



Oakville Horticultural Society May 2019

Date:

May 13, 2019

Location:

Joshua Creek Heritage Art Centre 1086 Burnhamthorpe Rd.

Set-up Volunteers:

Mary Rose and Marie Decker

Hospitality Volunteers:

Florenda Tingle, Diane Burton, Olga Chodan and Sheelagh Rowland

Flower Show Clerks:

Beryle Lowther and Mary Rose



My Dance with Native Plants

Joanne Fallowfield is the President and past Treasurer of the Etobicoke Horticultural Society. She is a past board member of the North American Native Plant Society and holds a Horticultural Certificate from The University of Guelph. She has worked at the Toronto Botanical Garden as an Adult Education Coordinator. Joanne advocates for native plants and against invasive plants. Etobicoke Hort has now banned many of the most egregious invasive plants from being sold at its plant sale and Joanne maintains a popular native plant table at the sale using natives purchased from wholesalers.



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Well the wait is finally over, Spring is here!! A gardener's most anticipated and favourite time of the year. We have waited through snow, ice, cold and now rain to see how our plants have fared. The warm breeze seems to exhilarate us and give us the energy to help our treasured plants grow to their potential. It gives us a sense of great accomplishment when plants flourish and causes reflection when a plan needs to be adjusted even after we have given it all of our effort.



The Life Style Show was well attended. A great big Thank You to Florenda for taking the lead on this venture. It is a great commitment to work for an entire weekend, Friday night, all day Saturday and Sunday. Our members were a great resource providing information on us and answering garden questions. The children certainly seemed to enjoy the planting activity. Thanks to all who made this a positive experience for everyone.

May is a busy month for us culminating with our plant sale. Dig and divide is on our minds as we try and get the plant material we need for the sale. Every plant can be used and we know that our members provide some of the best plants in Oakville. I encourage everyone to provide support in anyway they can. Trish and Sheelagh have been working hard to ensure that we have a successful day so please let them know how you can assist.

Off to the garden to see what treasures are showing themselves today. What will it be the hostas, tickseed or the clematis?

Wendy Funk-Death
Co-President

"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow"
Audrey Hepburn



May 18 - Plant Sale 8:30 -11:00 am

**Location: 1469 Nottingham Gate
(Glen Abbey United Church)**

June 10 - Q&A and Strawberry Social

June 23 - Secret Gardens of Oakville

11:00 am - 4:00 pm

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR ANSWERS REGARDING YOUR GARDEN? NEED SOME ADVICE? COME AND JOIN US FOR A Q&A EVENING WITH YOUR FAVOURITE HORTICULTURAL GURUS.



Please email your questions to:

info.ohs@oakvillehort.org



plantsale.ohs@oakvillehort.org

www.oakvillehort.org

PLANT SALE



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

Glen Abbey United Church
1469 Nottinghill Gate
Oakville

(Fourth Line & Upper Middle Rd.)



**We need
YOU!**



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





Let's get down and dirty this month, and talk about soil. (please don't call it dirt, that's the stuff that gossips spread) All of us work in the soil, and appreciate all the good things that grow in it, but we rarely think about the incredible complexity of soil and the things that live in it.

At a basic level, soil consists mostly of inorganic minerals in the form of ground up rock (clay, silt and sand depending on the particle size), together with water, air, and most importantly five to ten percent of organic matter. This is called the Soil Food Web, and includes the minute creatures called the soil biota which give the soil life.

Some of these biota are beneficial, supporting healthy plants. Others such as moulds and mildews are pathogenic. Our objective in adding compost and other amendments is to increase the beneficial biota which eat and are in turn eaten by other biota in an endless cycle, resulting in biproducts which are beneficial to plant life.

Bacteria are the most numerous of the soil biota, and a spoonful of soil may contain trillions of bacteria of thousands of kinds. They help water move through the soil, recycle organic matter and help fight disease. Nitrogen fixing bacteria are the most important types. They feed on humus creating bacterial manure which helps plants to absorb nutrients.

