



Oakville Horticultural Society April 2019

Date:

April Monthly Meeting

April 8, 2019

Location:

Knox Presbyterian Church, 89 Dunn Street

Set-up Volunteers:

Marie Decker and Gilbert Jeffery

Hospitality Volunteers:

Paula Clayton, Liz Day and Margaret Larson

Flower Show Clerks:

Mary Cameron and Elizabeth Schleicher



Farm writer, garden writer, food writer, professional speaker.

As an urbanite with an agricultural science degree and work experience in the agricultural sector, Steven makes sense of farm, garden, and food issues for the urban public and writes about urban food thinkers, trends, and happenings for the farm sector.

trends, and happenings for the farm sector.

Presentation Topic: **Edibles in Urban Landscapes**

The days of veggiphobia are over. Have a visually stunning garden and eat it too. Front yard or back, incorporate edibles into your existing garden beds if you don't have space for a stand-alone vegetable garden. If you have thought of a front yard veggie garden but weren't sure how to start, or want to find out how to mix in a few tomato plants with your perennials, this talk is for you. If you've ever wanted to grow edibles, but need inspiration, this talk is for you.



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For the last week, I have been hearing the red-winged blackbirds calling – a sure sign that spring is here. A favourite season for most gardeners and always a very busy one for the OHS!

Coming up this month, we have a number of balls in the air. Once again, we have been offered a booth at the Oakville Lifestyle Home Show from Friday April 5 to Sunday April 7. With Florenda in the lead, it's a great opportunity for us to promote the OHS to possible new members – see all the details elsewhere in this newsletter and consider volunteering for a few hours to help us get the word out.

This is also the time for registering for the Junior Garden Program, so please help us reach out to possible young gardeners in your circle.



Of course, we're getting ready for the Plant Sale too. With just two meetings before the sale on May 18, we will be looking for volunteers to do many different activities. Starting with potting up divisions from your own gardens, getting the word out to friends, family, and neighbours, signing up to help on sale day as loaders, cashiers, set up and sellers, to name a few. More details will be covered at our meeting on April 8. This event is an important fund raiser for us, so please volunteer. Its always fun!

There are a lot of events listed in the calendar this month – one I plan to attend is the District 6 meeting, hosted by the Burlington HS on April 27.

Enjoy the warmer weather and longer days coming our way. And, even if its only those first few hours of raking, happy gardening!

Paula

May's meeting - Speaker Joanne Fallowfield

Topic: My Dance with Native Plants

June's Meeting—Garden Experts to Answer your Gardening Questions

Please email your questions to: info.ohs@oakvillehort.org



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ALL HANDS ARE NEEDED

PLANT SALE: May 18 - 8:30 - 11:00 AM

LOCATION: Glen Abbey United Church on Nottingham Hill Gate

Your perennial plants are needed now! Our Plant Sale Day is fast approaching - Saturday, May 18th Glen Abbey United Church, 1469 Nottingham Hill Gate, Oakville.

What can YOU do?

Renovate your Gardens!

So renovate your beds and share your favourite plants. When dividing perennials, please use a light soil mix to save the backs of volunteers moving plants from depots to sale site. Soil is available at our depots. Please deliver your labeled (botanical name if known and colour) 6 inch potted plants to our Plant Depots before May 13th. Use waterproof markers.

Need Help!

If you need help digging, dividing and potting, please call Sheelagh (905-844-3259) or Trish Bolton(905-827-6024). If you haven't volunteered to help on plant sale day, it's not too late. Let Sheelagh or Trish know.

Help us advertise!

Tell your friends and neighbours. Give out bookmarks. Put up posters. Put up a sign in your yard or neighbourhood. We will tell you where and when you can get these at our April meeting or contact Sheelagh (rowbrown3@gmail.com) and/or Trish(trish6024@sympatico.ca).

Please volunteer!!!

Donate Plants

Ideally, potting should be done by May 9th to give plants a chance to recover and look their best for our sale on the 18th. Use a wooden stick, a permanent marker (no paper please) jot down the plants name, it's colour or if it grows in sun or shade. Deliver your **labelled** potted plants to the Plant Depots by May 13th.

