

Barrie Garden Club Newsletter



Cuttings

May & June 2024

Look for us at: www.barriegardenclub.ca



Written by Kimberly Sturge

UPCOMING BGC MEETINGS AT THE ANAF CLUB (52 MORROW RD. BARRIE)



MAY 7TH 2024 @7PM
LAURA THOMAS

TOPIC: GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE

Laura Thomas, is the owner/operator of Hidden Habitat! She is a graduate of the University of Waterloo's Environment and Resource Studies program has worked in the landscape industry for over fifteen years; blending her passion for conservation and landscape design. Given her expertise in ecology, native plants and landscape design she knew that one could still have the simplicity and impact of a modern garden while providing food and shelter for local wildlife. Her unique and thoughtful designs demonstrate that healthy landscapes can be beautiful landscapes. As an enthusiastic environmentalist, Laura likes to help out and share her enthusiasm and expertise with local environmental groups. As a director with the Muskoka Conservancy, she is able to further her passion for nature conservation in Muskoka and enjoys leading the occasional Nature Quest in one of the Muskoka Conservancy's beautiful nature reserves.

Upcoming Barrie Garden Club Events: Please join us!!!!

Sunday, May 26th

MTO Clean-up

1:00pm @ Hwy #26

(meet at the commuter lot at the corner of Bayfield St and Hwy 26)

June 23rd

150th Anniversary Celebration

1-4pm@The Dorian Parker Centre

Sunnidale Park, Barrie

(See poster below)

July 23rd

Tour of Julia Dimakos Garden

Details TBA



<https://www.hiddenhabitat.ca/about/>

Hidden Habitat is a native plant nursery that grows wildflowers, grasses and shrubs native to Ontario. They also sell Ontario native wildflower seeds, sustainably harvested from their cultivated fields in Muskoka. Hidden Habitat services the Muskoka, Midland, Orillia & Barrie area of central Ontario.



THE BARRIE GARDEN CLUB'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, JUNE 23RD 2024
1:00PM – 4:00PM

At the Dorian Parker Centre in Sunnidale Park

A fun filled afternoon with:
A Tour of the Arboretum
Historical Displays
Flower Displays
Vendors
Tea and Snacks

BGC Members are needed to help on this very auspicious day!
Please contact kmsturge@gmail.com today, if you would like to be involved!!



*Kim and Joan receiving Congratulations from
the Ontario Horticultural Society on our
150th Anniversary!*

With a heavy heart we announce the passing of one of our long-time BGC members. Jan Waechter passed away peacefully in her 73rd year on April 17, 2024 at Hospice Simcoe in Barrie. She was an active volunteer in our Club and was an invaluable asset to the Pioneer Garden at Fort Willow. Her knowledge, love for gardening and wonderful friendship will be sadly missed. Her spirit will live on in the Fort Willow Garden and in our hearts.





If you haven't signed up for your 2024 membership yet, now is the time to do it!

Only \$20.00 each

Family Membership \$35.00

You can either pay at the May meeting or send an etransfer to thebarriegardenclub@gmail.com.

Be sure to include your full name, address, telephone number & subject line 'BGC Membership'.

Garden Club Aprons now on Sale!

Only \$20.00 each

To order please email Joan NA and etransfer with "apron" in the notes to the above, or bring cash to the next BGC Meeting!

The BGC is subsidizing the price of these aprons before the 150th Celebration, so get yours now!!!



BARRIE GARDEN CLUB SPRING FLOWER SHOW MAY 2024

HORTICULTURE CLASS 1

- A. Collection of Tulips, 3-7 varieties, any colour, showing in any container.
- B. Collection of Spring Bulbs, 3-7 varieties (not mentioned already) showing in any container.
- C. Wild Flowers, 3-7 with Foliage, showing in any container.

DESIGN CLASS 2

- A. Design a Spring Wreath, 12inch diameter.
- B. Plant Material, "Found on my Walk", shown as a collection in any container.

