

CORPORATE ANNUAL REPORT 2023



A Year In Review |

Contents

- THE ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION 3**
- A MESSAGE FROM THE OHA PRESIDENT 4**
- MESSAGE FROM IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT 6**
- EXECUTIVE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023 7**
- Officers 7**
- OHA DISTRICT ORGANIZATION 8**
- District Directors 9**
- THE FINANCIAL PICTURE - 2023 10**
- 2023 OHA Revenue 10**
- 2023 OHA Expenditures 10**
- VOLUNTEER HOURS 11**
- BURSARIES 11**
- OHA PARTNERSHIPS 12**
- OHA OUTREACH PROGRAMS 12**
- ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION 50/50 RAFFLES A Win-Win Scenario 13**
- OHA AWARDS & GRANTS PROGRAM 14**
- OHA AWARDS (Awarded in 2023) 14**
- Community Improvement Award 14**
- Youth Leader Award 14**
- Environmental Award 14**
- Honour Roll 15**
- Technical Advancement Recognition 15**
- Award of Merit 15**
- Trillium/Silver Fir Award 16**
- Silver Medal 16**



OHA GRANTS (Granted in 2023)	16
Tree Grants	16
Special Project Grants.....	17
Community Garden Grants	17
Pollinator Project Grants.....	17
Seedy Saturday/Sunday Grants.....	17
Technical Advancement Grants.....	18
Youth Help Grants	18
Youth Project Grants	18
OHA GRANTS PROGRAM IMPACTING COMMUNITIES	19
COMMUNICATIONS	21
THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND SPONSORS	22
SUPPORT THE ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION	24
LEGACY GIVING	24





THE ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

OUR VISION: *To be recognized as the primary gardening and horticultural Association by inspiring, educating and supporting gardeners and affiliated Societies/Clubs.*

OUR MISSION: The Ontario Horticultural Association is a volunteer charitable organization that provides leadership, education and promotes interest in gardening and related environmental issues with affiliated Horticultural Societies/Garden Clubs and like-minded organizations. The Ontario Horticultural Association pursues its mission by:

GOAL: Provide recognition, awards and grants throughout Ontario.

GOAL: Develop and support programs for all ages encouraging gardening, community beautification, environmental enhancement and conservation.

GOAL: Provide resources for horticultural societies.

GOAL: Encourage the development of new horticultural societies.

The Ontario Horticultural Association depends on the support of its members and charitable donations to carry out its work. You are encouraged to support the OHA as a volunteer by joining an affiliated Horticultural Society/Garden Club or by making a charitable donation.

Societies/Clubs Are *Keeping Ontario Beautiful*[®]

There are 264 affiliated Horticultural Societies/Clubs in Ontario hard at work *Keeping Ontario Beautiful*[®]. The projects include a wide variety of activities like beautifying local parks, planting boxes in downtown areas and creating and maintaining public gardens around government buildings, hospitals, health and hospice centres.





A Message from the OHA President

The year 2023 continued to see growth in the membership of the societies/clubs since the pandemic. Although a few societies/clubs were forced to close their doors, we had a new society opening theirs. The overall increase in membership within the Association is happening right across Ontario which is wonderful to see.

The OHA 50/50 raffle continues to assist us to be able to offer new grants and awards such as a new Technical Award and a new Accessibility Grant. It is important to the Association to be able to help the societies/clubs beautify and take pride in their communities.

ONCA comes into effect October 18th of 2024 and the Association continues to work diligently to ensure that all societies/clubs, districts and the governing body are prepared with any necessary changes required to their Constitution and By-laws to be in compliance.

April of each year, the OHA presents a WebEx for Earth Day. The WebEx can hold up to 1000 people and we encourage as many as possible to attend to hear fantastic speakers on interesting topics.

In October of 2023, the process of developing an OHA Family Scholarship/Bursary was begun. It is hoped that this will be open for applications in the Spring/Summer of 2025.

In order to keep the members of the Association informed and to inform members of the public on who we are and what we do, a benefits of belonging document along with an accessibility statement and a “who are we and what is our purpose?” document was created. The hope is that these documents will provide clarity to those interested in what we do as an Association.

Each year, OMAFRA provides training sessions for all the societies/clubs across the province. These are held in the late Fall and early New Year and provide training on the TPON system and OMAFRA reporting.



The 2023 OHA Convention and AGM was held at the Brookstreet Hotel in Kanata, Ontario on the weekend of July 19th to 23rd. The weekend provided good food, informative speakers and seminars, competitions, camaraderie with fellow members from across the province, awards banquet, silent auction, bus trips, vendors, the business of the Association and so much more. The 2024 Convention and AGM will take place in Guelph July 12th to 14th. Due to inflation and cost of living, this event will only take place every second year after 2024. The interim event will be an AGM business meeting only.