Depot Locations:

North	Marie & Bob Decker 1285 Gloaming Court 905-844-1837
Central	Please volunteer
South	Please volunteer

All non-invasive perennials are good sellers but some of our best sellers are: Ajuga, Aquatic plants, Artemesia, Aster, Astilbe Bellflower, Black Eyed Susan, Border Pinks, Catmint, Coral Bells, Corydalis, Chrysanthemum, Daylilies, Delphinium, Fall Anemone, Fall Aster, Ferns, Hens & Chicks, Herbs, Hosta, Ivy, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Japanese Spurge (Pachysandra), Lady's Mantle, Lamb's Ear, Lavender, Meadow Rue, Monkshood, Ornamental Grass (clumping, no Ribbon Grass), Phlox, Primula, Purple Coneflower, Rhubarb, Sedum, Shasta Daisy, Siberian Iris, Solomon's Seal, Trillium, Sweet Woodruff, Yarrow, Yucca, Shrubs and Trees from your own garden. Make sure that late leafing plants like Rose of Sharon show some signs of life, otherwise they are hard to sell.

Let's all work together to have FUN and make this plant sale a BIG success!



Dig and Divide Method



more society news (continued)...



Firmness in all aspects is a most important quality when gardening, not only in planting but in pruning, dividing and tying up. Plants are like babies, they know when an amateur is handling them.

~ Margery Fish





WORMS.....To quote Charles Darwin, “I doubt that there are many other animals which have played so important a part in the history of the world than these lowly organized creatures.”

Darwin spent a lifetime studying worms, (amongst other things), and he estimated that 63,000 earthworms could annually move between 7.5 and 18 tons of soil per acre. (No, I don’t know how he estimated that, any more than I know how “experts” estimate the total weight of insects in the world, or estimate the total number of yet undiscovered critters and plant species in the world).

Anyway, back to the worms.....Worms in the garden good, Right? They plow the soil, leave burrow which allow the passage of water, air, nutrients and allow roots to spread. They consume leaves and other organic matter and turn them into nutritious castings. What’s not to like?

But there is a darker side to the worm story, (earthworms that is, there are about 2,700 species of earthworms in the world, but only twenty in Canada, and eighteen of those are non native. The native ones are rare and confined to the West coast

To explain, the Ice Age 10,000 to 14,000 years ago scoured the earth when the glaciers retreated and any native worms remaining were confined to the ice free southern states. The worms we have now are imports from Europe, and a few from Asia. They arrived with the settlers in soil, ballast, and on the roots of plants, and established themselves in gardens and farms, and gradually spread to the forests. Worms migrate very slowly, at the most thirty feet a year, so the forests moved North much faster than the worms, and evolved in their absence. The natural decay of leaves and other organic matter took place slowly and formed a layer of “duff”, the spongy layer of leaf litter and organic matter which nurtures seedlings and insects. This layer is ideal food for earth worms, and as they migrated into the forests, carried in dumped soil, on vehicle wheels, by loggers, and from dumping of unused bait worms by anglers, they multiplied at an alarming rate and feasted on the duff.

In the early 1980’s observers began to notice that the duff layer was disappearing, leaving bare soil which was inhospitable to new seedlings, exposed the roots of established trees, and removed nesting areas for ground nesting birds and for insects, mice and so on. To make matters worse, some invasive non native plants such as garlic mustard, which evolved alongside worms in Europe, are taking over, and because garlic mustard is allelopathic, and its roots exude a substance which inhibits other plants, the problem gets worse. The work of these worms is changing the ecology of the forests, and many spring ephemerals, such as hepatica, bloodroot, spring beauties and even trilliums are becoming scarcer.

What can be done about this? Not much. Any pesticide sprayed on the ground would be non selective, and who wants to douse our forests with pesticides anyway? Some strategies for managing earthworms are being tested at the Schugkill centre in Philadelphia, including coffee, tobacco, and black walnut, and they are showing some promise. Meantime, if you fish, dump your surplus bait worms in the river, Don’t dump soil in the woods, and hope that the scientists come through.