CLASS 3

Houseplants

(must be grown by the exhibitor, be well established and free of insects)

- A. In Bloom
- B. Grown for Foliage

Members only to participate.

Entries must be on the table by 6:30. Entry tags will be handed out with each entry. Exhibits will be numbered.

Judging will be done by the garden club members. Each member will be given 6 tickets for the 6 categories, to choose their favourite 1st place winner. In the event of a tie, there will be 2, 1st place winners. If there are enough exhibits, there will be 2nd and 3rd place also.



Garden Ontario

50/50 Draw

Next Draw: July 14, 2024 License No. RAF1369110

All proceeds go towards Keeping Ontario Beautiful® by way of grant and education

Ticket Packages

- 10 for \$10.00
- 100 for \$20.00
- 300 for \$50.00
- 800 for \$75.00

<http://www.rafflebox.ca/raff/ontario-ha>

Have You Got Your Tickets Yet??

50% of all proceeds go towards Keeping Ontario Beautiful and supports education for youth and adults.

It also supports environmental programs, awards and grants assisting with pollinators, tree planting and community beautification as well as post secondary programs in Horticulture.

Go to:

www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha

to get your tickets!!

OHA Convention and AGM - Guelph, here we come!



OHA CONVENTION & AGM

JULY 12-14, 2024

Delta Hotels Conference Centre in Guelph

Registration includes

- ✓ Saturday Breakfast & Morning Breaks
- ✓ Seminar Speakers
- ✓ Plenary Speakers
- ✓ Youth Leader Workshop
- ✓ Friday Night Silent Auction and Entertainment
- ✓ Competitions (Flower Show, Creative Writing, Photography, Youth, Arts, Publications)
- ✓ Vendors/Exhibitors

- **Early Bird Registration - \$300** - (up to May 10, 2024)
- **Standard Rate Registration - \$375** - (May 11 to June 19, 2024)
- **Single Day Rate (Friday) - \$175/day** - (up to June 19, 2024)
- **Single Day Rate (Saturday) - \$200/day** - (up to June 19, 2024)

* Please note that accommodations, lunches, dinners, alcoholic beverages and bus trips are additional costs.

REGISTER NOW

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

Garden Ontario



District 7 & 8, our wonderful hosts of our Ontario Horticultural Association's Convention and Annual General Meeting, are anticipating our arrival. They continue to work hard to plan a fantastic 3-day event packed full of wonderful bus trips, exciting seminars, delicious meals and much, much more!

Be an Early Bird and register at our special Early Bird Rate of \$300.00 as it ends on May 10th.

May 11 to June 19th our Standard Registration Rate of \$375 will then apply.

Delegates wishing to attend Friday only can register at our Single Day Rate of \$175/day.

Delegates wishing to attend Saturday only can register at our Single Day Rate of \$200/day (Breakfast included).

Register Here: <https://neartail.com/sm/vDEfPbhIx>

Registration fees include: admission to all the plenary sessions, seminar speakers, Friday evening entertainment/Silent Auction as well as breakfast on Saturday morning and morning breaks.

Please note: *Accommodations, lunches, dinners, alcoholic beverages and bus trips are all additional costs. Lunch and dinner meal options for purchase can be found on <https://gardenontario.org/convention/> and don't forget to let us know if you have any food allergies!*

Before registering, please discuss your Society/Club's voting preferences to ensure all of your votes are accounted for during the AGM. Each delegate needs to register as either "voting" or "non-voting" and needs to indicate the number of proxy votes, if required. **Proxy forms, resolutions and nominations will be made available after May 13th due to the Bylaws.**

Wondering what to do after the morning plenary sessions on Friday and Saturday? It's your choice, take in a seminar or be adventurous and book a Bus Trip and/or visit the Competition Rooms and Vendors. A great line up of seminar speakers on various interesting topics have been arranged; 4 sessions at 1:30 p.m. and 4 more at 3:00 p.m. each day!