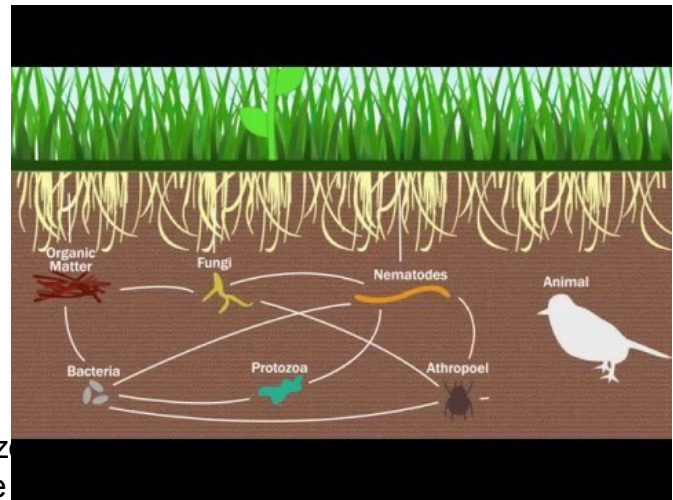
Earth worms are at the other end of the biota in size excreting castings, they mix the constituents of the movement of air and water.

Fungi are another important constituent of the soil biota, and although some are harmful, (fungal diseases are the most common plant problems), most are not. Like bacteria, they break down organic matter and recycle nutrients. One class of fungi which has attracted a lot of attention in recent years is mycorrhizae (think Myke) of which there are many kinds. They attach themselves to the roots of many plants and create a network of feeder rootlets which extend far beyond the normal root zone, thus drawing in more nutrients and water. In return, the plants provide sugars in a symbiotic relationship.

Another important element of the soil food web is arthropods. These living creatures range in size from tiny mites to sow bugs and centipedes, all of which consume plant debris in the soil and make nitrogen and other nutrients available to the plants.

Nematodes, tiny worm like creatures, are a two edged sword. We tend to think of them as harmful, and many are, but others are beneficial, supplying nitrogen and other nutrients to the plants via their excrement.

Protozoa are also important. They are single celled organisms which consume bacteria and produce a nitrogen rich manure. They in turn are consumed by nematodes again producing nitrogen in the process.



May: the lilacs are in bloom. Forget yourself.

Marty Rubin



Now the big question. What role do chemical fertilizers have in soil health? To some degree it depends on whether your perspective is in feeding your family or feeding the world. You can perhaps make enough compost and afford to supplement it with organic amendments, but a large part of the world's population are poor and live on marginally productive land. What about them?

Chemical fertilizers will give you short term gain for long term pain, while organic fertilizers and methods will give you long term gain but short term pain because building healthy organic soil is not a quick fix, but much of the world cannot wait for the long term.

One thing you might consider is turning over your soil as little as possible, and of course this means walking on it as little as possible. The latest thinking is that digging breaks up the complex structure which has developed in your soil. Anyway, the way this spring is developing you still have lots of time to think about it.

Happy gardening ,

David Marshall.



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, ENGLAND

Dockey Wood Bluebells

Each spring this woodland floor is carpeted with purplish flowers as far as the eye can see.

Dockey Wood is a beautiful stretch of forest on the edge of the Ashridge Estate, that transforms each year into a colorful natural spectacle. For a few weeks in springtime, the woodland floor

blooms with millions of bluebell flowers, carpeting the forest with vibrant blue and purple hues.

This stunning phenomenon is a feast for the eyes. The contrast of colorful flowers blanketing the ground below the tall green trees is a sight quite unlike anything else. There are miles of walking trails to follow through this flowery sea, where you can take in the atmosphere and snap some photos.

The 5,000-acre Ashridge Estate in the Chilterns Hills is known as one of the best places in England to see bluebells in flower, and visitors come from far and wide to experience this wonderful scene. The flowers themselves are a protected species, so if you do visit the woods, be sure to stick to the footpaths.