The OHA continues to run Strategic Planning and SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) Analysis reviews every October with a focus on moving the Association forward in a positive direction. All items currently in the works are discussed and new items are brought forward. All items up for review and/or discussion must include the SMART goal system and therefore must be Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-Bound. Staying within these parameters when creating a goal helps to ensure that the objectives of the Association are met in a timely manner always with a view to the future.

All the societies/clubs across the province continue to plant and create hospitable areas in their communities to allow native plants to thrive, which in turn brings in more pollinators. The pollinators allow more growth to happen which keeps the air in our communities healthy. It is an amazing cycle of new growth and rebirth that we as an Association hope to be a part of for many generations to come.

It is important to remember all the volunteers that put forth countless hours each and every year to keep all these wonderful activities happening while saving the communities within our province millions of dollars which would otherwise have to be paid out.

Our organization is one of pride: in what we do, what we stand for and who we are.

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much” – Helen Keller

“Unity is strength...when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved.” – Mattie Stepanek

Our Association has the teamwork, togetherness and collaboration and the results are all around, all anyone has to do is open their eyes and look.

Sincerely,

Sharlene Desjardins
OHA President, 2023-2024



MESSAGE FROM IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

The year 2023 saw the continuation of challenges to the OHA as the Association moved further forward from the COVID pandemic and towards a more ordered and structured existence. It also saw the transition of governance as my tenure as President ended in July at the OHA Convention and AGM and Sharlene Desjardins stepped into the Presidency role.

The first half of the year saw a continuation of the growth in membership numbers at the Society/Club level across the province. This trend positively affected the Societies/Clubs in their abilities to continue to expand their efforts related to community beautification, educating the membership and the public concerning horticultural and environmental issues and the holding of events open to the membership and to the public.



The OHA continues to serve the communities of the Province of Ontario through its affiliated Societies/Clubs and under the new leadership will continue to be a positive influence on the province.

Take care

Stay safe

Charles Freeman
Immediate Past President
Ontario Horticultural Association



EXECUTIVE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023

The President and Vice Presidents are elected by the voting delegates at the Annual General Meeting. The Secretary and Treasurer are hired by the board. The Past President remains on the board for one year. The Regional Representatives are elected by the Board of Directors.

Officers

NAME	POSITION
Sharlene Desjardins	President
Vicky Culbert	Vice President
Sandra Mazur	2 nd Vice President
Kelly Taylor	Secretary
Marian Heil	Treasurer
Charles Freeman	Past President/Past Presidents' Council Representative
Karen Redmond	South/West Regional Representative
Susan Ramsay	North/East Regional Representative



Left to Right: Karen Redmond, Kelly Taylor, Charles Freeman, Sandra Mazur, Sharlene Desjardins, Vicky Culbert, Marian Heil, Susan Ramsay

OHA DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

The Province is divided into Districts as follows:

1. Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott, Russell, Stormont, the eastern portion of the city of Ottawa composed of the former municipalities of Gloucester and Cumberland and the municipality of North Grenville, the Township of Edwardsburg Cardinal and the Town of Prescott.
2. Lanark, Renfrew and the portion of the city of Ottawa excluding the former municipalities of Gloucester and Cumberland.
3. Frontenac, Hastings, Leeds and Grenville except the municipality of North Grenville, the Township of Edwardsburg Cardinal and the Town of Prescott, Lennox and Addington, Prince Edward.
4. Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland, Peterborough.
5. Toronto East of Yonge Street, and York East of York Road No. 1 except Georgina East of Park Road.
6. Brant, Halton, Hamilton, Norfolk and that portion of Haldimand known as Ward 1, Ward 2, Ward 3 and Ward 4.
7. Dufferin, Wellington.
8. Bruce, Grey, Huron.
9. Haldimand except Wards 1 & 2 & 3 & 4, Niagara.
10. Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford, Perth and that portion of Lambton that is Lambton Shores.
11. Chatham-Kent, Essex, Lambton, except for Lambton Shores.
12. Territorial District of Cochrane, Territorial District of Timiskaming.
13. Territorial District of Algoma, Territorial District of Manitoulin, Territorial District of Sudbury.
14. Territorial District of Kenora, Territorial District of Rainy River, Territorial District of Thunder Bay.
15. Peel, York west of Road No.1, Toronto west of Yonge Street.
16. Simcoe.
17. Durham and the portion of York that includes Georgina east of Park Road.
18. Territorial District of Parry Sound, Territorial District of Muskoka, Territorial District of Nipissing.
19. Waterloo.