On a happier note I think that spring is here at last. My seedlings are doing fine and snowdrops and winter aconites are blooming, so all’s well with the world

Happy gardening, David Marshall

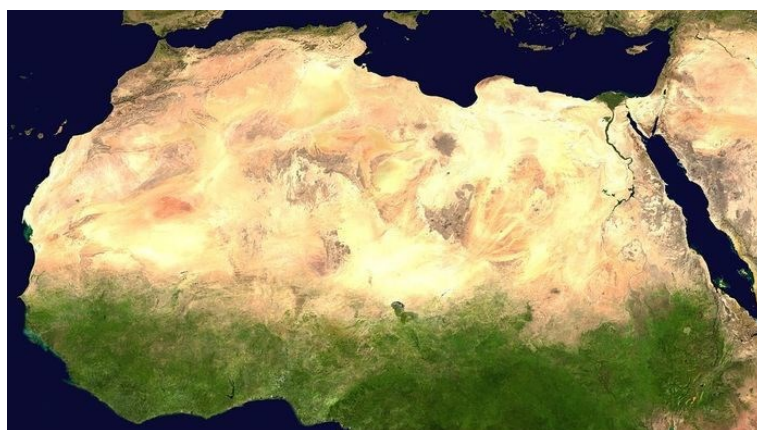
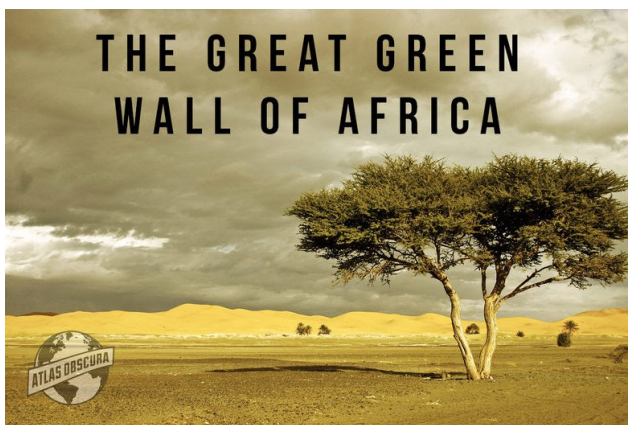


**ONTARIO'S
INVADING
SPECIES
AWARENESS PROGRAM**



For more information about invasive worms, please visit:

<http://www.invadingspecies.com/invasive-earthworms/>



The Great Wall of China was built over a millennium to ward off nomadic raiders. With Africa's farmlands threatened by an enemy more pernicious than any Mongolian horde, [Senegal](#) is leading a 12-nation cooperative effort to erect a living defense system aptly named, the Great Green Wall of Africa.

The Sahara is currently the second largest desert in size, only smaller than [Antarctica](#). However, unlike its frozen relative, the Sahara is actually expanding. The United Nations estimates that, by 2025, two thirds of Africa's arable land will be covered in Saharan sand, vastly expanding the current 9 million square kilometers. Even if these predictions prove aggressive, the effects of farmland destruction on a continent already hard-pressed for food would be devastating on any level.

With this peril in sight, the leaders of Senegal, [Mauritania](#), [Mali](#), Burkina Faso, [Niger](#), [Nigeria](#), Chad, [Sudan](#), Eritrea, [Ethiopia](#), and Djibouti have banded together on an unprecedented endeavor to stave off impending catastrophe. Once complete, Africa's Green Wall will be a manmade forest of drought-resistant trees (principally acacia) stretching across the entire continent.

Nine miles wide and 4,750 miles long, the vision for the project is as ambitious as it is necessary. Thus far, only 330 miles of greenery stand guard in Northern Senegal, costing the Sengalese government over \$6 million since the start of digging in 2008. International organizations have pledged over \$3 billion to the monumental defense system.

Leaders point out that the Great Green Wall is about more than just protection from windblown sand. The project will bring thousands of jobs to impoverished communities, and has already transformed otherwise unusable land into gardens scattered with tree nurseries. The influx of tourists, scientists, and medical professionals has also brought attention and resources to a neglected region in which aid is scarce and doctors are not readily available for the needy populations.

Attributed to



did you know...