Know Before You Go

There is a small parking lot opposite the entrance to the wood. Peak bloom is around the first week in May. The site has become so popular in the last few years the National Trust now charges a small fee for entry. Arrive early to beat the crowds. **Attributed to: Atlas Obscura**



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 water-proof 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.

New - Green Elephant Table!

Can you donate gently used gardening related items for the plant sale? These can be dropped off at the depots or brought to our Monday meeting.

Help us advertise!

Tell your friends and neighbours. Give out bookmarks. Put up posters.

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
South	Margaret Found 75 Burnet Street 905-842-5932

Help others dig and divide. Several members and some non-members need assistance to lift and split large plants.

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.



did you know...

Dig and Divide Method



Flowers always make people better, happier, and more helpful; they are sunshine, food and medicine for the soul. Luther Burbank





more society news...



Photographs attributed to:
ELIZABETH SCHLEICHER

Congratulations to all our winners!



Anderson Parkette – volunteers needed!

Saturday, May 25 at 9:30 for 1.5 hours.

A little history for our newer members... In 2011 to mark the International Year of Biodiversity, the Oakville Horticultural Society took part in creating a new biodiverse garden in the Anderson Bridge Parkette (downtown at the corner of Forsythe and Rebecca Streets). Our goal was to create a beautiful garden that met the needs of the community while supporting the environment. The original design incorporated more than 40 plant species, most native to Ontario and many indigenous to the region of Halton. The plants were chosen to thrive on this site without the addition of water or fertilizers.

With proceeds from a wonderful event we held – An Evening with Freeman Patterson - the OHS set out to make it happen. Work started April 30, 2011 and the parkette was finally ready for visitors with the installation of the walkway by the Town in October of the same year. The design was by Belinda Gallagher, Head of Horticulture at the Royal Botanical Gardens, and Sean James of Fern Ridge Landscaping created a planting plan for this model, water-efficient Garden for Life. Support came from many volunteers, the Region of Halton and the Town of Oakville, Fern Ridge Landscaping, David Hawley and Associates, and The Petrie Group.

Upkeep of the parkette has been a tradition of the OHS volunteers since the 1960's, but has recently been more of a challenge since there seems to be continuous on-going work by the utilities people – requiring digging up of the south end of the area. We are still attempting to get a clear idea of their plans so we can schedule a planting – perhaps in the fall - to replace what has been lost due to the work in that area.

In the meanwhile, the garden really is in need of attention, so we are planning a spring cleaning day on Saturday, May 25 at 9:30 for 1.5 hours. Depending of the number of volunteers we get, this could be plenty of time to get things ship shape, or we will need to schedule a second day to complete the work.

Please let me know if you are coming to help out. secretary.ohs@oakvillehort.org If you are picking up compost from the Town's free give away, please fill a garden bag for the parkette and bring it along with your own tools, garden bags and your coffee. I will bring the Timbits!

Florenda Tingle



In my garden there is a large place for sentiment. My garden of flowers is also my garden of thoughts and dreams. The thoughts grow as freely as the flowers, and the dreams are as beautiful. ~Abram L. Urban



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.

Partnership with
 The Riverwood
 Conservancy



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

did you know...

Halton REGION 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





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/>



a weekend at the Lifestyle Show



Thank you to all our volunteers!
Congratulations on a job well done !

more society news...

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



Secret Gardens Of Oakville

2019 Tour

Sunday, June 23

11 am to 4 pm



Tour some of Oakville's outstanding gardens. This self-guided adventure is sure to inspire and delight both new and experienced gardeners alike.

Tickets \$15 or 2 for \$25 (Cash Only Please)

Available at our May 18th Plant Sale, New location

Glen Abbey United Church, 1469 Nottinghill Gate. (8:30-11:00AM)
or at the following outlets:

- Bulow Garden Centres 370 South Service Rd. West, Oakville
- 2667 Lakeshore Rd. West, Mississauga
- Cudmore's Garden Centre 3171 Lakeshore Rd. West, Bronte
- True Flowers 118 Lakeshore Rd. West



The love of gardening is a seed
once sown that never dies.

