



AWARDS AND GRANTS



Garden Ontario™

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This is a web-friendly version of the OHA Awards Booklet

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ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

MISSION STATEMENT

1. To provide broad support and guidance, training and administrative leadership, and to advocate on behalf of affiliated Horticultural Societies/Clubs.
2. To develop and support programs for all ages and skill levels encouraging gardening, community beautification, environmental stewardship and conservation.

- VISION:** To be recognized as the primary gardening and horticultural Association by inspiring, educating and supporting gardeners and affiliated Societies/Clubs.
- 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.
- GOAL:** That the Ontario Horticultural Association continue to be a trusted voice for the Societies/Clubs when dealing with OMAFA and any Horticulture related organization.

GENERAL

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. Over the years, a number of awards have been made available by the Association in appreciation of outstanding services. Awards have also been contributed by individuals. This revised booklet now also includes grants available to Societies/Clubs from the OHA.

In order to submit a nomination for an award, or to apply for a grant, a Member or Society/Club must be an OHA Affiliated Member or Society/Club, in good standing.

NOTE: The OHA has a policy and procedure regarding in good standing, which can be found on the www.gardenontario.org website.

NOTE: Applications for all awards and grants with the exception of the Seedy Saturday/Sunday grant will be accepted starting January 1st, each year.

This booklet is divided into eight sections, representing the different methods/levels by which awards are presented.

- 1) Awards Available for Members and Presented by The Society/Club
- 2) Awards Available to Youth Programs
- 3) Awards Available by Nomination for Members and Presented by Their Respective Districts
- 4) Awards Given by the Ontario Horticultural Association
- 5) Special Awards
- 6) Service Pins
- 7) Grants Given by the Ontario Horticultural Association

Nominations for awards, certificates and other forms of recognition are made through many avenues. Nominations may be made through Societies/Clubs, District Directors or the Association's Awards Coordinator. Please read each section in order to ensure that the proper process for nominations is followed. Full supporting details are to be submitted to the Society/Club, District Director or Awards Coordinator, as appropriate.

Society/Club members, in good standing, nominated for an award, given by the Association, must be part of an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing, and living at the time of their nomination. If a recipient is unable to attend the OHA Awards Ceremony, the District Director will accept the award on their behalf. Should the successful candidate pass away before the award is presented, the OHA will posthumously present the award to the District Director of the award winner, on their behalf.

Recommendations for new awards and grants are to be made through the Association's Awards Coordinator.

SUPPORT THE ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

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.

As a Sponsor or Donor of the OHA, you are helping us to:

- Promote the careful use of our natural resources to prevent them from being lost or wasted.
- Plant pollinator gardens and create pollinator habitats.
- Bring people and communities together to enjoy the benefits of gardening.
- Involve today's young people in all areas of horticulture.



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.

For more information, please contact the OHA Treasurer at treasurer@gardenontario.org or by visiting <https://gardenontario.org/donate/>

SECTION 1

AWARDS AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS AND PRESENTED BY THE SOCIETY/CLUB

HORTICULTURAL SERVICE CERTIFICATE

Up to, two (2) awards per year may be given by a Society/Club. Application forms are available at the www.gardenontario.org website.

NOTE: *Horticultural Service Certificates may be presented only once to any member.*

Horticultural Service Certificates are inscribed by the Association. The Seal of the Association is affixed.

Recipients should be selected carefully so as to maintain the significance and integrity of the award.



CRITERIA

The criteria to be followed are:

- 1) Five or more years of active membership in OHA Affiliated Societies/Clubs.
- 2) Service on Society/Club committees, contributing time and effort to civic improvements and beautification, or public plantings.
- 3) Encouraged membership enrolment by participating in drives or canvassing for new members.
- 4) Inspired the horticultural efforts of either individuals or groups.
- 5) Showed sincere interest in and supported the objectives of a Horticultural Society/Club.

NOTE: *Nominee must be a member, in good standing, of an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing.*

Any member of a Horticultural Society/Club who meets these qualifications is eligible for a Service Certificate.

Follow the procedure outlined on the application form and allow 6-8 weeks ahead of the presentation date to allow for lettering and mailing.

JUDGING/EXHIBITING SERVICE CERTIFICATE

Up to, two (2) awards per year may be given by a Society/Club. Application forms are available at the www.gardenontario.org website.

NOTE: *Judging/Exhibiting Service Certificates may be presented only once to any member.*

Judging/Exhibiting Service Certificates are inscribed by the Association. The Seal of the Association is affixed.