The Director of each District is elected by the affiliated Societies/Clubs of that District at a District Annual Meeting.

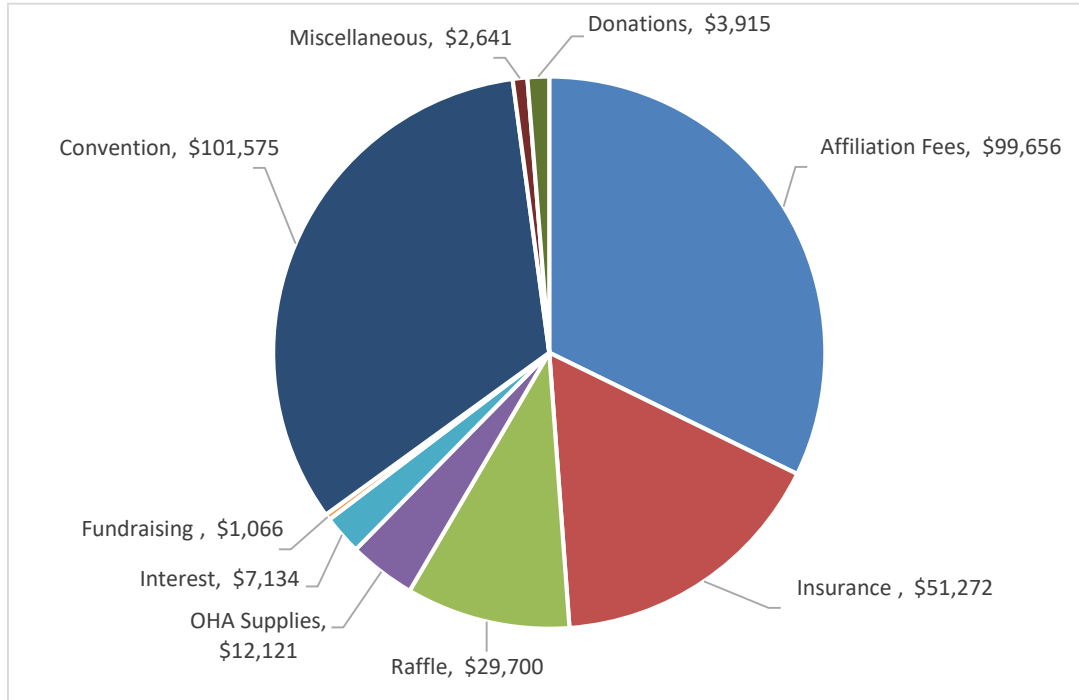
District Directors

NAME	DISTRICT	NAME	DISTRICT
Susan Ramsay	1	Sandra Rammelaere	11
Anne Harbord	2	Rene Roy	12
James Kimmerly	3	Denise Berg	13
Dennis Miluck	4	Phyllis Garton	14
Ursula Eley	5	Doreen Coyne	15
Lianne Krane	6	Barbara Collinson	16
Kathy Bouma	7	Debi Foster	17
Karen Redmond	8	Nancy Thompson	18
Leslie Daniels	9	Christine Webb	19
Joyce Schlegel	10		

