson
Topic: Native Plants for Beauty & Diversity

Cost: \$20.00, Register by April 12, e-transfer to Bob Heil:

d.6treasurer@outlook.com

Tufarooms Workshop to follow AGM
[AGM and Workshop Details](#)

Potting Dates for Flamborough Horticultural Society Plant Sale

April 15, 1-3 pm April 26, 10am-12pm

Location: Will be sent via email. Please donate only bare-root plants.

District 6 Workshop after AGM - Tufarooms

2 PM April 20th - After AGM and your lunch

4064 Hwy 6, Hagersville.

Watch for a sign at the end of the driveway.



2 options available:

Tops with wooden stumps for stems provided

Small \$25 large \$40

Hypertufa Tops and the Stems

Small \$35 Large \$50

Send payment in advance to d.6treasurer@outlook.com

Payment due by April 12th

March Flower Show

This month's theme was to decorate a potted tropical plant using natural materials. Congratulations to the winners: First place- Susan MacMillan, Second place- Martha Novoselac and Third place- Marilyn Higgins.



April Garden Tasks

- Divide perennials
- Plant perennials, shrubs and trees
- Begin weeding gardens
- Prune vines such as Clematis, Wisteria and Roses, summer and fall flowering shrubs
- Begin to feed houseplants
- To prevent soil compaction and damage to plant roots, wait until the soil is dry before walking in the garden
- Vegetables such as spinach, lettuce, beets, peas and radishes can be planted directly into beds later in April. Delay planting if cold weather is in the long range forecast.

Starting Seeds Indoors

Robert Pavlis provides a wealth of information including how to determine last frost dates, getting earlier blooms and harvests, seed starting myths and seed starting charts. If in doubt, visit this blog!

[When to Start Seeds Indoors](#)

Consider Planting Bloodroot *Sanguinaria canadensis*



Bloodroot clump: from Ontario Wildflowers website. Thank you to Walter Muma for granting permission to use this photo.

While volunteering last month at the Gage Park Spring Bulb Show, I was asked if there were any native spring bulbs one could plant in the garden. There are only a few with those being, a wild type Tulip: *humilis (auchermana)*, Spring Beauty: *Clatonia Virginica*, and Virginia Bluebells: *Merensia virginica*. I suggested planting some native early

spring blooming perennials to add additional early spring blooms which also provide much needed spring food for pollinators.

One of these early bloomers is Bloodroot. Belonging to the Poppy family (Papaveraceae) it is a very attractive clump forming plant produced from a rhizome that is very slow growing and in time will produce a colony that is easily kept in check. Bright white flowers with eight petals, about two inches across emerge from a flower stalk before the leaves unfold. The beautiful multi lobed leaves make for an attractive plant post bloom.

Bloodroot is ideal for moist, well drained soil in shade to part shade conditions that receive a few hours of sunlight in early spring.

Read more here: [Bloodroot](#)

Hummingbirds are on Their Way!

Sightings from previous years can give us an approximate time of arrival in Southern Ontario. Aim to put out hummingbird feeds about two weeks before the expected arrival. To make sugar water, use one part white sugar to 4 parts water ratio. Contrary to what is at times advised, there is no need to boil the water.

Historic data [Ontario Sightings Map](#)

Current Migration
[2024 Interactive Map](#)

There are also other ways to feed hummingbirds. According to entomologist, Doug Tallamy, up to 80% of the required nutrition of hummingbirds comes from insect sources especially when they are raising their young.

Planting native plants in your garden provides habitats for insects which then provide food not only for hummingbirds but other species as well.

Read Doug Tallamy's article here:
[Native Plants for Hummingbirds](#)

If you would like to participate in research for Hummingbirds Canada information about the project and tracking forms can be downloaded here:
[Hummingbird Project](#)

Reading Corner

Garden Ontario: Latest OHA news, Trillium Magazine, OHA 50/50 draw,
[Garden Ontario](#)

Ontario Native Spring Blooms

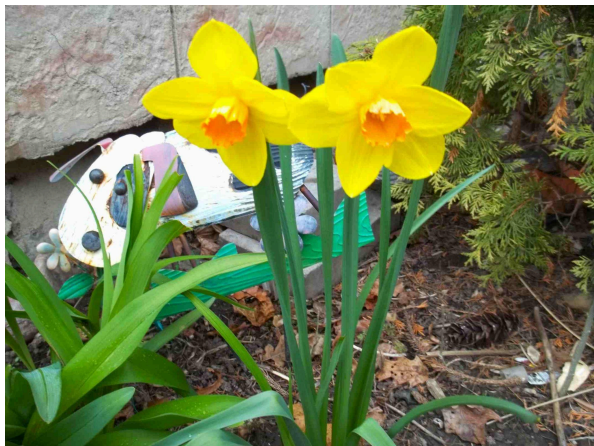
[Native Spring Blooming Plants](#)

Halton Region Master Gardeners:

Links to Master Gardener Sites, Horticultural Societies, Resources from Regional Organizations, Special Interest Sites gardening Sites, Native Plants and more

[Master Gardener Links](#)

How to Transplant Flowering Bulbs



The best time to transplant is when the plant is dormant - long before or long after flowering! It's best NOT to move bulbs immediately after flowering- wait until the foliage has dried. If they must be moved during this period, water well and dig deeply with a spade so as to not disturb the roots. When transplanting potted plants, remove bulbs from pots carefully so as to not disturb roots if they are not dormant.