Recipients should be selected carefully so as to maintain the significance and integrity of the award.

CRITERIA

The criteria to be followed are:



- 1) Five or more years of active membership in OHA Affiliated Societies/Clubs.
- 2) Service on Society/Club committees, contributing time or effort to organizing and/or exhibiting in flower shows or photo competitions, or in judging shows.
- 3) Encouraged participation in exhibiting and showing by demonstrating expertise in organizing shows, floral design, horticultural exhibits, or horticulture/floral design photography.
- 4) Inspired judging, shows, and/or exhibiting efforts of either individuals or groups.
- 5) Showed sincere interest in and supported shows and judging of a Horticultural Society/Club.

NOTE: *Nominee must be a member, in good standing, of an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing.*

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Certificates are available for a Society/Club to honour a member with a Life Membership, following these guidelines:

- 1) Long time membership in a Society/Club, preferably a minimum of 15 years.
- 2) Continued interest in horticulture.
- 3) Serves as recognition of participation in the Society/Club and contributions to its program.
- 4) Membership fees will no longer be collected by the Society/Club from the member so honoured, however the Society/Club is still required to submit dues and insurance to the OHA on the member's behalf on a yearly basis.



NOTE: *Nominee must be a member, in good standing, of an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing.*

Life Membership certificates and accompanying membership cards are available from the Ontario Horticultural Association Supplies Coordinator, for a cost of \$2.00 plus postage and must be inscribed by the Society/Club.

SOCIETY/CLUB PRESIDENT'S AWARD

This is a certificate which may be presented to an OHA Affiliated Society/Club member in good standing, at the discretion of the Society/Club's President in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the Society/Club's activities.

A customizable template of the certificate is available online and must be inscribed by the Society/Club.



SECTION 2

AWARDS AVAILABLE TO YOUTH PROGRAMS

YOUTH CERTIFICATE

Certificate templates to honour youth are available online. The Society/Club is responsible for the inscription. Selection of candidates is the responsibility of the Society/Club.

RETA CALDWELL YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD

Judging Criteria: Subject matter 70% Neatness & Spelling 30%
Sponsored by the Oro-Medonte Horticultural Society

\$100.00 to be awarded annually to either a Youth Group or a Horticultural Society/Club creating a Youth Environmental project/event.

The project can be activities such as:

- School Garden,
- Start up for a new youth program,
- Having a speaker at a school geared to youth at a school or special event, on an environmental theme,
- Building a bee house, purchasing butterfly larvae, praying mantis hatching, etc.

NOTE: *Not limited to these items*

The project must have an environmental and youth focus.

- Must have application in by February 28th, with article about project submitted by July 1st for convention information.
- Must submit; after winning award, project photos and details for article in OHA publication (Trillium/youth newsletter).
- Award will be presented at the OHA Convention.
- Societies/Clubs may not win award 2 years in succession (even with a different project).
- Send application to the Youth Chair at: youth@gardenontario.org

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, in good standing, of an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing. Nominations may be made each year, using the application form, giving full details of the nominee's qualifications. Applications must be sent to and received by the Awards Coordinator on or before February 28th.

NOTE: *Recipients of this award may only receive this award once.*

CONVENTION COMPETITION AWARDS

NOTE: *Please see Youth Convention Competition Schedule for details of each class shown below.*

RUBY BRYAN YOUTH SCRAPBOOK AWARD (Class 14) Club Award

This award includes cash prizes and is judged on content only, not as a scrapbooking project.

1st Prize - \$10.00 2nd Prize - \$8.00 3rd Prize - \$6.00

The purpose of this award is for the Leaders to prepare a Youth Program scrapbook, giving a pictorial and illustrated account of the youth garden program and activities of the past year. It may include sketches with descriptive narratives about specific subjects, meetings, or projects that have been featured during a year.

The size of the scrapbook is not limited, although it should be suitable for transportation to the Convention.

Entries should be brought to the Convention and left with the Youth Committee for judging.

Donated by Ruby Bryan, Englehart, District 12 Director from 1964 to 1969, OHA President in 1972.

NOTE: *Each Youth Program is limited to one entry per annual competition.*

RUBY LOBBAN AWARD (Class 15) Club Award

The Youth Program earning the highest number of points in competition at the Convention will receive a cash award.