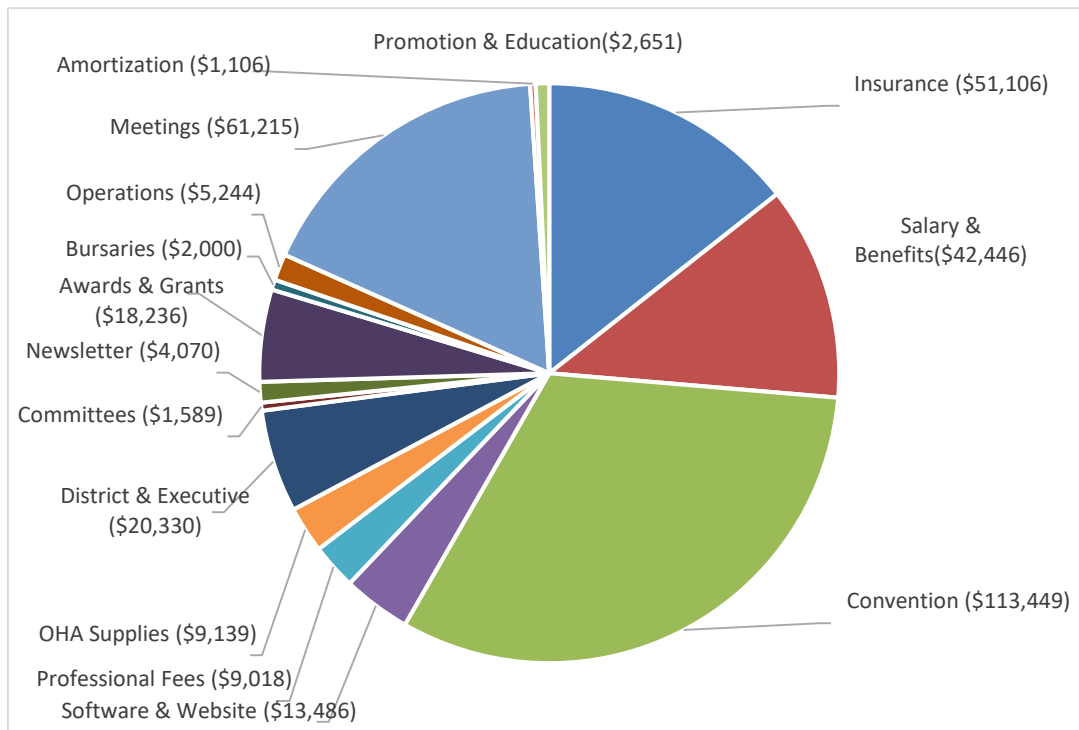


THE FINANCIAL PICTURE - 2023

2023 OHA Revenue



2023 OHA Expenditures



VOLUNTEER HOURS

Through our local affiliated Societies/Clubs, the OHA is active across Ontario improving urban and rural landscapes, giving seniors' residences a hand with gardening, planting roadsides with wildflowers, planting trees and shrubs - the list of OHA activities is unlimited.

Volunteers are the backbone of everything we do. Joining our organization gives you the opportunity to meet new people, create friendships, develop new skills and share your love of gardening.

In 2023, 264 affiliated Societies/Clubs, District Executives and the OHA Board of Directors recorded 458,250 volunteer hours in community service across Ontario. This is an increase from 2022 of 51,753 volunteer hours. This is an amazing achievement and shows the commitment and dedication of all members of the OHA, even in the continued pandemic!

BURSARIES

The OHA continues to provide two annual bursaries of \$1,000, awarded on the basis of financial need, to a second or third year student attending Lakehead University (Ontario Horticultural Association Bursary) studying Forestry, Biodiversity & Conservation, Plant Sciences, Botany, Biochemistry or Environmental Management and to a continuing student at the University of Guelph (Ontario Horticultural Association Scholarship) concentrating their studies in Horticulture Science.

Districts and Societies/Clubs have also continued tremendous support to students with over \$53,375 provided in grants and bursaries in 2023.



OHA PARTNERSHIPS

The OHA is working in partnership with the following organizations:

- Bee City Canada
- Dubois Agrinovation
- Garden Clubs of Ontario
- Landscape Ontario
- Ontario Gardener Magazine
- Shawn LaPalm Insurance Agency Inc.
- Ontario Invasive Plant Council
- Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
- University of Guelph Arboretum
- W. H. Perron



OHA OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Outreach programs, through their directors and members, maintain contact with organizations and events in Ontario. OHA representatives attend events or serve on the boards of other organizations.

- **Ontario Invasive Plant Council**
- **Western Fair District**
- **Canadian National Exhibition (CNE)**
- **DISTRICT 5**
 - Canada Blooms, Toronto (cancelled for 2023)
 - Get the Jump on Spring, Toronto Botanical Garden, Toronto (cancelled for 2023)
- **DISTRICT 6**
 - Ancaster Spring Home Show, Ancaster
 - Burlington Spring Home Show, Burlington
 - Flamborough Seedy Saturday Event
 - Hamilton Gage Spring Bulb Show, Hamilton
 - Hamilton Gage Park Mum Show, Hamilton
 - Haldimand Seedy Saturday Event, Haldimand
 - Milton Seedy Saturday Event, Milton
 - Milton Landscaping Ontario Open House, Milton
 - Zoomer Show - Toronto
- **DISTRICT 7**
 - International Plowing Match – Dufferin County

