

Peterborough Horticultural Society

Volume 164

April 2025

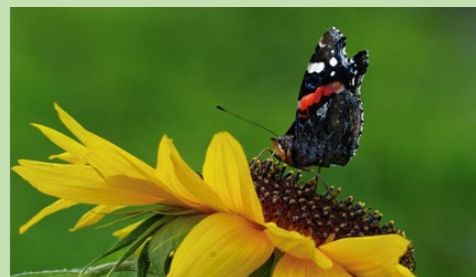
Number 4

**Wednesday April 3rd, 2025 @ 7pm, at the Lion's Centre:
Jennifer Guertin – Supporting Pollinators Through the Seasons**



On April 23rd join us in Welcoming Jennifer Guertin to our stage.

Jennifer will be speaking to us about "Supporting Pollinators Through the Seasons".



Having been bitten by the gardening bug while visiting a cottage garden as a child, Jennifer Guertin has taken her passion for gardens, love of nature and innate curiosity and cultivated a career in garden consulting and coaching.

A self-confessed 'crazy plant lady' and a Peterborough Master Gardener with a degree in

environmental studies, Jennifer runs "The Grateful Gardener" in addition to working at Griffins Greenhouses. She is actively working with the Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group and Rotary Environmental Innovators Fund.

Jennifer has received her Pollinator certification through Pollinator Partnership Canada and is a Ranger for the David Suzuki Butterflyway Project which builds native gardens to support pollinators and increase biodiversity throughout Canada.



President's Message – April 2025



My thoughts are with everyone as we find ourselves clearing away the tree limbs, large branches and twigs scattered around our homes as a result of the April ice storm. Not to mention those who survived without power for days/weeks, we have had our challenges this spring.

On the bright side, the promise of spring is in the air, and our gardens are beginning to awaken once more. It's a time of new beginnings, vibrant growth, and exciting opportunities for all of us who share a love for plants, nature, and the art of horticulture.

This month, I encourage each of you to take a moment to enjoy the beauty that is unfolding in your gardens. Whether you're planting new seeds, tending to your existing plants, or simply marveling at the blossoming flowers, there's something special

about the renewal that spring brings.

April also marks a wonderful time where we'll have the opportunity to learn, share, and grow together. I encourage you to get involved and make the most of our Horticultural Society to connect with fellow members and our community.

As always, I'm grateful for your continued support. Together, we've created a space that fosters not only our love for horticulture but also a sense of camaraderie and mutual respect. I look forward to seeing what we can accomplish in the coming months.

Wishing you all a beautiful and bountiful spring season. Happy gardening!

❖ **Anne Trudel-Inglis**
PHS President

Meet the Team Behind the Green

Featuring our Board Members: This month we are introducing....

Laura Jack
Director, Peterborough Horticultural Board

Laura Jack- I Love Local Dirt

My love of gardening began with my mother and my grandfather. Flowers with my mom and vegetables with my grandfather. I would work beside Mom digging up holes to plant bulbs in the fall and cutting back chrysanthemums in late November that were still blooming and smelled fantastic. In the Spring I would watch for the bulbs to emerge from the dirt, reveling in the riot of shapes, colours and fragrances that popped up. I am still amazed and filled with wonder of what seeds, plant cuttings and tubers can become when buried in dirt.



In the summer my grandfather had an amazing vegetable garden. When we went to visit, my siblings and I would run to see the garden first! We'd pull up little carrots, pick beans and fresh peas, brushing the dirt off with our hands and pant legs before taking a bite. To this day I love going to farmers markets, picking out fresh vegetables, not minding if they are a little dirty as I stuff them into my cloth bags.

When I left home and found myself renting places to live, I always found a little plot of dirt or pots to garden in, with annuals at least, so I could get my hands dirty and enjoy watching them grow.

I now like to have plants that I have received as a gift or in a trade with people I know. They are nice to look at and remember friends and family, as I dig in the dirt next to them and add new plants with new memories!

Peterborough Horticultural Society Board Announcement

On behalf of the PHS Board, I am pleased to announce that Amanda Barrett has joined our Board as an Associate member.

Please extend a warm welcome when you see Amanda at our meetings.

Anne Trudel-Inglis
President



Amanda Barrett

Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners Present

A Day for Gardeners

 **Saturday April 26, 2025**
Westdale United Church
1500 Sherbrooke St, Peterborough, ON
9:30am to 3pm (estimate)

Presented by Peterborough Master Gardeners

Session 1: **OR**
Creating Habitat for Beneficial Insects **OR**
Tips for Small Urban Spaces **OR**

Session 2: **OR**
Vegetable/Edible Gardens **OR**
Harvesting Rainwater: One Gardener's Experience

Session 3: **OR**
Gardenary: Friends, Enemies and Frenemies: A Wildlife Guide for Gardeners

Info & Registration? peterboroughmastergardeners.com

Wait list!

Peterborough Horticultural Society – Scholarship Program

How did you first become interested in gardening? When did the bug hit you? And how was this interest helped along by family, friends, or contact with your community or other connections?