1st Prize - \$15.00 2nd Prize - \$10.00 3rd Prize - \$5.00

In memory of Ruby Lobban, a member of the Owen Sound Horticultural Society and District 8 Assistant District Director from 1970 to 1983.

MAISIE BRAY AWARD (Class 13) Open to all Youth Members

Cash prizes are awarded to the winner of a Poster Contest. The themed flowers/plants, which are changed each year, are selected by the OHA Youth Committee at the OHA Convention.

1st Prize - \$10.00 2nd Prize - \$8.00 3rd Prize - \$6.00

Donated by Maisie Bray, Lion's Head, District 8 Director from 1978 to 1983

NOTE: *Limited to one entry per youth member per annual competition.*

WILLIAM D. CLINGERSMITH YOUTH PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD

(Classes 9 & 10) Open to all Youth Members

Awarded to the youth who has been chosen to have the best photograph across all youth photography classes.

\$20.00 cash award plus a Best in Show Rosette

In memory of William Clingersmith who is responsible for introducing me to nature and the outdoors, and always encouraged my work with the OHA.

Donated by Kelly Taylor (Clingersmith), OHA Secretary

HARRY WYMA FINE ARTS AWARD

(Class 11) Open to all Youth Members

Your vision. Any medium: painting, drawing, sculpture, carving, fiber art, etc., not to exceed 50 cm (20") in any direction. Dry plant material is permitted.

Judging Criteria: Interpretation of title 20%, Creativity 20%, Originality 30%, Skill 30%

1st Prize - \$10.00 2nd Prize - \$8.00 3rd Prize - \$6.00

Donated by Harry Wyma, Ridgetown, District 11 Director from 1983 to 1988 and OHA President in 1990.

IMMEDIATE PAST YOUTH CHAIR AWARD (Class 12 section F)

Judging Criteria: Subject matter 70% Neatness & Spelling 30%

1st Prize - \$6.00 2nd Prize - \$5.00 3rd Prize - \$4.00 (no points) HM \$2.00 (no points)
Cash prizes donated by current Past Youth Competitions Chair

- Best in Show Rosette, Section B: Artistic Creativity (5 points)
- Judge's Choice Rosette, Section C: Floral Design (5 points)

ARTISTIC CREATIVITY AWARD – SECTION B

Open to all youth - Section B class 3 & 4 (Both age groups)

Sponsored by Don Matthews, OHA Past President 1998 – 1999

Judging Criteria: Interpretation of title 20%
Use of appropriate material 30%
Creativity 30%
Neatness 20%

1st prize: \$5.00 (5 points) 2nd prize: \$4.00 (4 points) 3rd prize: \$3.00 (3 points) HM (up to 3) \$1.00 (1 point each)

Best in Show Rosette

SECTION 3

AWARDS AVAILABLE BY NOMINATION AND PRESENTED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICTS

DISTRICT SERVICE AWARD

This award is an engraved wooden plaque provided by the Ontario Horticultural Association. One nomination may be made each year by each OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing, within a District to the District Director in a letter giving full details of the nominee's qualifications. From these nominations, the District Executive may select one award winner per year. The name of the recipient and the date of presentation are to be submitted to the Association Awards Coordinator by the District Director at least four months before the award is to be presented. The Association Awards Coordinator maintains a listing of recipients.



CRITERIA

The criteria to be followed are:

- 1) An individual who has given effective, long service to a Society/Club or District, preferably a minimum of fifteen years, in horticulture, exhibiting, judging, in an administrative capacity or other Society/Club activities.
- 2) An individual who has given extensive service to horticulture, exhibiting, judging, in an administrative capacity or other activities exclusive of Horticultural Societies/Clubs.
- 3) Nominee must be a member, in good standing, of an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing.

NOTE: *Recipients of this award may only receive this award once.*

DISTRICT APPRECIATION AWARD

This certificate may be presented to an OHA Affiliated Member or Affiliated Society/Club in good standing, or an organization/business at the discretion of the District Director in recognition of:

- 1) An outstanding contribution to the District's activities in horticulture,
- 2) Exhibiting,
- 3) Judging,
- 4) In an administrative capacity or other Society/Club activities.

A customizable template of the certificate is available online and must be inscribed by the Society/Club.



SECTION 4

AWARDS GIVEN BY THE ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

Nominations for awards in this section must be submitted to and received by the Awards Coordinator on or before February 28th. In each case, an OHA Affiliated Society/Club Member, Society/Club, or District, in good standing, may nominate a recipient. Full supporting documentation must accompany each nomination form as the Awards Committee will make its selection based on this information.