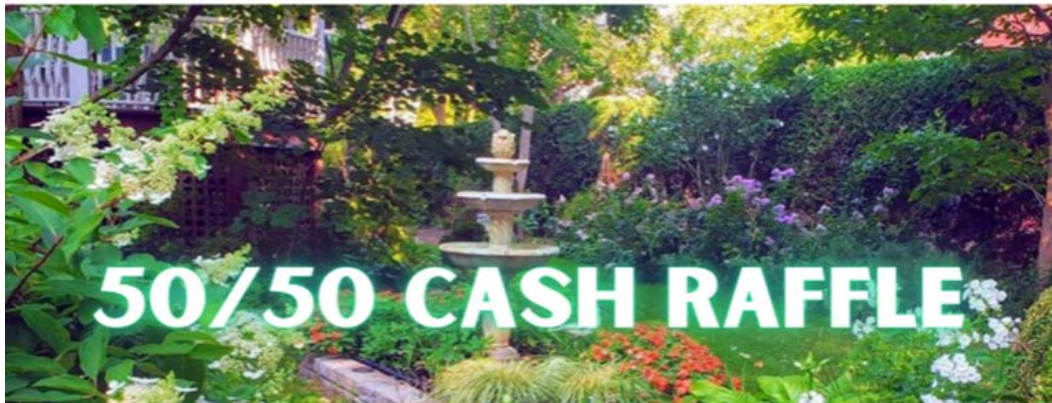


ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION 50/50 RAFFLES

A Win-Win Scenario



GardenOntario®
KEEPING ONTARIO BEAUTIFUL™



The proceeds from the 50/50 Raffle contribute to the enhancement of our communities and Societies/Clubs, while also offering participants the opportunity to win one of the jackpots.

These raffles play a pivotal role in supporting our overarching goal of Keeping Ontario Beautiful®. The funds raised through this initiative are allocated towards grants that promote various endeavors such as supporting pollinators, tree planting, community garden projects, youth education, and speakers at our Convention.

In 2023, using proceeds from the draws, the OHA allocated \$11,075 to support Keeping Ontario Beautiful® through grants. Additionally, the organization awarded prize winnings to four individuals in Ontario: \$5,670 (March 16), \$3,682.50 (July 21), \$1,550 (September 16), and \$3,197.50 (December 16).

Throughout 2023, the OHA was able to provide three \$500 early bird draws, thanks to the generous sponsorship from Shawn LaPalm Insurance Agency Inc., Robert Plante Greenhouses, and D. Culbert Ltd Ontario Land Surveyors. A fourth early bird prize was awarded in 2024 and was sponsored by Dubois Agrinovation.

Your participation not only supports our membership and community initiatives but also provides you with a chance to win one of the exciting jackpots. Thank you for your continued support in making Ontario a more beautiful place for all.

Please purchase your tickets today at <https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha>



GardenOntario®

OHA AWARDS & GRANTS PROGRAM

The OHA believes that members who provide the leadership and active participation which result in promoting the aims of and work done by the Horticultural Societies/Clubs, the Districts and the OHA should be recognized and rewarded.

The OHA has a long-standing history of recognizing its affiliated Society/Club members with the first award to Societies and/or individuals (Award of Merit), which was announced at the 1932 OHA Convention, held at the King Edward Hotel in Toronto and was awarded to Mr. H. H. Groff from Simcoe.

A number of awards have been made available by the Association in appreciation of outstanding services in its long history. The OHA has updated its Awards and Grants Program over the years based on feedback from its affiliated Societies/Clubs across Ontario. The OHA also provides a variety of grants to its Affiliated Society/Clubs for projects that will have a long-lasting benefit to the society or community.

OHA AWARDS (Awarded in 2023)

For full award descriptions and eligibility requirements, please visit Awards & Grants on the www.gardenontario.org website.

Community Improvement Award

This is a plaque which may be presented to an individual, organization or company that, in the estimation of the OHA Awards Committee, has enhanced the beauty of the landscape and/or added to the quality of life of a community with a horticultural project.

- Schomberg HS, District 15

Youth Leader Award

This is a plaque which may be presented to a person who has been a Youth Program Leader for a minimum of 5 years and is a member of an eligible affiliated Society/Club.

- Heather Newman, Ripley & District HS, District 8

Environmental Award

This award is a plaque which may be presented to an individual, organization, municipality, company, school or other educational establishment that, in the estimation of the Awards Committee, has made a significant contribution to environmental preservation.

- Nepean HS, District 2



Honour Roll

The Honour Roll may be presented to a member of an eligible affiliated Society/Club with at least 5 years of service to one or more Societies/Clubs and have made a contribution of horticultural service to the community, District and/or Association.

- David Archer, Perth & District HS, District 2
- Amelia Dupuis, Tilbury & District HS, District 11

Technical Advancement Recognition

This recognition is a framed special achievement certificate and is given to an eligible affiliated Society/Club or District in recognition of their demonstrated drive and determination to fulfil their mandate by using a virtual platform to remain engaged with their Society/Club or District members.



- Cornwall & District HS, District 1
- Schomberg HS, District 15
- Tilbury & District HS, District 11

Award of Merit

This award is a framed certificate and is given to a member for notable contributions to the programs of the Association, District or a Society/Club with 5 or more years of active membership in an eligible affiliated Society/Club, contribution to a special beautification project(s), who has outstanding work in the science or art of horticulture, in organizing shows, floral design, horticultural exhibits or horticulture /floral design photography, in judging shows or training judges.