The Competition Rooms will be open on Friday from 12 to 5 pm and on Saturday from 8 am to 5 pm. For your shopping pleasure, the vendors will be open from 8 am to 5 pm on Friday and Saturday. Several will be one-day vendors so don't miss out!

To view the exciting Bus Trip and Seminar details, please visit our website at <https://gardenontario.org/convention>. When you register, please indicate your bus trip and please email your bus waiver forms to me at registrar@gardenontario.org.

For your convenience, payment for your registration, meals and bus trips can be made **via a cheque or E-Transfer.**

If paying by cheque, please make the cheque payable to the:

"Ontario Horticultural Association"
c/o Marian Heil, OHA Treasurer
56 Glen Cannon Drive, Stoney Creek, ON L8G 4E1

OR By E-Transfer to treasurer4oha@gmail.com,
(Please include your full Name and Society Name in the Notes Field)

Payment is due upon registration.

If you have any questions, please email, Donna Hussey, the OHA Registrar at registrar@gardenontario.org.

Accommodation for the 2024 OHA Convention

You can also [book your hotel room](#) at a special rate!

Delegates can use the link above to reserve rooms quickly online, for the OHA group rate of CAD \$159/night plus taxes.

Alternatively, you can call the hotel reservations line at 1-844-496-8549 and quote "Ontario Horticultural Association Annual Convention" along with the dates to receive the group discount.

Please note that the cutoff date for the special rate is June 11, 2024.



Barrie Garden Club Photo Contest 2024

Colour of the Year - Just Peachy
Decorative Seedheads
Frost Morning (your interpretation)
Just for the Hellebores
Tears of Joy (featuring dew or raindrops)
Visitors to Your Garden
(any photo of wildlife/birds etc.)

More OHA News...



Our Coupon code is:
OHA16-B0002

Duboisag.com – Home Gardening

Horticulture	Irrigation	Tailor-made solutions	Agricultural crops	Brands	Home Gardening	Sub
WATERING AND IRRIGATION Drip irrigation Micro-sprinklers Sprinklers Timers	WATER DISTRIBUTION Check valves Fertilizer injectors Filters Fittings Pipes and hoses Pressure regulators Pumps Valves	PROTECTION FOR CROPS Biodegradable mulch film Conventional mulch film Fences Ground covers Nets Protective Covers Tree protection tubes Tunnels	TRELLISING AND STAKING Stakes Ties Trellis Wires and twines	GARDENING TOOLS Broadforks Containers Gardening hoes Knives Potting soil Pruning shears and scissors Seeding and transplanting Stirrup hoes Weeders	BOOKS CLOTHING FOR GARDENERS	

Contact Us
To receive information about our products and services? Looking for solutions to boost your productivity? Our experts are here for you. Tell us how we can help!

→

NATHALIE YANNONIE
Réceptionniste, service à la clientèle
Receptionnist, customer service
450 454-3961 ext.347 • 1 800 667-6279
nyannonie@duboisag.com

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If you have any questions, you can contact us by filling up the form on our website or contact Nathalie Yannonie directly by phone or by email.

COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING

SAT. MAY 11, 2024 10 - NOON AT PRINGLE PARK

REGISTER AT
WWW.LIVINGGREENBARRIE.COM

Oro-Medonte Horticultural Society's

PLANT Sale

Saturday May 25th
10:00 AM sharp until 12:00 PM

Oro Fairgrounds
15th/16th Sideroad & Line 7 North
Entrance off of 15th/16th Sideroad

cash, credit and debit cards accepted
2024 memberships are available at the sale

www.oredontehorticulturalsociety.ca



SPRING TREE & PLANT SALE

NATIVE PLANTS FOR A BETTER WORLD

Create backyard diversity!
Support a great cause!