NOTE: *Award nomination forms are available at the www.gardenontario.org website.*

Recipients of any OHA Association awards, listed in Section 4 and 5, are not eligible for a further OHA Association award, for a period of three years.

Example: Recipients in 2024 are eligible to receive another award in 2027.

Recipients of an OHA Association award, listed in Section 4 and 5, may only receive that award once.

Awards are presented at the OHA Convention Awards Banquet.

The Awards Committee may, at its discretion, select more than one award recipient, in each category.

SILVER MEDAL AWARD

This is a silver medal with the Association logo and made to be worn as a pin. It is engraved on the back with the recipient's name and the presentation year.

The Ontario Horticultural Association Silver Medal, with its associated framed certificate, is the highest award of the Association. The award is given for outstanding work in the advancement of horticulture in accordance with the Mission and Goals of the Association.

CRITERIA

Outstanding work may include:

- 1) Meritorious service to beautification, conservation, or ecological work on a District or Provincial basis.
- 2) Establishment and maintenance of trial plots, botanical gardens, and arboreta and/or intensive horticulture such as originating and producing outstanding varieties of plants.
- 3) Outstanding leadership in the promotion of Horticultural Societies/Clubs including their programs, membership, and related activities or other worthy efforts.



NOTE: *Nominee must be a member, in good standing, of an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing.*

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. Awards may be given annually for outstanding service to Horticultural Societies/Clubs and/or the Ontario Horticultural Association for an extended period.



CRITERIA

The criteria to be followed are:

- 1) Involvement giving outstanding service in the areas of beautification, conservation, ecology, administration, etc. at the Society/Club, District, and/or Association level.
- 2) Activities within or hosted by a Society/Club, District and/or the Association including the community.
- 3) Leadership in the promotion of Horticultural Societies/Clubs, District and/or the Association including their programs, membership, and related activities or other worthy efforts.



NOTE: *Nominee must be a member, in good standing, of an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing.*

AWARD OF MERIT

This award is a framed certificate and is given to an individual for notable contributions to the programs of the Association, District or a Society/Club.

CRITERIA

The criteria to be followed are:

- 1) Five or more years of active membership in Societies/Clubs.
- 2) Special beautification projects.
- 3) 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.
- 4) Supporting individuals or organizations in the area of communication.
- 5) Any other worthy efforts such as: contribution towards the advancement of sound horticultural and/or ecological and conservation practices, fostering community gardens, outstanding work in the science or art of horticulture, or leadership of a special project that is within the aims of the OHA.



NOTE: *Nominee must be a member, in good standing, of an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing.*

HONOUR ROLL

The Honour Roll is presented to an individual that has made a contribution of horticultural service, given outstanding service, or assisted in the development of horticultural practices at the Society/Club, District and/or Association level. Each recipient will be given a pin and certificate to commemorate the occasion.

CRITERIA

The criteria to be followed are:

- 1) A member of a Horticultural Society/Club with at least five years of service to one or more Societies/Clubs.
- 2) Made a contribution of horticultural service to the community, District and/or Association or in the development of horticultural practices.
- 3) Has given outstanding service at the Society/Club, District and/or Association level.



NOTE: *Nominee must be a member, in good standing, of an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing.*

NOTE: *Awards are presented at the OHA Convention Awards Banquet.*

SECTION 5

SPECIAL AWARDS

Nominations must be submitted to and received by the OHA Awards Coordinator on or before February 28th. Nomination forms with relevant supporting documentation totaling no more than ten pages, which includes the application form, will be considered by the Awards Committee. Nominations may be made by an OHA Affiliated Society/Club Member, Society/Club, or District, in good standing.

NOTE: *Award nomination forms are available at the www.gardenontario.org website.*

Recipients of any OHA Association awards, listed in Section 4 and 5, are not eligible for a further OHA Association award, for a period of three years.

Example: Recipients in 2024 are eligible to receive another award in 2027.

Recipients of an OHA Association award, listed in Section 4 and 5, may only receive that award once.

Awards are presented at the OHA Convention Awards Banquet.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT AWARD

This award is a plaque provided by the Ontario Horticultural Association. It may be given to an individual, organization or company that, in the estimation of the Awards Committee, has enhanced the beauty of the landscape and/or added to the quality of life of a community with a horticultural project.

Consideration will be given to projects that involve working with other organizations: e.g., schools, Master Gardeners, businesses, and municipalities.