- Sandra Rammelaere, Tilbury & District HS, District 11
- Donna Matier, Wheatley HS, District 11

The OHA believes that members who show strong leadership and active participation within a Society/Club should be recognized. Check out the latest copy of the [Awards + Grants Booklet](#) to see how you can recognize someone too!



Trillium/Silver Fir Award

The Trillium award is a silver brooch in the shape of a trillium. The award was initially donated by Thelma Boucher who was the OHA President in 1941. The Silver Fir Award is a silver lapel pin that was initiated by Alastair Crawford. The Trillium/Silver Fir Awards will be accompanied by a framed certificate. This award may be given to a member of an eligible affiliated Society/Club for outstanding service to Horticultural Societies/Clubs and/or the OHA for an extended period, involvement giving outstanding service in the areas of beautification, conservation, ecology, administration, etc. at the Society/Club, District, and/or Association level, activities within or hosted by a Society/Club, District and/or the Association.

- Beverly Silk, Grafton HS, District 4
- Linda Henderson, Tilbury & District HS, District 11

Silver Medal

The OHA Silver Medal, with its associated framed certificate, is the highest award of the Association. The award may be given to a member of an eligible affiliated Society/Club for outstanding work in the advancement of horticulture in accordance with the Mission and Goals of the Association, meritorious service to beautification, conservation, or ecological work on a District or Provincial basis.

- Anne Harbord, Manotick HS, District 2
- Miriam Ivison, Tilbury & District HS, District 11

OHA GRANTS (Granted in 2023)

For full grant descriptions and eligibility requirements, please visit Awards & Grants on the www.gardenontario.org website.

Tree Grants

Starting January 1st each year, the OHA distributes a maximum of 20 grants of up to \$300 each for the planting of a tree or trees to eligible affiliated Societies/Clubs on public land.

- Martintown and District HS, District 1
- Maxville & District HS, District 1
- Ottawa HS, District 2
- Lennox & Addington HS, District 3
- Tweed & District HS, District 3
- Ennismore & District HS, District 4
- Burlington HS, District 6
- Oakville HS, District 6
- Grand Valley & District HS, District 7
- Glencoe HS, District 10
- Belle River and District HS, District 11
- Tilbury & District HS, District 11
- Thunder Bay HS, District 14
- Collingwood HS, District 16
- Creemore HS, District 16
- Elmira & District HS, District 19
- Galt HS, District 19
- Kitchener HS, District 19



Special Project Grants

The OHA will provide up to 4 grants to a maximum of \$1000.00 each to eligible affiliated Societies/Clubs to create projects that are of a long-lasting benefit to the society or community.

- Martintown & District HS, District 1
- Peterborough HS, District 4
- Ennismore & District HS, District 4

Community Garden Grants

The OHA encourages its member Societies/Clubs to create or contribute to community gardens whether urban or rural. The OHA will award up to 3 grants to a maximum of \$500 each to eligible affiliated Societies/Clubs to assist in the funding of a new community garden or the upgrading of an existing community garden.

- Kemptville HS, District 1
- Sault Ste. Marie HS, District 13

Pollinator Project Grants

The OHA will provide up to 10 grants to a maximum of \$200 each, to eligible affiliated Societies/Clubs, to create habitat in the form of pollinator friendly gardens or nesting sites on public land.

- Ottawa HS, District 2
- Tweed & District HS, District 3
- Ennismore & District HS, District 4
- Paris HS, District 6
- Ripley & District HS, District 8
- Ambassador HS Lasalle, District 11
- Magnetawan HS, District 18
- Galt HS, District 19
- Hespeler HS, District 19



Seedy Saturday/Sunday Grants

The OHA will provide up to 4 grants to a maximum of \$250 each, to eligible affiliated Societies/Clubs, to organize or participate in, a Seedy Saturday/Sunday Event in their community.

- Williamstown HS, District 1
- Thorold HS, District 9
- Beeton HS, District 16
- Cannington HS, District 17
- Magnetawan HS, District 18



Technical Advancement Grants

The OHA will provide up to 6 grants to a maximum of \$250 each, to eligible affiliated Societies/Clubs to purchase a new license/subscription to an online web conferencing platform or for the purchase of equipment (i.e. laptop, projector or microphone system) for use in engaging their members to see and hear speakers and presentations, enter online competitions and contests, and hold/attend a virtual Annual General Meeting.