Stachys monieri 'Hummelo'

A cousin to the familiar Lamb's-Ears, but not at all similar. This is a clump-forming perennial, forming a low mound of crisp green foliage. In early summer the upright spikes of bright-purple flowers appear, which attract bees to the nectar. Removing faded flowers will encourage more buds to form for weeks on end. An interesting and unusual perennial for near the front of the border, or in containers. Plants may be clipped back hard immediately after blooming, to tidy up the clumps for the rest of the season. Easily divided in early spring.

Prefers a sunny location and is hardy to zone 4.

The Perennial Plant of the Year is selected by the Perennial Plant Association. The following criterion are used in selecting the winner.

- Suitable for a wide range of climatic conditions
- Low Maintenance
- Pest and disease resistant
- Readily available in the year of release
- Multiple season interest or excellent foliage
- Easily propagated by asexual (division or cuttings) or seed propagation



The Hamilton and District Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society

Annual Dahlia Tuber Auction



Monday, April 15, 2019

7:00 pm -9:30 pm

Royal Botanical Garden Centre

Each year members donate their excess tubers to the club to spread around the glory of all things dahlia. Come and buy varieties you will never find in the stores. Come early and get a number and check out the table for something you may want to buy.

Doors open: 6:30 pm

Refreshments are available all evening long.

Cash or cheques accepted.

did you know...






Here's your April 2019 issue of Cross-Pollination from Halton Master Gardeners.

Please visit the following site:

<https://haltonmastergardeners.files.wordpress.com/2019/03/cross-pollination-2019-04.pdf>

did you know...




NORTH AMERICAN
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Wednesday April 17, 2019
7:30 - 9pm

**UNSETTLING
THE GARDEN**

A Talk by Lorraine Johnson



DAVID SUZUKI
FOUNDATION



NANPS is proud to announce an evening with Lorraine Johnson, Wednesday April 17th, 2019, 7:30 pm – 9:00pm at the Koffler House (Multi-Faith Centre) University of Toronto, 569 Spadina Ave. Toronto, Ontario.

Lorraine will present: Unsettling the Garden: How native plants connect with reconciliation and healing the land; a non indigenous perspective.

Lorraine Johnson is past president of NANPS, an avid gardener and author of many books on native plants, including 100 Easy to Grow Native Plants for Canadian Gardens.

[Online registration is now open!](#)

Tickets are \$10 with a NANPS membership, \$15 for General Public, and free for University of Toronto students (please show student ID at the door).





**BURLINGTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
'100 YEARS AND GROWING'**



**DISTRICT 6 AGM AND FLOWER SHOW
SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019
Doors Open at 8:00 a.m.**

East Plains United Church
375 Plains Road East
Burlington, Ontario

Tickets \$15.00 available at the door
Each Society please bring your Society banner
and a Society door prize valued from \$20 - \$25



did you know...

**ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF
MEMBERSHIP**





North American Native Plant Society
Native Plant Sale
 Wildflowers • Shrubs • Trees • Ferns
 Vines • Grasses • Sedges

Toronto Botanical Garden
 Sat, May 4, 2019

Riverwood
 Sun, May 19, 2019

Christie Pits Park
 Sun, May 26, 2019

See back for details

Plant selection differs at each sale

Sat, May 4, 2019
Toronto Botanical Garden

777 Lawrence Ave. E.
 Toronto, ON M3C 1P2

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Advance sales ONLY available at the TBG venue
Pick up starting at 10:30 a.m.

Sun, May 19, 2019
The Riverwood Conservancy

4150 Riverwood Park Lane
 Mississauga, ON L5C 2S7

12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

In partnership with


NEW LOCATION

Sun, May 26, 2019
Christie Pits Park

750 Bloor St. W.
 Toronto, ON M6G 3K4
 Christie subway station

12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Also join our colleagues at the High Park Community Advisory Council plant sale on August 25, 2019 • www.highpark.org

Plants provided by NANPS-approved ethical growers.
Knowledgeable volunteers available for assistance.

Benefits of Native Plants

- Adapted to local soil, moisture & temperature conditions
- Thrive without fertilizers, pesticides & supplemental watering
- Support the needs of local wildlife, including mammals, birds, and insects.

