

# Peterborough Horticultural Society

Volume 163    **April 2024**    Number 4

## Wednesday April 24, 2024 @ 7pm, at the Lions' Centre Laura Keresztesi from GreenUp

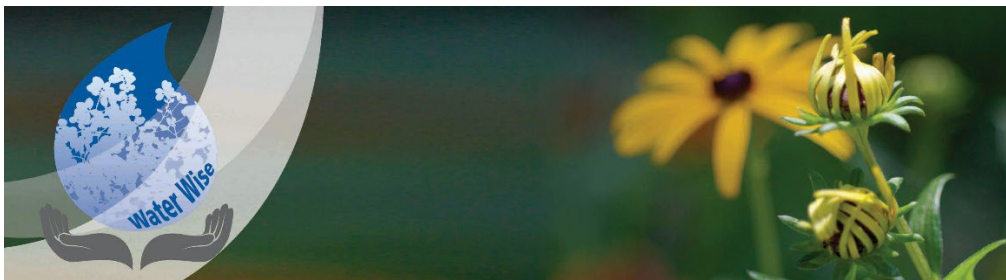
(Zoom link available for those who can't attend in person)

Join us in welcoming Laura Keresztesi from GreenUp to our stage. Get ready to be inspired! With the urgent need to prepare the city (our shared home) for the deepening impacts of climate change, we need a collective effort and Laura wants to help get people inspired to pitch-in. In her presentation, Laura will share ideas about what can be done on private properties to help contribute to a more resilient urban environment. The main focus of the presentation will be on rain gardens and the City's Rain Garden Subsidy Program, but will also touch on Little Forests, and Water Wise gardens.



Laura is the Coordinator, Neighbourhood & Residential Programs. She has worked in the field of community development in a variety of different capacities and has witnessed the difference small changes can make. Laura has been honoured to have the opportunity to work directly with neighbours, forming meaningful relationships and partnerships while working towards shared goals. Currently, Laura leads the municipal Rain Garden Subsidy Program in collaboration with the City of Peterborough and is also leading neighbourhood programs relating to green infrastructure projects like community orchards and little forests.

Join us for another great presentation offered to our membership. We're looking forward to seeing you there!



Did you know an average residential rain garden in Peterborough can divert about 1/5 cubic metres of water from storm sewers each year? That's roughly 9.5 bathtubs of water? By redirecting runoff toward a rain garden, you can keep the watershed healthy, lower the risk of urban flooding, increase your home's curb appeal and create habitat for native plants and wildlife. The more residents who participate the bigger the impact.

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## President's Message

As we stand on the threshold of a new gardening season, I am filled with a sense of excitement and anticipation for the wonders that lie ahead. While enjoying the longer soon to be warmer sunny days, it's exciting to see the Spring ephemerals emerge from the cold soil, they are the sign of a new season in the gardening world.

The coming weeks and months hold the promise of countless adventures in the garden. Let us approach our gardens not just as places of beauty, but as opportunities of experimentation and learning. Let us challenge ourselves to try new techniques, explore new plants, and push the boundaries of what we thought possible.

But let us also remember that gardening is about more than just the plants themselves, it's about community, connection, education and stewardship.

If you have ideas or suggestions for the society, don't hesitate to reach out! We're always open to new ideas and ways to make our society even more awesome. Feel free to email us at [ptbohortsoc@gmail.com](mailto:ptbohortsoc@gmail.com)

In the meantime, enjoy our Spring!

◆ Anne Trudel-Inglis

**Discounts for PHS Members:** You must show your 2024 membership card to qualify, and request the discount BEFORE your order is placed.

 <b>15%</b> On LIVE ITEMS excluding annuals	 <b>10%</b> Does not include delivery fees
 <b>10%</b> On everything	 <b>10%</b> On perennials
 <b>10%</b> On perennials under \$11	 <b>10%</b> On perennials

## April Gardening Tips:

### Getting your Garden Spring-Ready!

As the chill of winter melts away and the warmth of spring shows up in our region, it's time to roll up our sleeves and get back into the garden. April marks the start of the growing season, and there's plenty to do to ensure a bountiful harvest and vibrant blooms throughout the year.

First things first, it's essential to assess the aftermath of winter. Check for any damage caused by frost or snow, and clear away any debris that may have accumulated. It's also a good time to tidy up flower beds and borders, removing dead foliage and weeds to give your plants room to thrive – BUT wait for most of this sort of cleanup until the temperature reaches 10C consistently in the day as many pollinators are hibernating in that dead stuff.

April is prime time for sowing seeds and planting seedlings. Cool-season vegetables like lettuce, spinach, and peas can be directly sown into the soil, while tender crops such as tomatoes and peppers can be started indoors for later transplanting.