- Eganville & Area HS, District 2
- Manotick HS, District 2
- Simcoe & District, District 6
- Stoney Creek GC & HS, District 6
- Ambassador HS Lasalle, District 11
- Chatham HS, District 11
- Thunder Bay HS, District 14
- Beaverton HS, District 17
- Orono HS, District 17
- Magnetawan HS, District 18
- North Bay HS, District 18
- Ayr HS, District 19

Youth Help Grants

This program was developed to provide financial support to societies who are working with youth. Any Society/Club working with youth, in good standing, with the Ontario Horticultural Association may apply for the grant. The grant may be used for programming, seeds, special events, supplies, youth start up, etc. for the Society/Club applying for the grant.

- Petawawa HS, District 2
- East Gwillimbury HS, District 5
- Haldimand HS, District 6
- Clifford & District HS, District 7
- Caledon HS, District 15
- Etobicoke HS, District 15
- Hespeler HS, District 19
- Wilmot HS, District 19

Youth Project Grants

The Ontario Horticultural Association developed this grant to assist Youth Programs for their work on a public beautification / native / pollinator project. OHA outdoor signage and grant of up to \$150 may be awarded annually, to be given to up to three (3) Youth Programs/Clubs, for a public beautification / native / pollinator project undertaken by a Youth Program or Club.

- Tweed & District HS, District 3
- Haldimand HS, District 6
- Caledon HS, District 15



OHA GRANTS PROGRAM IMPACTING COMMUNITIES

Revitalization of Martintown Community Centre Grounds

By Ginny Blair and Sharlene Desjardins

Photos by Ginny Blair, Heather MacLean and Elaine Herrington

The Ontario Horticultural Association, also known as GardenOntario, strives to make funds available through the awards and grants program, to assist societies in completing projects of benefit to their communities. This is one of the projects that was assisted.

In 2009, the Martintown Community Centre opened its doors for the first time. The Martintown and District Horticultural Society has been involved with preparing, planting and maintaining the flower beds on the South and East sides of the building since it was opened.

After fourteen years, many of the plants were ready to be replaced. The winter of 2022 was extremely harsh in the area. January brought a month of endless cold high winds from the north that damaged many shrubs. In April of 2023, an ice storm damaged the remaining shrubs and an evergreen that were trying desperately to hang on. As a result, fifteen shrubs had to be removed including six yews, three boxwoods and six barberries. An evergreen also had to be removed.



In the Spring of 2023, after the ice storm, a clean-up of the grounds was completed and the damaged shrubs were removed. This provided a perfect opportunity to replace the shrubs with native, pollinator friendly plants. It was important to the society to ensure that the replacements would last and would provide shelter and food for birds, bees and insects.

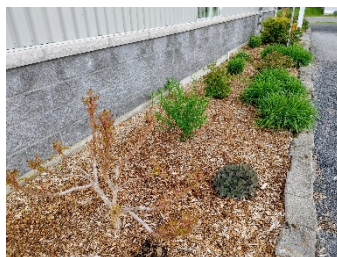
The choice of plants was based on five criteria which included being native as much as possible, being low maintenance, having a variety of colour and texture, having continuous bloom throughout the season and attracting pollinators.

A professional watering system is available at the Centre that provides water automatically depending on weather conditions. This ensures that the plants will receive the best care possible even on the hottest days.

Following the planting, a thick layer of natural mulch was placed on all the beds. The Society also has a maintenance plan in place by way of a roster. One member is responsible for weeding, trimming and dead heading per week from May until mid-October.



The winter of 2023/2024 was very mild with just enough snow to protect the new plants from the wind that is constant at the Community Centre. It looks like all the plants planted in the spring/summer of 2023 are thriving and will provide a lovely spectacle this summer.




An important component of the gardens at the Community Centre is the education of the public to the benefits of native and pollinator plants. The Martintown Community Centre is the most used building in South Glengarry Township. Activities go on morning, afternoon, and evenings five days a week with family gatherings, showers and meetings on most weekends. It is a perfect place to promote our gardens. Not only can the plants be admired growing in the flower beds, but we are preparing a large graphic for the bulletin board in the lobby. The design will include pictures of all the plants in the positions they are growing in the gardens with their names, a brief description, and growing habits. This part of the project will be implemented this summer.



The Martintown and District Horticultural Society is grateful to the OHA for the funding to be able to complete this project and provide a native habitat to the creatures that call this area home.

COMMUNICATIONS

Several tools are used to communicate within the OHA to keep in touch with our affiliated Societies/Clubs and to increase our exposure within the general population.