North American Native Plant Society
nanps@nanps.org • www.nanps.org

NANPS is a volunteer-based charitable organization



**NORTH AMERICAN
 NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY**

*Dedicated to the study,
 conservation, cultivation,
 and restoration
 of North America's
 native flora*



Laughing Bumble Bee Orchid

Ophrys bombyliflora





Compost Giveaway

Monday May 06, 2019 - Saturday May 12, 2019

Collected yard waste and leaves are composted into nutrient-rich, natural compost. Come take advantage of Halton Region's free compost giveaway at the Halton Waste Management Site. Residents may pick up the equivalent of 7 bags of compost per household.

What should I bring?

- Shovels - residents are responsible for shoveling and bagging their own compost
- Containers - yard waste bags, garbage bags, reusable containers, pick-up bed or trailer for hauling. Donations - non-perishable food items or monetary donations to support local food banks are encouraged.

Date: Monday May 06, 2019 **Time:** 8:00am - 4:30pm

Location: 5400 Regional Road 25, Milton, L9E 0L2

Contact: accesshalton@halton.ca; 311 or 905-825-6000; 1-866-442-5866; TTY: 905-827-9833



Homeowner Workshops begin

April 2019 in Oakville and Burlington

Want to upgrade your yard, but do not know where to start?

Conservation Halton is offering a series of gardening workshops, called the Healthy Neighboursheds Homeowner Workshops, for homeowners to learn about landscaping techniques that will save them money and time.

Conservation Halton has assembled a team of experts who will lead you through all the steps to creating a gardening plan that is low cost, beautiful, and improves the health of our local watershed.

"The workshops clarified what a rain garden is and, more importantly, how to create one from scratch in my backyard", said Daniel Moore, a past participant in the Healthy Neighboursheds Homeowner Workshops. "It also taught me some things I wasn't expecting to learn about, like how a rain arbor can solve tricky downspout spots, and attracting pollinators".

Participants will learn valuable knowledge from staff, and local experts, about simple, inexpensive methods to direct rainwater; how to attract pollinators; sourcing native plants, and building backyard ponds. Previous participant Wendy Kivell said, "Before I attended these workshops, I knew a little bit about mulching, but nothing about how to protect and attract beneficial insects, bees and butterflies. The workshops were very informative".



For more information: <https://www.conservationhalton.ca>



did you know...



Halton Region Rain Barrel Sales

RainBarrel.ca is pleased to supply Halton Region for its **2019 Annual Rain Barrel Sales** and online presale. Open to Halton Region residents only. Proof of residency required.

2019 Price: \$48, taxes included.

HOW to PURCHASE (choose ONE of these 3 options):

OPTION 1: Pre-order with **online payment and home delivery option**. No limit to number of rain barrels purchased when ordered online. \$15 delivery fee for first rain barrel, \$5 for each additional unit. No extra fee for accessories when purchased with a rain barrel.

PLEASE NOTE: Your confirmation receipt will be emailed to you. You will receive a delivery information email prior to delivery. Deliveries commence May 7. Please place your home delivery order by clicking any one of the sale locations posted below.

OPTION 2: Pre-pay **online and pick up at Truckload Sale** (no delivery fee, no limits to number of rain barrels purchased). Please place your pickup order by clicking on the most convenient sale location posted below.

OPTION 3: Cash purchase onsite at Truckload Sale (limit of one per household). Please see sale locations posted below where cash orders will be accepted onsite. Debit/credit card payment may be available, but it is not always reliable due to remote card reader technology.

Halton Region Truckload Sales:

MILTON – Saturday, May 4th, 2019

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Milton GO Train Station Parking Lot,
780 Main Street East, Milton

HALTON HILLS – Saturday, May 11th, 2019

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Robert C. Austin Operations Centre Parking Lot,
11620 Trafalgar Road, Georgetown

BURLINGTON – Saturday, June 1st, 2019

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Mapleview Mall, Lower Parking Lot by The Bay
900 Maple Avenue, Burlington

OAKVILLE – June 8th, 2019

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Halton Regional Centre, Parking Lot A,
1151 Bronte Rd, Oakville

For more information, please visit: <https://rainbarrel.ca/halton/>



**Amaryllis, purchased from the OHS
in November, still blooming !**



The Garden Clubs of Ontario
Present:

Music in Bloom - 2019 - Triennial Show



Wednesday May 29th

10:00 a.m - 8:00 p.m.