May 24th & 25th, 2024
Pick up at
6 Cumberland St, Barrie



Pre-order & pick up
or shop on the day and get expert advice

www.livinggreenbarrie.com

TRASH DASH

Saturday June 8th, 2024
1K/5K/10K
Midhurst, ON

Enjoy the trails
and help us clean
up Barrie!





Meet Your 2024-25 BGC Executive!

At the April Annual Meeting Joan Nieman-Agapas and Kim Sturge were once again sworn in by D16 President Barb Collinson to be the Barrie Garden Club Co-Presidents!



The rest of our Executive are:

Treasurer: Carolyn Hooper carjim174@bell.net

Secretary: OPEN

Membership & Plant Swap - Joan NA jnabarrie@yahoo.ca

Club Photographer and Photo Contest - Roberta Watt robertawatt@rogers.com

Programs (Speakers) Chair - OPEN - can be a team of volunteers

Community Liaison & Marketing Chair - Kathy Dermott dermottabbott@icloud.com

Volunteer & Community Gardens Coordinator - Loretta McCarroll jmccarroll@hotmail.com

Social Media - Kimberly Sturge and Kathy Dermott

Website - Malcolm Still stillmalcolm@gmail.com

Flower Show Coordinator: Melissa Harnois polarbear.mh@gmail.com

Newsletter: Kimberly Sturge kmsturge@gmail.com

Please let Kim or Joan know if you are interested in Job Shadowing or want to join our team!

In case you missed it!

Kristen Martyn of Birds Unlimited presented in April -
"20 Things You May Not Know About Your Backyard Birds"

She showed us how birds play an essential role in the functioning of the world's ecosystems, in a way that directly impacts human health, economy and food production as well as imparting a number of fascinating facts about these amazing creatures!

Here is the website she talked about, that predicts migration movements. It's called Birdcast.info and can be found at

<https://birdcast.info/>

It is US based but given we are so close to the Great Lakes it can be useful for Canada too. It predicts up to 3 days in advance so you know the best day to go out and bird watch!

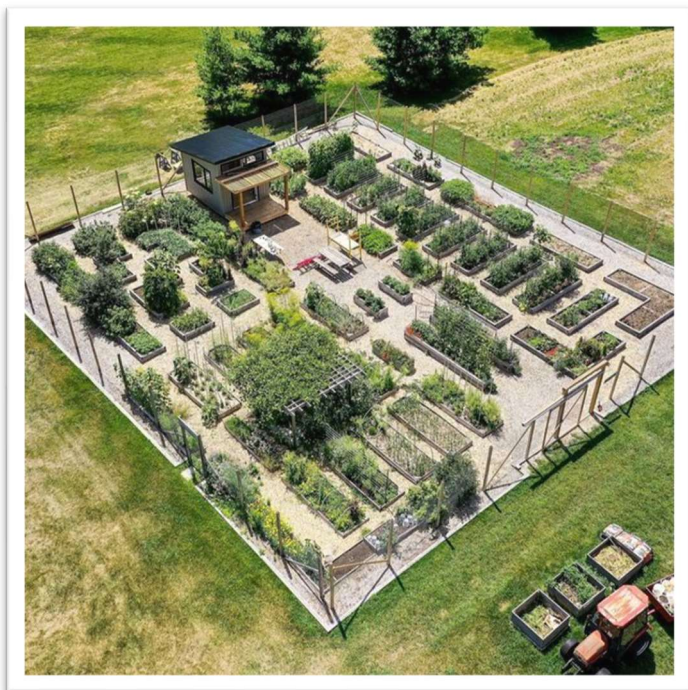
Have any questions for Kristen? She can be reached at

[wbubarrie@gmail.com](mailto:wbu.barrie@gmail.com)

or (705) 726-7600

And her Barrie store is at 515 Bryne Drive, Unit B, Barrie, ON, Canada, L4N 9P7

website: barrie.wbu.com



Join Us
July 23rd 2024
for a trip to Julia Dimankos'
Farm!