Nominations should include:

- 1) Submission in electronic format
- 2) Descriptions/color copies of photographs of the project
- 3) Impact on the community
- 4) Duration of the project

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD

This award is a plaque provided by the Ontario Horticultural Association. It 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 including habitat, restoration, and/or improvement.

Consideration will be given to:

- 1) Nominations that include information about the amount of research involved
- 2) Before and after descriptions/colour copies of photographs of the project
- 3) Impact on the community
- 4) Duration of the project
- 5) Community and municipality involvement

TECHNICAL AWARD

This is a plaque which may be presented to a person who has been an asset as a technical advisor/coordinator/webmaster for a Society and/or a District and who has assisted with virtual meetings, coordinating virtual flower shows, assisting with TPON, etc. Nominee must be a member, in good standing, of an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing. Nominations may be made each year, using the application form, giving full details of the nominee's qualifications.

TECHNICAL ADVANCEMENT RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE

This recognition is a framed special achievement certificate and is given to a 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.

CRITERIA

Societies/Clubs or Districts continue to engage their members to participate by using virtual technology to:

- 1) Host speakers and presentations using a virtual platform.
- 2) Enter virtual competitions and contests.
- 3) Host virtual plant sales or virtual plant auctions.
- 4) Attend or hold a virtual Membership Meeting or Annual General Meeting.



There will be up to four (4) certificates given to recipients annually. The Awards Committee may bestow additional certificates, at their discretion.

TO APPLY

Applications must be submitted to and received by the OHA Awards Coordinator **on or before February 28th.**

SECTION 6

SERVICE PINS

A variety of service pins have been developed to acknowledge service of various positions within the OHA, Districts, and Societies/Clubs. Service year pins have also been developed to acknowledge long-standing membership within Societies/Clubs.

NOTE: *OHA Service Pins are available through the Supplies Coordinator, by using the Supplies List and Order Form found at the www.gardenontario.org website.*

Service Pins Available	Service Year Pins Available
District Director	5 Years
Assistant District Director	10 Years
Past District Director	15 Years
President	20 Years
Past President	25 Years
Vice President	30 Years
Society Director	35 Years
Secretary	40 Years
Treasurer	45 Years
Judge	50 Years
Member	55 Years
Youth Leader	60 Years
Life Member	



OHA 10 Years' Service Pin example

SECTION 7

GRANTS GIVEN BY THE ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

NOTE: *Grant application forms are available at the www.gardenontario.org website.*

NOTE: *Application forms with relevant supporting documentation totaling no more than ten pages, which includes the application form, will be considered by the Awards Committee.*

SEEDY SATURDAY/SUNDAY GRANT

The Ontario Horticultural Association is providing up to four (4) grants of \$250 each, annually, to an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing, to organize a Seedy Saturday/Sunday event in their communities. It is hoped that such support will promote seed saving and the exchange of regionally adapted, bio-diverse seed in Ontario for the purposes of promoting seed saving and seed exchange in Ontario. (This event may be held any day of the week)

Seedy Saturdays/Sundays bring together gardeners, farmers, seed savers, and citizens passionate about gardening, food security, and the environment.

These one-day non-profit public events often feature speakers and workshops, vendors, youth activities, and seed exchanges and sales.

CRITERIA

The criteria to be followed are:

- 1) Eligible event expenses include:
 - Costs related to the rental of venue
 - Tables and chairs
 - Speaker fees
 - Signage
 - Promotional material
 - Costs associated with a virtual format
- 2) When completing your application, provide a detailed budget breakdown of how the funds will be used.

TO APPLY

Please complete the Seedy Saturday/Sunday application form, found at the www.gardenontario.org website and mail it to the Awards Coordinator to be received **NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15TH** of the current year.

NOTE: *Societies may apply for this grant every three (3) years*

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Successful Seedy Saturday/Sunday Grant applicants will be required to submit itemized copies of original receipts, a detailed report and a photo of the day to the Awards Coordinator before December 31st of the next year for reimbursement. For example, a grant awarded in 2024 must have its completed report with receipts and photos submitted by December 31st of 2025.

SPECIAL PROJECT OR ENVIRONMENTAL GRANT

To assist an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing, in meeting the objectives of the Ontario Horticultural Association, the Association will provide a SPECIAL PROJECT/ENVIRONMENTAL GRANT for up to four (4) projects a year to a maximum of \$1000 for each project. This grant has been broken down into two (2) subcategories: Special Project and Environmental. Please choose one (1) of the two subcategories to apply in.