&

Thursday May 30th

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

@

The Royal Botanical Gardens



Entry to the Show is free with
paid admission to the RBG

Cover Design Courtesy of
Alex Eley aeley@rogers.com

did you know...



Garden tour of over 400 gardens!
www.gardensbuffaloniagara.com
Buffalo, NY

\$70 members
\$85 non-members

Includes motor coach bus (A/C and
WIFI), taxes & gratuities.

Required:
Valid Canadian passport, travel medical insurance
and capable of walking leisurely for several hours.

Bus trip

to

"Garden Walk Buffalo"
(25th anniversary)

Sat. July 27, 2019

Pick-ups: Mississauga & Burlington

Organized by
**Cloverleaf Garden Club
of Mississauga**



Contact: Manuela
manuela.neto@sympatico.ca



plantsale.ohs@oakvillehort.org

www.oakvillehort.org

PLANT SALE



Saturday, May 18, 2019
8:30 - 11:00 am

Glen Abbey United Church
1469 Nottingham Gate
Oakville



(Fourth Line & Upper Middle Rd.)



April 5 - 7	Spring Oakville Lifestyle Home Show
	Come and visit the Oakville Horticultural Society kiosk and enjoy the event!
April 8	Monthly Meeting at MacMillan Hall 89 Dunn Street
	Monthly meeting will be held at the Knox Presbyterian Church 89 Dunn Street. Doors open at 6:30 pm, meeting commences at 7:30 pm
April 13	RBG: Gardening Ergonomics
	Saturday, April 13 2:00 to 4:00 pm at RBG Center Fee: \$40.00(M10%off) Do you find gardening a pain in the back, literally? Get hands-on outdoor experience with Kayleigh May Holden, RBG gardener, who discusses different postures, equipment, and practical techniques to lessen the impact to your back, knees, wrists, etc. She suggests ways to save time, build strength and balance so gardening can be fun
April 15	Executive Monthly Meeting at Oakville Town Hall
	Monthly Executive meeting will be held at City Hall, commencing at 7:00 pm We welcome all our members!
April 17	Unsettling the Garden –an evening with Lorraine Johnson
	NANPS is proud to announce an evening with Lorraine Johnson, Wednesday April 17th, 2019, 7:30 pm – 9:00pm at the Koffler House (Multi-Faith Centre) University of Toronto, 569 Spadina Ave. Toronto, Ontario.
April - September	RBG: Grow Your Own Food
	7:00 – 9:00 pm Thursday, April 25, Thursday, May 25, Thursday, June 27 & Thursday, September 12 at RBG Center Fee: All four classes \$140.(M10%off) or \$40. per class (M10%off) Join Nancy Lee-Colibaba in RBG's Veggie Village. Get your hands dirty and learn the fundamental skills to grow you own produce at home. 1. Getting Started April 25 2. Planting the Garden May 16 3. Garden Maintenance June 27 4. Harvesting the Yield September 12
April 27	District 6 AGM and Flower Show: Honouring 100 years of the Burlington Horticultural Society
	For more information, please refer to page 10 of the newsletter.
May 4, 11, 25	RBG: Colour in Nature: Intermediate Photography
	Saturdays: 9:00 am - 11:30 amat RBG Center Fee: \$120.(M10%off) Advance your photography skills beyond the basics. Matthew Tiegs reviews the basics, and goes in depth about sharpness, colour, composition and alternate techniques in nature photography.
May 9, 10	RBG: Horticultural Therapy Basic Training
	Thursday & Friday 9:00 am –4:00 pm at Rbg. Fee: \$300. (includes hand outs, materials and refreshments). This 2 day training session covers special populations, writing proposals, plants, season programs and project ideas and more. See details in on-line rbg.ca
May 13	Monthly Meeting at Joshua Creek Heritage Art Centre
	Monthly meeting will be held at the Joshua Creek Heritage Art Centre, 1086 Burnhamthorpe Road East . Doors open at 6:30 pm, meeting commences at 7:30 pm.
May 16	Growing Fruit Trees with Ease: Free webinar
	Thursday, May 16: 8:00 pm –9:30 pm Fee: free visit rbg.ca for more information.



Bring your own mug and get one free draw ticket at the door!!!!