- The OHA website, www.GardenOntario.org continues to be our major source of communications and transmission of information with Social Media now used to communicate information out as well.
- 
- In 2023, the OHA and its Districts continued to use virtual means to communicate with Societies/Clubs such as Zoom, WebEx and Microsoft Teams as well as the resumption of in person meetings.
 - The quarterly publication, the *Trillium*, is emailed to a majority of affiliated Societies/Clubs and donors. All issues of the *Trillium* are posted on the www.GardenOntario.org home page. Past issues are archived on the website.
 - Many District Directors generate their own newsletters and communicate important information to the Societies and general membership. All affiliated Societies/Clubs have access to OHA material for distribution.
 - The OHA offers promotional items to Districts, affiliated Societies/Clubs and members through the virtual Garden Shop and through the GardenOntario Vista Print Store where items such as Pins, Certificates, T-shirts, Sweaters, Mugs, Hasty Note Cards, the *Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards* booklet and a variety of free promotional materials are made available.
 - Publicity and promotional pieces are developed and circulated to various locations and are available at our outreach events.
 - Normally, the Annual Convention of the Ontario Horticultural Association includes the Annual General Meeting of the organization. At this meeting, affiliated Societies/Clubs receive necessary financial and business reports. Election of the Officers for the coming year takes place. Networking, attending workshops and speaker sessions, as well as fostering social interaction are just some of the important benefits of attending the Annual General Meeting of the OHA. In 2023, the OHA AGM was held in District 2 in the Ottawa area.
 - The Ontario Horticultural Association Officers and Board Members met four times last year via virtual means using WebEx technology, teleconference calls and in person. Decisions made at those meetings were made by the members of the board which they considered to be in the best interest of the affiliated Societies/Clubs they represent. The OHA Officers met monthly via WebEx and teleconference to continue the business of the Association.



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND SPONSORS

The Ontario Horticultural Association would like to thank our donors. By generously donating to the OHA, you are supporting the Association in its efforts to continue its support of our affiliated Societies/Clubs and communities across Ontario. Your gift helps us in Keeping Ontario Beautiful®.

Listed are donors between July 2023 and May 31, 2024.

In Memoriam Donors

2023

- Auburn Horticultural Society
- Brampton Horticultural Society
- Cramahe Horticultural Society
- Ellen Power
- Gilford & District Horticultural Society
- Harriston & District Horticultural Society
- Janice Wagler
- Joe Dicker
- Kimberly Matton
- LaSalle Horticultural Society
- London Horticultural Society
- Lori Ray
- Lynn Zehr
- Marilyn Cox
- Petawawa Horticultural Society
- Stoney Creek Garden Club
- Urban Health Coval

2024

- Brian Kahane
- East Gwillimbury Garden & Horticultural Society
- Flamborough Horticultural Society
- Harriston 7 District Horticultural Society
- Lakefield & District Horticultural Society
- Mount Hamilton Horticultural Society
- Petawawa Horticultural Society
- Ruth Jones
- Sharon Hill
- The Chinguacousy Garden Club



(Updated June 13, 2024)



General Donations

2023

- Amy Maycock
- Barbara Stewart
- Debra Foster
- Linda Fraleigh
- Marian Heil
- Nancy Thompson
- Sandra Rammelaere

2024

- Dubois Agrinovation Inc
- Lucia Rostirolla

Convention Donors

2023

- D. Culbert Ltd.
- Leslie Daniels
- Donna Hussey
- Karen Redmond
- Richmond Hill Garden Club
- Shawn LaPalm Insurance Agency Inc.

2024

- Karen Redmond
- Kelly Taylor
- Lianne Krane
- Sally Drummond



SUPPORT THE ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

The Ontario Horticultural Association is a volunteer, charitable organization whose mission is to provide leadership and assist in the promotion of education and interest in all areas of horticulture and related environmental issues in Ontario, through an expanding network of affiliated Societies/Clubs dedicated to the beautification of their communities.



The OHA pursues its mission with the volunteer support of its members and depends on charitable donations to fund a number of its key activities. Support the OHA with a charitable donation. Your donation supports OHA grants for trees and community beautification projects throughout Ontario or programs in the areas of conservation and the environment, youth and horticulture.

You may also be interested in the OHA's In Memoriam Program. The Ontario Horticultural Association "In Memoriam" book is an opportunity for gardeners in the Province of Ontario to be remembered by their peers, affiliated Societies/Clubs or individuals who have devoted their lives to the joys of tending their own land, and, in many instances, public gardens.

LEGACY GIVING

Remembering the OHA in your will is a wonderful way to continue to foster and support eco-friendly horticultural practices and continue to promote "Keeping Ontario Beautiful®".

The Planned Legacy Giving Program simplifies the charitable giving experience by handling administrative tasks (i.e. issuing cheques, record-keeping, grant reporting and tax receipts) for each account.



The OHA encourages you to speak with your family and your professional advisors to learn more about the benefits of a Charitable Giving Program or Legacy Giving.

For more information on donations and legacy giving, please visit:

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