NOTE: *A Society/Club that receives a Special Project or Environmental Grant cannot apply again for this grant for five years.*

TO APPLY

Applications must be submitted to and received by the OHA Awards Coordinator on or before February 28th.

SPECIAL PROJECT CRITERIA

Projects must be of a long-lasting benefit to the Society/Club or community.

The criteria to be followed are:

- 1) Budget
- 2) Site plan
- 3) Placement and quantity of each plant variety
- 4) Extra consideration will be given for the use of native plants
- 5) Society/Club and community involvement,
- 6) One or two colour copies of photographs of the site (do not send original photographs)

NOTE: *Must be an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing*

The Special Project Grant is NOT to be used for:

- Annuals
- Trees
- Hard surface
- Construction materials

ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT CRITERIA

Projects must be of a long-lasting benefit to the Society/Club or community. This project is a wonderful opportunity to participate in promoting the [2021-2030 United Nations Decade](#) on ecosystem restoration.

The criteria to be followed are:

- 1) Budget
- 2) Site plan
- 3) Society/Club and community involvement,
- 4) One or two colour copies of photographs of the site (do not send original photographs)

Examples of projects include:

- 1) Restore biodiversity to land/water areas
- 2) Pollinator pathways
- 3) Watershed creation or revitalization

NOTE: *Must be an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing*

The Environmental Project Grant is NOT to be used for:

- Annuals
- Hard surface
- Construction materials

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Successful Special Project or Environmental Grant recipients must submit a completed reporting form including itemized copies of original receipts and photos of the completed project which must be received by the Awards Coordinator on or before December 31st of the next year. For example, a grant awarded in 2024 must have its completed report with receipts and photos submitted to and received by the Awards Coordinator by December 31st of 2025. Otherwise, the OHA will assume that the Special Project or Environmental Grant has not been completed and the grant funding will be cancelled.

NO funds will be released without itemized receipts.

NOTE: The Special Project or Environmental Grant Reporting Form must be returned with your original receipts.

COMMUNITY GARDEN GRANT

The Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) encourages its OHA Affiliated Societies/Clubs, in good standing, to create or contribute to community gardens whether urban or rural. The OHA will award a grant of up to \$500 each to up to three (3) eligible Societies/Clubs to assist with the funding of a new community garden or the upgrading of an existing community garden.

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY GARDEN?

For the purposes of this grant, a community garden is defined as a plot of land, either publicly or privately owned, that is used primarily to grow food for gardeners and/or the surrounding community. Either the whole space is communal, or each member maintains a plot. Members may or may not pay a fee, but the garden must have a communal aspect such as shared maintenance, donations of produce to a local charity, or social activities.

WHO CAN APPLY?

A Society/Club, in good standing, applying for this grant should play a specific role in the creation or maintenance of the community garden involved either acting as the lead organization or as a member of a collaborative of partnering organizations.

The community garden must be:

- Accessible to the wider community
- Involve broad community participation
- Primarily focused on local food production

WHAT CAN BE FUNDED?

- Tools, materials, and equipment that are directly used in the completion of the project (raised beds, accessible planters, etc.)
- Site development costs and services
- Facilities and structures (washroom, composting area, water harvesting area, shade structure) that support the gardening activities of the members

WHAT CANNOT BE FUNDED?

- Operating or administration expenses associated with the development, implementation, and completion of the project such as staff salaries, computer equipment, refreshments, travel costs, etc.
- Flower-only garden projects (See Special Project or Environmental Grant), seeds or transplants, trees (see Tree Grant)
- Garden accessories or signage
- Marketing materials

OVERALL CRITERIA FOR START-UP OR EXISTING COMMUNITY GARDENS

- Be non-profit
- Written permission of landowner to use the site
- Demonstrated garden plan which includes descriptions of how the garden will be developed/upgraded, how the garden will operate, and how the garden will be maintained
- Garden plan should identify the role of the Horticultural Society/Club applying for the grant and a list of other community organizations that are involved in the garden
- Certificate of liability insurance
- Garden budget

TO APPLY

Applications must be submitted to and received by the OHA Awards Coordinator on or before February 28th.