Save the date!!

347427 15 Sideroad, Mono

More information to come!

Let us know... would you rather self
drive (\$35.00 each) or take a bus?
(\$75.00 - \$100.00 each)

Spring Gardening Checklist



Picture Courtesy of Kathy Dermott

With all of the Spring gardening "Do's and Don'ts" circulating out there right now, I've gathered some great advice from two sources I feel hit these needs and eco-thinking ideals on the head!

It was believed that we should not to disturb the garden until temperatures are consistently above 10 degrees Celcius. This tends to give the impression that, once that temperature is reached, all the critters overwintering in the decomposing matter have thrown off their covers and are out and about in the garden and all that 'mess' can be cleared away without hurting anyone. This isn't actually the case. There isn't any specific temperature at which all the hibernators have woken up and everyone has emerged from over wintering cocoons or eggs. They are spread through the season in time with the flowering, leafing or fruiting of their partnered plants. Some beings never come up from among the fallen leaves and stems, relying on them for both home and pantry. They help the plants make the soil and are critical for ecosystem health.

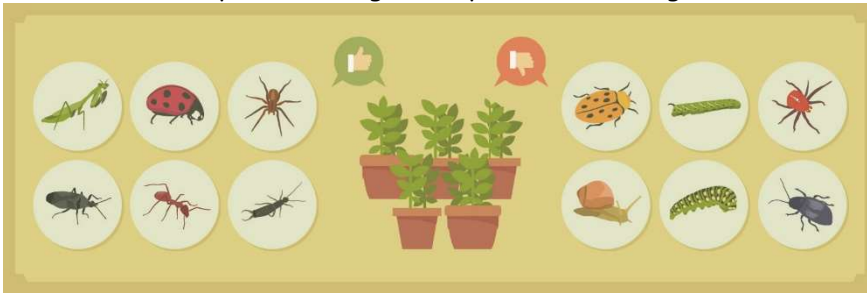
So, with this in mind, what do we do to tend our urban, ecologically focused garden in May?

- First of all, spare a bit of thought for yourself - and protect areas like upper arms and the back of the neck from the sun before you start to putter in the garden!
- Wait until the soil starts to dry out. If you are leaving footprints, leave it alone. Soil structure is precious, it allows roots to easily move to where they can find water and nutrients. It allows for air exchange (roots breath in oxygen and breath out carbon dioxide, aerobic soil bacteria also require oxygen) soil structure allows water to flow in and be held in all the nooks and crannies of the granules that are glued together through slow, small scale biological activity. Walking on wet soil crushes the soil structure and it can take weeks, months or even years to recover. A good rule of thumb is that if it is too wet/muddy to garden in running shoes, it is too wet to walk on growing areas or to disturb garden soil.
- Pick up all of the garbage that has blown into the yard over the winter and any of the 'gifts' left by neighbourhood cats and dogs.
- Clear away accumulated leaves and other organic matter off of **hard surfaces**, like decks, pathways and driveways. If you have a wood deck to scrub, now is also a good time for that.
- Remove matted leaves from any of the tiny plants that will suffer from the cover. Don't dispose of the leaves, just shift them off of the crowns of the emerging plants.



- For fallen perennial stems, manually cut up the stems and drop them to the ground as mulch. Use secateurs and chop the stems just short enough to fit them between the plant crowns in the garden. They will soon disappear under the new foliage and they will provide a great habitat layer for lots of critters, while also protecting and feeding the soil life.
- Prune any semi woody perennials (Russian sage, lavender, hyssop etc.) and chop and drop those stems as well.

- For still standing stems that are likely to topple over in the coming weeks, as they soften and begin to break down, trim them shorter, usually to around the height of the foliage of the plant they are from, anywhere from 8" to over 2' tall, to provide nesting habitat for native bees. For short stems (under around 2') just leave them standing.
- Dig and divide overgrown perennials. Spring is the best time to divide summer and fall blooming perennials. Yes, this is the time to do that for most species. Very early blooming plants and spring ephemerals generally do better with being moved after they finish their seed development in the summer, or when dormant in the fall. For the others, go ahead and move them now. It causes some disturbance but transplanting always does.
- Monitor plants for signs of aphids, mites, slugs and snails.