2024 OHA Convention Competitions

[OHA 2024 – Flower Show Schedule](#)

[OHA 2024 – Arts Competition Schedule](#)

[OHA 2024 – Publications Competition Schedule](#)

[OHA 2024 – Youth Competition](#)

[OHA 2024 – Photography Competition Schedule](#)

[OHA 2024 – Creative Writing Competition Schedule](#)

[OHA 2024 – Words of Advice from the Judge for All Creative Writers](#)

Warmest Winter on Record

I began working on this newsletter on the first day of Spring, while watching a gentle, light snowfall cover the branches of the shrubs and trees outside my window. How ironic that “winter” should arrive on the first day of spring after the past three months being the warmest on record in Canada.

David Phillips, senior climatologist at Environment and Climate Change Canada, said this past winter could be described as a "canceled season." Of course there were pockets of other extremes across the country with record breaking snow in the maritimes and a string of coldest minimum temperatures set in January in Alberta. Read more here:

[Must read Weather Stats and Maps](#)

What's next? El Nino's final stand will bring above average spring temperatures overall to Southern Ontario with a potential of some short lived cold snaps, so it's still important to check short term forecasts before planting seedlings outdoors. Do not forget the importance of hardening off seedlings before planting as well.

Late spring is also forecasted to be drier than average which could result in having to water seedlings after planting.

[Spring Forecast](#)

Whiteflies

These pesky insects tend to appear on our indoor plants in late winter to early spring appearing as tiny white dandruff like specks. The almost transparent nymphs suck sap leaving leaves a mottled yellow. Another sign is the presence of a sticky substance called honeydew. Apply insecticidal soap to sides of leaves on a weekly basis.

Whiteflies are attracted to yellow so placing yellow sticky tape will capture many of the tiny white flies but not totally solve the problem as those not caught will reproduce and this does not capture the nymphs.

Of course if one is not attached to the infected plant it can be thrown out which is what I did to a few in recent years! Luckily I have not been infested with white flies this year (which may be directly related to having gotten rid of the source plants)!

Read more here :

Larry Hodgson, LaidBack Gardener Blog
[Beware Whiteflies are Back](#)

Register for Free Lawn and Garden Webinars

April 9- Making the Most of your Urban Garden

April 11- Seven Sins of Garden Design

April 16- Mini Forest Revolution

April 23- Vertical Vegetables

[Home and Garden](#)

Carolinian Zone

The Carolinian zone is a unique ecosystem zone found in southern Ontario. It is called 'Carolinian' due to its similarity to the forests found in North and South Carolina in the southern United States. The Carolinian Zone in southern Ontario has great biodiversity, with more species of rare plants and animals than anywhere else in Canada.

Southern-type deciduous forests are the main feature of this unique Canadian ecosystem. The region contains one-third of the rare, threatened and endangered species found in all of Canada. Sixty-five percent of Ontario's rare plants are found in the region, and 40% are restricted to the Carolinian zone.

The most common species of trees are sugar maple, beech, oak, basswood, and ash. However, these forests also include rare and lesser common trees such as tulip tree, sassafras, flowering dogwood, sweet chestnut, sycamore, red mulberry, black gum, pawpaw, and kentucky coffee tree. Less commonly known shrubs such as yellow mandarin, swamp rose mallow, native burning bush and the rough-leaved dogwood are also part of this zone. There is even a cactus in this zone: the eastern prickly pear. If planting trees this season, consider one from the above list.

[Explore Carolinian Canada](#)

Connon Nurseries Please show your appreciation by shopping at Connon Nurseries 905-689-7433

[Connon Nurseries](#)

Northland Nursery : A family run nursery in Millgrove Ontario (722 Concession 5 W) Open (9am to 5pm 7 days a week) [Northland](#) Let them know you are an FHS member for our Society year-end rebate.

Wild Birds Unlimited offers a 10% discount when you mention that you are a Horticultural Society member.

[Wild Birds Unlimited](#)

To learn more about District 6 see [OHA Garden Clubs and Societies in Ontario » GardenOntario](#).

How to Reach Us: Please email your comments, suggestions, corrections or submissions. If you wish to submit an article, questions or tips, contact:

flamhort@hotmail.com

PO Box 902 Waterdown ON L0R 2H0

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MISSION

The mission of the Flamborough Horticultural Society is to encourage interest and involvement in horticulture through civic improvement, preservation, exhibitions, the distribution of plant materials and regular instruction pertaining to the theory and practice of horticulture.

Directors for 2023/24

President – Susan MacMillan

Past Co-President - Trudy Bliedung

Vice President - Open

Treasurer - Trudy Bliedung

Recording Secretary - Tessa Morris

Publicity - Shared by VP and President

Facebook Admin. - Liz Visentin

Newsletter Editor - Liz Visentin

Flower Show and Trillium Judging Liaison- Ann Cochren

Director at large - Christine Rowe

Director at large - Verna Scovell

Committee Chairpersons

Bus Tour – Open

Caring - Susan MacMillan

Nominating Committee - Trudy Bliedung

Civic Improvement – Jan Bignell

Communications Copywriter – Jennifer Godyn

Garden Walk – Open

Meeting Hospitality – Ann Williams

Membership – Janet Waterfall

OHA Website Monitor – Phil Longstaff

Spring Plant Sale Co-chairs –

Connie Godyn and Sharon Hall

Speakers and Programs – Connie Godyn & Roxanne Riley

*Spring is the time of plans
and projects*

Leo Tolstoy