NOTE: *Be sure to include copies of landowner's permission, garden plan, a certificate of liability insurance, and your garden budget.*

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Successful Community Garden Grant recipients must submit a completed reporting form including itemized copies of original receipts and photos of the completed project which must be received by the Awards Coordinator on or before December 31st of the next year. For example, a grant awarded in 2024 must have its completed report with receipts and photos submitted to and received by the Awards Coordinator by December 31st of 2025. Otherwise, the OHA will assume that the Community Garden Grant has not been completed and the grant funding will be cancelled.

NO funds will be released without itemized receipts.

NOTE: *The Community Garden Grant Reporting Form must be returned with your original receipts.*

ACCESSIBILITY GARDEN GRANT

The Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) encourages its OHA Affiliated Societies/Clubs, in good standing, to create or contribute to accessible gardens whenever possible. The OHA will award a grant of up to \$500 each to up to four (4) eligible Societies/Clubs to assist with the funding of a new accessible garden or the addition of accessible components to an existing garden.

WHAT IS AN ACCESSIBLE GARDEN?

For the purposes of this grant, an accessible garden is defined as a plot of land, either publicly or privately owned, that will support people who experience disabilities, with respect for dignity, and responds to a person's individual needs and promotes integration and full participation. Examples could include but are not limited to a sensory garden for the visually impaired, wheelchair accessible raised gardens or quiet meditation areas.

WHO CAN APPLY?

A Society/Club, in good standing, applying for this grant should play a specific role in the creation or maintenance of the accessible garden involved either acting as the lead organization or as a member of a collaborative of partnering organizations.

The garden must be:

- Accessible to the wider community
- Involve broad community participation
- Primarily focused on those with disabilities

WHAT CAN BE FUNDED?

- Tools (ergonomic and/or enabling), materials, and equipment that are directly used in the completion of the project (raised beds, accessible planters, etc.)
- Site development costs and services
- Facilities and structures (washroom, composting area, water harvesting area, shade structure) that support the gardening activities of the members
- Flowers, herbs, seeds, transplants

WHAT CANNOT BE FUNDED?

- Operating or administration expenses associated with the development, implementation, and completion of the project such as staff salaries, computer equipment, refreshments, travel costs, etc.
- Trees (see Tree Grant)
- Garden accessories or signage
- Marketing materials

OVERALL CRITERIA FOR START-UP OR EXISTING GARDENS

- Be non-profit
- Written permission of landowner to use the site
- Demonstrated garden plan which includes descriptions of how the garden will be developed/upgraded, how the garden will operate, and how the garden will be maintained
- Garden plan should identify the role of the Horticultural Society/Club applying for the grant and a list of other community organizations that are involved in the garden
- Certificate of liability insurance
- Garden budget

TO APPLY

Applications must be submitted to and received by the OHA Awards Coordinator on or before February 28th.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Successful Accessibility Garden Grant recipients must submit a completed reporting form including itemized original receipts and photos of the completed project which must be received by the Awards Coordinator on or before December 31st of the next year. For example, a grant awarded in 2024 must have its completed report with receipts and photos submitted to and received by the Awards Coordinator by December 31st of 2025. Otherwise, the OHA will assume that the Accessibility Garden Grant has not been completed and the grant funding will be cancelled.

NO funds will be released without itemized receipts.

TREE GRANT

Starting January 1st each year, the OHA distributes grants of up to \$300 for the planting of a tree or trees by Horticultural Societies/Clubs on public land. Societies/Clubs are eligible for this grant every second year.

Grants are given to up to twenty (20) eligible OHA Affiliated Societies/Clubs, in good standing. The funds for these grants are provided by donations made through the In Memoriam Fund.

TO APPLY

- Applications must be submitted to and received by the OHA Awards Coordinator on or before February 28th.
- Letter of permission from landowner must accompany application form

Eligible expenses include:

- Purchase, delivery, planting and installation of trees
- Tree bags
- Tree wraps

NOTE: *To be eligible, you must be an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing, and not have received a tree grant in the previous year.*

NOTE: *The successful Tree Grant applicants will be required to submit copies of itemized original receipts and a photo of the completed project to the Awards Coordinator for reimbursement on or before December 31st of the current year.*

NOTE: *This is a first come first served grant. Please apply early to avoid disappointment*

POLLINATOR PROJECT GRANT

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

TO APPLY

Applications must be submitted to and received by the OHA Awards Coordinator on or before February 28th.

NOTE: ***Societies/Clubs may apply for this grant annually***

CRITERIA

To be eligible:

- 1) Must be an OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing,
- 2) Provide a letter of permission by the municipality/city indicating that the Society/Club may carry out their project at the intended location,
- 3) Signage will be provided by the OHA for the project at no cost to the Society/Club.