- Allow the leaves of tulips, daffodils and other spring flowering bulbs to naturally yellow and dry before removing.
- Look at the bulb catalogues filling your inbox and mail slot. Consider ordering now for fall planting.
- Pull weeds as soon as they appear.

- Increase your gardening success by incorporating organic matter into the soil before planting.
- Harden off transplants before moving them from indoors or a greenhouse to the outdoors. Allow two weeks to complete this process.
- Place cages and grow-through stakes over peonies that need support as soon as the leaves break through the soil.
- Begin staking other tall plants in need of support when they reach one-third of their mature size.



And that's it. No leaf blowers, shredders or other highly disruptive activities. No organic matter removed from the ecosystem.

Lots of habitat space among the chopped stems! Plants that are all set for the next growing season!

Sources:

Melinda Myers - a Nationally known gardening expert, TV/radio host, author, columnist & speaker

<https://www.melindamyers.com/garden-how-to/monthly-gardening-checklists/may>

And from A Cultivated Art Inc. - an Ottawa based company working to cultivate care-based land and plant relationships. www.acultivatedart.com



Simple One-Skillet Chicken Alfredo Pasta

BY KATIE WORKMAN FROM: [HTTPS://WWW.EPICURIOUS.COM/](https://www.epicurious.com/)

SERVES 6-8

Photo by Chelsea Kyle, Food Styling by Olivia Mack Anderson

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 pounds skinless, boneless chicken breasts
- Kosher or coarse salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 4 cups chicken broth, preferably low-sodium
- 1 package (1 pound) penne or ziti
- 1 1/2 cups heavy (whipping) cream or half-and-half, warmed
- 1 cup freshly grated Parmesan, plus more for serving
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley (optional)



Preparation:

1. Cut the chicken breasts into 1-inch pieces. Season with salt and pepper.
2. Melt the butter in a very large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the chicken, in batches if necessary, and sauté until nicely browned on the outside, but still a bit pink inside, about 4 minutes (the pieces don't have to be browned on all sides; two sides is fine). Remove the chicken and set aside on a plate.
3. Do not clean the pan! Those brown bits on the bottom of the pan are going to add flavor to the sauce. Add the garlic to the pan and sauté over medium heat until you can smell it, 30 seconds. Turn the heat to high, add the chicken broth, and scrape the bottom of the pan to loosen up all of those delicious caramelized bits. Bring to a simmer, lower to medium heat, and simmer for 5 minutes. Add the pasta, stir well, and simmer until the pasta starts to soften, about 8 minutes. Stir in the warm cream and the browned chicken with any juices that have accumulated on the plate. Cover and simmer, stirring occasionally, until the pasta is tender, most of the liquid has been absorbed, and the chicken is cooked through, about 4 minutes more.
4. Stir in the Parmesan until well incorporated, and adjust the seasonings.
5. Transfer the mixture to a serving bowl and sprinkle with the parsley, if desired. Serve hot and pass extra Parmesan at the table.

Alfredo Add-Ins:

When you add the Parmesan in Step 4, you can add any of the following to the pot, alone or in combination; stir over medium heat for another minute or two.

- 1 tablespoon puréed chipotles in adobo sauce
- 4 cups sliced mushrooms, sautéed
- 2 cups **lightly cooked** tiny **broccoli florets** or **chopped asparagus**, or **spring snow peas!**
- 2 tablespoons fresh herbs, such as oregano, thyme, or parsley

Or, you can serve up portions of Chicken Alfredo Pasta for those who like it plain and simple, and add proportionate amounts of any of the add-ins to the pot.