— Gertrude Jekyll



The gardens of Rundale Castle, Latvia



In the garden of...

The laying out of the Rundāle Palace Garden took place alongside the construction of the palace (1736 -1740) according to the design of architect Francesco Rastrelli. The work was managed by gardeners – brothers, Christopher and Michael Weyland. The Rundale Palace Garden is planned south of the palace, including the nearby forest with its tall trees as a spectacular backdrop for the regular French garden which is only 10 hectares large. The Rastrelli garden design with the complex network of alleys, bosquets and pergolas resembles the structure of the Gardens of Versailles. (In the French formal garden, a **bosquet** (French, from Italian *bosco*, "grove, wood") is a formal plantation of trees, at least five of identical species planted as a quincunx, or set in strict regularity as to rank and file, so that the trunks line up as one passes along either face. Symbolic of order in a humanized and tamed Gardens of the French Renaissance and Baroque *Garden à la française* landscape, the bosquet is an analogue of the orderly orchard, an amenity that has been intimately associated with pleasure gardening from the earliest Persian gardens of the Achaemenids.) The garden includes an extensive rose garden (2230 rose varieties including 600 historical varieties), green amphitheater (one of the bosquets) and fountains. For more information:

<https://www.latvia.travel/en/sight/rundale-palace-and-museum>



July 19 - 21, 2019

Come to the Deep South Where Everything Grows!

**Come celebrate with us at the 113th Convention
of the**

Ontario Horticultural Association



**St. Clair Centre of the Arts
201 Riverside Drive West
Windsor, ON N9A 5K4**



Registration is NOW OPEN

Download the Registration Form today!!!

For more information, please visit:

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



Life begins the day you start a garden.

– Chinese proverb



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.
May 18	OHS Plant Sale
	Plant Sale: May 18, 2019 8:30 am - 11:00 am Location: 1469 Nottinghill Gate (Glen Abbey United Church - Fourth Line and Upper Middle Rd.) Come join us for a wonderful day!
May 21	Executive Monthly Meeting at Town Hall
	Monthly Executive meeting will be held at City Hall, commencing at 7:00 pm.
May 26	14th Annual Spring Garden Tour in support of the Canadian Cancer Society
	10:00 am - 4:00 pm Location: Applewood Acres and Orchard Heights areas of Mississauga Dixie Road at QEW, Mississauga, Ontario In total eight homeowners, including Liz Primeau's garden, in the Applewood Acres and Orchard Heights areas have graciously agreed to open their beautiful spring gardens for viewing by ticket holders in support of the fight against cancer. The Tour will take place on Sunday, May 26 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. On-line tickets are available up until the day before the tour or until tickets sell out. Tickets will be sold for \$25 on day of the event at Battaglia's Marketplace and Applewood Home Hardware, subject to availability. For more information visit ccsgardentour.com .
June 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.
June 15	Grand Durand Garden Tour
	10:00 am - 4:00 pm Location: Durand Neighbourhood Hamilton ON 186 1/2 Duke Street Tour 11 private and 2 public gardens in the Historic Southwest Durand Neighbourhood Hamilton ON Tickets are \$25.00 in advance and go on sale May 1. For Ticket Information and Tour Details – www.durandna.com or chairgdt2019@gmail.com
June 23	Oakville Horticultural Society Secret Garden Tour
	Sunday, June 23rd 11:00 am - 4:00 pm a self-guided tour of our lovely gardens. Tickets are \$15.00 each, or 2 for \$25.00 Rain or shine join us for a wonderful day visiting the Gardens of Oakville! For more information, please refer to our web site: www.oakvillehort.org
June 25	RBG Volunteer Special Garden Tour
	Features gardens in Paris, Cambridge and Copetown, Tickets \$12. For more information, please contact www.rbg.ca
July 19 - 21	2019 Annual OHS Convention
	Come to the Deep South Where Everything Grows. Come celebrate with us at the 113th Convention of the Ontario Horticultural Association. For more information, please refer to: https://gardenontario.org/convention/



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

