



- Arthur & District
- Clifford & District
- Elora & Salem
- Erin
- Fergus & District
- Grand Valley & District
- City of Guelph
- Guelph Township
- Harriston & District
- Hillsburgh
- Moorefield & District
- Mount Forest
- Orangeville & District
- Shelburne & District

District 7 Newsletter NOVEMBER 2024

A Message from District Director, Kathy Bouma

Another successful year is quickly winding down. Many Societies are preparing for their Annual General Meeting this month. Thank you to Hillsburgh, Erin and Mount Forest who hold theirs in October due to earlier year ends. Even with that, there are 3 AGMs scheduled for the same evening – November 27th so our District Board members will help to share the installation procedures.

Be sure you recognize those members who have gone the extra mile to ensure your Society continues with all the activities that are held throughout the year. Get new members involved on Committees and share the responsibilities. By working together, everyone benefits.

With the end of the Society year, it is time to complete the OMAFA Annual Report and the OHA Annual Information Return. See the information for the online session on how to complete the OMAFA Annual Report below. If you encounter issues on either of these forms, contact me **BUT** do not leave until the last minute. If you can all complete by the end of December, would be marvelous – except for Elora and Guelph. Due date is February 1st but sooner is always better.

Thank you to all the District Board members for their support throughout the year. A huge thank you to all members who assisted in the hosting of the 2024 OHA Convention in Guelph. It was fun and it was a big success.

All the best for a safe winter and time with family and friends before we start a new season. Happy Holidays.

Kathy

Important Information from the October 19th Fall District Meeting

- Coming soon! a \$1,500 dollar grant from OMAFA for 100th Anniversary celebrations of Societies. This will be retroactive to all societies that have already celebrated their 100th.
- Payment from Societies to OHA will be increasing by 50 cents per year for the next 4 years.

Each society pays	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
To OHA	4.00	4.50	5.00	5.50	6.00
To District 7	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Total	5.00	5.50	6.00	6.50	7.00

- **ONCA update:** Two major points to know

- Anyone appointed or elected as a director position must accept in writing by ten days post election.
- Elected officers may hold office for no longer than four years. May be appointed if no one else to step up for the job.

- **TPON/OMAFa report entry training dates**

- **November 21, December 9 (re-run of November training) and January 15**

- If you are requesting a certificate of Insurance from Cooperators, please use the electronic request found on the OHA website. Do not apply yet for 2025 events until 2025 and policy has been purchased (or late December if a January event)

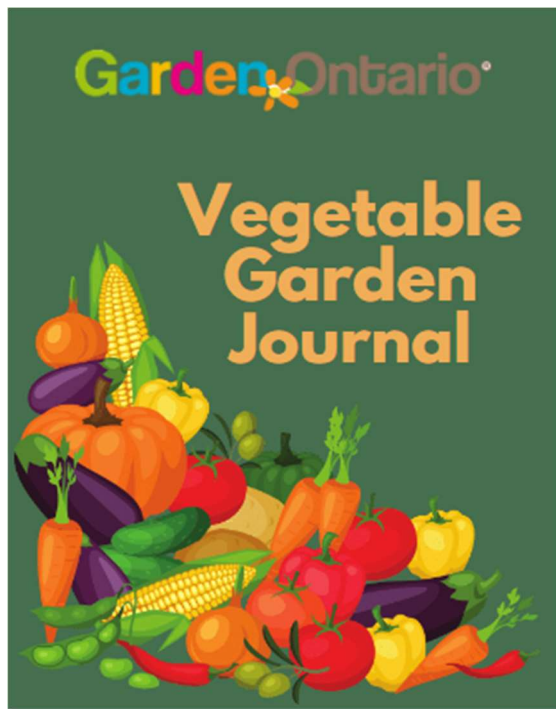
<https://gardenontario.org/certificate-of-insurance-form/>

- Garden Councils of Ontario will not be providing a colour of the year for gardens for 2025 but will have a theme instead.

- Sipology Fundraiser until the end of November. Buy your favourite teas!

<https://fundraise-ca.sipology.com/collections/ontario-horticultural-association-fall-2024>

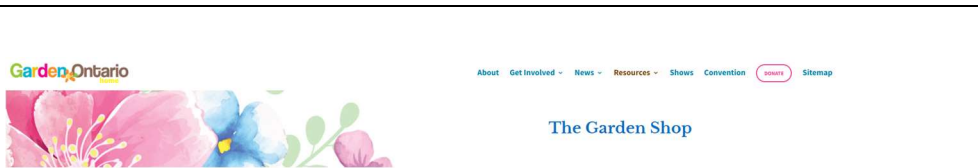




**Garden Ontario 50/50 Raffle #11 -
Grand Prize Draw is December 14
2024**

If you did not order in September or purchase at the Fall District meeting, Garden Journals (\$20) are available from OHA Supplies. Great Christmas gift or purchase for Society door prizes.

Don't forget to buy your Raffle tickets.
<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha>



Have you visited the Garden Shop on the OHA/Garden Ontario website?
Pins, books, beeswax wraps, printable items, awards folders, and more. Visit soon!!

<https://gardenontario.org/gardenshop/>

**District 7 AGM
April 26, 2025
Grand Valley**