To ensure a vibrant pollinator-friendly habitat, projects should include the following elements whenever possible:

- A diverse variety of plants that bloom from early spring to late fall for successive bloom, massed in clumps.
- Choose native plants and old-fashioned heirloom varieties over hybrids.
- Provide a source of water.
- Create shelter by ensuring a variety of nesting materials are nearby and that there are bare patches of soil available for ground nesting insects.
- Avoid the use of pesticides.
- Establish a maintenance plan to ensure the sustainability of the project.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

This grant may be used for:

- Purchase and installation of perennials and shrubs,
- Mulch,
- Soil/Compost,
- Construction materials and supplies for the creation of nesting sites.

Ineligible expenses include:

- Annuals

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Successful Pollinator Grant applicants will be required to submit itemized copies of original receipts, a completed project reporting form and a photo to the Awards Coordinator for reimbursement and received by the Awards Coordinator on or before December 31st of the next year. For example, a grant awarded in 2024 must have its completed report with receipts and photos sent to and received by the Awards Coordinator on or before December 31st of 2025. Otherwise, the OHA will assume that the Pollinator Project Grant has not been completed and the grant funding will be cancelled.

NO funds will be released without itemized receipts.

TECHNICAL ADVANCEMENT GRANT

The Ontario Horticultural Association is providing up to six (6) grants of a maximum of \$250 each, annually to its OHA Affiliated Societies/Clubs, in good standing, 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.

It is hoped that such support will encourage societies/clubs to fulfill their mandate by using technology to overcome the barriers faced during this pandemic and beyond.

CRITERIA

- 1) Eligible web conferencing software license/subscription expenses including costs related to the purchase of a license or subscription (i.e. Zoom, WebEx) OR eligible expenses including costs related to the purchase of a laptop, projector, microphone system or similar.

TO APPLY

Applications open starting January 1st until the maximum number of grants are met or February 28th, whichever comes first.

NOTE: *Please note that this grant is awarded on a first-come first-serve basis. Please apply early to avoid disappointment.*

NOTE: *The OHA will make this grant available once every 3 years to each Society/Club, to a maximum of two grants per society/club with the option to purchase equipment both times, subscriptions twice or one of each.*

YOUTH HELP PROGRAM GRANT

This program was developed to provide financial support to Societies/Clubs who are working with youth. Any OHA Affiliated Society/Club, in good standing, which is working with youth 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.

The Association will provide a Youth Help Program Grant for up to twenty (20) Societies/Clubs a year to a maximum of \$75 each who are working with youth, provided the requirements for Societies/Clubs dealing with youth, are complied with.

TO APPLY

- Societies/Clubs may apply annually
- Applications must be submitted to the OHA Awards Coordinator starting January 1st of the current year

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The Application Form, with part 2 filled out, itemized copies of original receipts, and photo must be sent to the Awards Coordinator for reimbursement before December 31st of the current year.

YOUTH PROJECT GRANT

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/Club. Please submit your application form and include a written summary describing the project. The project might be planting the containers/planters on a city street, school plantings, or other public plantings with or including a minimum of 2 native/pollinator plants.

TO APPLY

- Applications must be submitted to and received by the OHA Awards Coordinator on or before February 28th.
- Youth Programs/Clubs may apply annually

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Successful Youth Project Grant reimbursement requests must be received by the Awards Coordinator on or before December 31st of the current year and must include a written summary and photos of the completed project.

OHA AWARDS COMMITTEE

The OHA Awards Committee is comprised of the President, the Vice President, the 2nd Vice President, the Past President, the Secretary, the Awards Coordinator, the Chair of the Past Presidents' Council, and two regional representatives.

Any decision of the Awards Committee will be considered as a decision of the Board of Directors.

All submissions become the property of the Ontario Horticultural Association. Submissions not receiving awards will be held for consideration for the following year only. Grants must be submitted yearly for consideration, when eligible.

NOTE: *All nominations received by the Awards Coordinator will be acknowledged with an email confirmation within 2 weeks of receipt.*

NOTE: *All decisions of the committee will be final.*

OHA AWARDS CONTACT

Ontario Horticultural Association

Awards Coordinator

Email: awards@gardenontario.org

For OHA Competitions at the OHA Annual Convention, please check out the OHA Competition Schedules at the www.gardenontario.org website.



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