Don't forget about your perennials! April is the perfect time to divide and transplant any overcrowded or struggling plants, giving them a fresh start for the growing season ahead. If you see any perennials that have "bolted" out of the ground, gently push them back down where they belong.

Lastly, remember to keep an eye on the weather forecast. While the temptation to start planting may be strong, it's essential to wait until the threat of frost has passed before putting tender plants in the ground.

Happy gardening!

❖ MJ Pilgrim

## Spring Ephemerals (*hint: means “lasting for a short time”*)

Spring ephemerals are a fascinating group of plants that bloom early in the spring, typically before the trees have fully leafed out. These plants have adapted to take advantage of the sunlight reaching the forest floor before it becomes shaded by the canopy above. They are called "ephemerals" because their above-ground parts—leaves, flowers, and stems—have a brief lifespan, typically lasting only a few weeks.

Here are some key characteristics and facts about spring ephemerals:

1. **Early Bloomers:** Spring ephemerals are among the first plants to bloom in the spring, often appearing as early as late winter or early spring, depending on the region and climate.
2. **Short Lifecycle:** The above-ground parts of spring ephemerals emerge, flower, and set seed within a short period, typically before the trees fully leaf out. After flowering and setting seed, the foliage usually withers away by early summer, entering a dormant phase until the following spring.
3. **Shade Tolerance:** Many spring ephemerals are adapted to thrive in the dappled sunlight of deciduous forests. They take advantage of the brief period of available sunlight before the canopy closes in with the emergence of leaves on the trees.
4. **Perennial Growth:** Despite their ephemeral above-ground appearance, most spring ephemerals are perennial plants. They have underground structures such as bulbs, corms, rhizomes, or tubers that store energy and allow the plant to survive during its dormant phase.
5. **Native Species:** Spring ephemerals are often native plants, playing important roles in forest ecosystems. They provide early nectar and pollen sources for pollinators like bees, flies, and early-emerging butterflies, contributing to the overall biodiversity of the ecosystem.
6. **Species Diversity:** There is a wide variety of spring ephemerals, including wildflowers such as trilliums, bloodroot, trout lilies, hepaticas, and Virginia bluebells, among others. Each species has its own unique bloom time, flower color, and habitat preferences.



7. **Cultural Significance:** Many spring ephemerals are cherished by wildflower enthusiasts and gardeners for their delicate beauty and ephemeral nature. They are often sought after for woodland gardens or naturalized areas where they can be allowed to thrive undisturbed.

Overall, spring ephemerals are a captivating and essential part of early spring ecosystems, providing a burst of color and life to woodlands and gardens after the long winter months. Appreciating and protecting these plants contributes to the conservation of native biodiversity and enriches our understanding of the natural world.



## Peterborough Horticultural Society Annual Plant Sale – May 24

Just a reminder to keep in mind that we are preparing for our annual Plant Sale and we would appreciate donations of plants and garden decor, as well as help from volunteers.

The sale will be held on Friday, May 24, at Westdale United Church, 1509 Sherbrooke Street. Plants can be dropped off at 12:00 p.m., sale will start at 5:00 p.m.

A wide variety of plants will contribute to the success of our sale. We are setting a limit of 5 for identical plants. Plants that are donated should be identified by their bloom colour.

We would appreciate that aggressive or invasive species are not to be donated. Plants could be potted into containers that will be sold for \$5.00, \$10.00, \$15.00, etc.

There will be a sign-up sheet at our April general meeting, so volunteers can sign up then or get in touch with Anita Clifford [anitacifford@bell.net](mailto:anitacifford@bell.net) or by phone 705.748.0267

♦ Anita Clifford

## Wondering What (NOT) to donate to the plant sale?

### We love to get plant donations BUT.....

There are many plants out there that are invasive and some that don't turn out to be what we thought they would when we dig them out to donate. Please check the list below before you decide what to donate to the Plant Sale and if you have questions, please contact Anita.

#### No-Thanks List (2024)

- Bugleweed (*Ajuga reptans*)
- Canada anemone (*Anemone canadensis*)
- **Creeping Bellflower (*Campanula rapunculoides*): all species excluding *Campanula carpatica* (blue clips)**
- Chameleon plant (*Houttuynia cordata*)
- Creeping Jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia*)
- Ditch lilies (*Heemerocallis fulva*)
- English ivy (*Hedera helix*)
- Gooseneck loosestrife (*Lysimachia clethroides*)
- Goutweed/Bishop's weed (*Aegopodium podagraria*)
- **Heemerocallis (Daylilies) that are not flowering or not labelled for colour**
- **Iris that are not flowering or not labelled for colour**
- Japanese knotweed/American bamboo/Mexican bamboo (*Reynoutria japonica*, formerly *Polygonum cuspidatum* or *Fallopia japonica*)



- Lily-of-the-Valley (*Convallaria majalis*)
- Miscanthus: non-clumping varieties such as *M. sacchariflorus*/Amur Silver Grass
- Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*)
- Periwinkle (*Vinca*)
- Plume poppy (*Macleaya cordata*)
- Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
- Ribbon grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*)
- Rudbeckia species: *R. laciniata* (outhouse plant) but named cultivars are okay
- Sweet violets (*Viola odorata*)
- Yellow Archangel (*Lamium galeobdolon*)

## Special Raffle at the March meeting!

Beautiful Watercolour Paintings by our very own member and Artist - Robert Moreton. Tickets are 2 for \$5 or 5 for \$10 on sale at the April 24<sup>th</sup>, meeting.



Please bring cash for the raffle

## Upcoming Events and Activities.....

### Bus Trip 2024 - Tuesday June 11, 8am - 5pm,

Only 2 spots left!

We are starting a waiting list (we do get cancellations) so feel free to get in touch.

<https://peterboroughhort.com/bus-trip-2024/>

To let you know what you will be missing: Depart from Hamilton Bus Lines, Lakefield where we have permission to park.

Our first stop will be at Anna's Perennials. Anna is a mad gardener and grows so many unique plants! Tour her gardens which will look amazing. Purchase plants if you decide.

Next, we drive to Hosta Hideaway and Out of the Barn, Leaksdale (hostas, daylilies, antiques and collectibles).

Lunch at 12:30pm will be at the Lucy Maud Montgomery Manse which includes commemorative gardens. The cost of lunch is included in this trip.

After lunch we will be getting a private tour of Neil and Carolyn Turnbull's farm and will be able to pick our own bouquets from their extensive gardens.

From there, we head back to Lakefield and should arrive about 5 pm. <https://peterboroughhort.com/bus-trip-2024/>

**This trip is a fundraiser for the 6 high school scholarships that we are offering to our local high schools of \$150 each school.** Thank you for your help!



### Flower Show – May 22, 2024

Must be in place with completed entry cards at 6:45 pm. Judging begins at 7:00 pm.

Prize money: 1<sup>st</sup> place - \$3.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$2.00, 3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$1.00 (to be presented night of show)

Best in Show - Prize \$5.00

Judge's Choice - Prize \$5.00

*First time exhibitors are not limited to Class "1" only.*

*\* NOTE: All entries must be grown by you.*

#### Section A: Specimen(Cut Flower)

##### Class A

- 1 For 1<sup>st</sup> time exhibitors – "Bring your best bloom", one stem
- 2 Ferns – 3 stems
- 3 Heuchera – 3 leaves, 2 or 3 cultivars
- 4 Pansies – 3 blooms
- 5 Iris - 1 spike, any type or colour
- 6 Tulip – single, 1 bloom, any cultivar
- 7 Tulip – double, 1 bloom, any cultivar
- 8 Bulb collection – 3 stems, 2 or 3 cultivars
- 9 Spring Flower Collection – 3 perennial, 2 bulb
- 10 Hosta – 3 small leaves, same cultivar
- 11 Hosta – 3 medium leaves, same cultivar
- 12 Hosta – 3 large leaves, same cultivar

- 13 Allium – 1 stem
- 14 Columbine – 1 stem
- 15 Bleeding Heart – 1 stem
- 16 Solomon's Seal – 1 stem
- 17 Any other Spring flowering branch – NAMED, max. length 30"
- 18 Any other Spring bulb, corm or rhizome –one bloom or stem, NAMED, multiple entries will be allowed provided they are different cultivars.
- 19 Any other perennial – NAMED, multiple entries will be allowed provided they are different cultivars.

#### Section B. Design

- 20 "For the 1<sup>st</sup> time exhibitors" – "Whispers of Spring" Free form design, capture the delicate essence of Spring with fresh blossoms from your garden.
- 21 "Whispers of Spring" Free form design, capture the delicate essence of Spring with fresh blossoms from your garden.
- 22 "Emmergence" your interpretation using flowers emerging in Spring – Vertical design
- 23 "Petite Petals" 5¼" x 5¼", celebrate the delicate beauty of Spring blooms.

### Free Gardening Webinars

#### **Blooming Boulevards (Mississauga, ON)**

All webinars are held on Saturdays at 10:00am – 11:00am

Click the link below to register, space is still available!

<https://www.bloomingboulevards.org/book-online>

**May 4<sup>th</sup>** – Native Trees and Shrubs for Small Spaces

**May 11<sup>th</sup>** – Create a Native Woodland Garden

**June 8<sup>th</sup>** – Pollinator-friendly Container Gardens

**August 24<sup>th</sup>** - Understanding Your Soil

**September 7<sup>th</sup>** – Four-Season Beauty & Biodiversity

**September 14<sup>th</sup>** – It's Easy! Seed Saving 101

**September 21<sup>st</sup>** – Growing Native Plants From Seed

**A Day for Gardeners – registration is now closed.**