There are budding gardeners out there, of all ages, including young students with an interest in any of the many aspects of horticulture. These students are keen to develop their interests more, some have taken the step to direct their energy and further studies in a field related to horticulture. They want to hone their skills, to acquire knowledge and expertise and see where it takes them. Some of these students will be future speakers at horticultural societies, they will be arborists, or florists, teachers or environmentalists. As gardeners, we have always looked to experts for inspiration and knowledge, and we want to do what we can to nurture more experts.



The Peterborough Horticultural Society has been helping these students through its scholarship program for many years. This year, we are donating \$150.00 to a student at each of the six area high schools, to a student who will be pursuing studies in a field related to horticulture. It's not a large sum of money, but to each student it will make a small financial difference. It's also an award, an acknowledgement that this student has been recognized by the school and the Horticultural Society for their achievement.

To continue supporting these students, the Horticultural Society depends on the generosity of the membership. A portion of proceeds from this year's bus trip will help the program, your support is appreciated. Your contribution will help a student, it will help our Society, and it will help the community. Thank you for stepping up.

❖ **Marjorie Vendrig**

How to Tell if your Tree will Survive

I'm sure I don't have to tell you how and why this topic popped into my head for this month's newsletter. The ice storm was horrific in our area, and large mature trees bore the brunt of it and caused the most trouble with downed power lines.

Our trees didn't suffer as much damage as others in our neighbourhood, likely because we are regular tree pruners. However, I have one small ornamental tree in particular, one of my favourites, that did suffer some likely serious damage. My Eastern Redbud, *Cercis canadensis*, has a kind of a wide habit and notoriously weak crotches so it doesn't take much to cause problems — but it's such a beautiful tree! We immediately pruned off the obviously damaged branches, but we left anything we weren't sure about. Once buds appear (or don't!) we'll know that we have more pruning to do. We're hoping that a chainsaw does not have to be involved for this one. We generally prune our other deciduous trees into a "V" shape so damage to most of our other trees was minimal. In contrast, one of our neighbours never prunes anything, and I believe that they will lose about 6-8 very large softwood trees completely. A little yearly maintenance, especially when the trees are young, can go a long way to prevent this sort of permanent canopy destruction.

Here's some information that I found online about assessing your tree's likelihood of survival:

1. Check the Damage Severity

- **Light damage:** A few small branches snapped; your tree is probably fine.
- **Moderate:** Some larger limbs broken, but the main trunk is intact; there is still a good chance of survival with proper pruning.
- **Severe:** If the **main leader (central trunk)** split, or more than 50% of the crown is lost; the tree is going to struggle and may not fully recover.

2. Inspect the Bark and Trunk

- Look for **cracks or splits** in the trunk or main limbs.
- Deep vertical cracks or **bark peeling away** are bad signs.
- Small surface cracks aren't usually fatal, but deep damage can invite disease and rot.

3. Bend Test for Branches

- If you're not sure a branch is dead or alive, try the **bend test**.
 - If it's **flexible and bends** without snapping, it's still alive.
 - If it **snaps easily** and is dry inside, it's probably dead.

4. Wait for Buds

- In the next few weeks (depending on the species), buds should start swelling or opening.
- No buds = bad sign. But if you see new growth—even on just part of the tree—it's a good sign it's trying to come back.



What You Can Do Right Now:

- **Prune broken branches cleanly** (cut just outside the branch collar).
- **Remove hangers** (dangling limbs) ASAP—they can be dangerous.
- **Don't over-prune** right away—wait to see what leafs out.
- **Support with mulch and water** in spring to reduce stress.
- **Fertilizer?** Not right away. Wait until mid- to late-spring to assess growth first.

❖ MJ Pilgrim

PHS Flower Show and Tell – May 28th, 2025

The Spring Flower Show and Tell event will take place May 28th at the PHS meeting. This will be a simplified show where any PHS member can enter and everyone attending can vote for their choice (no formal judging).

There will be up to seven "categories" to vote on (5 specimen classes & 2 Design classes). You will be able to vote on your favourite in each category and the exhibit with the most votes in each category will be deemed the "winner".

Even if you have never entered a flower show before, this is the time to take a chance and have some fun.

Rules:

1. Exhibitors are members of the Peterborough Horticultural Society.
2. Only one entry per person per class.
3. Exhibits must be in place by specified time.
4. In the specimen classes, plant materials must be grown by the exhibitor. Plant material is restricted to the named specimen, no other additions to be added.
5. Entries in the design class must be designed by the exhibitor; flowers, vegetables, foliage and other materials must be garden grown (from exhibitor's garden or foraged) but not commercially grown.
6. A label with the exhibitor's name and class must be submitted with each entry.

There are two classes: **Specimen Class and Design Class**

In both the specimen and design classes, exhibitors may use the vessel or container of their choice.

Specimen Class

Section 1 – Tulips, 3 – 5 tulips of the same or different cultivars.

Section 2 - Solomon's seal, 3 – 5 stems.

Section 3 – Bleeding heart, single or multiple (maximum of 5) stems of Bleeding Heart (same or different cultivars.)

Section 4 – Spring flowering branch, named, 2 - 3 branches of the same or different plant.

Section 5 – Any other perennial, single or multiple stems (of the same) species.

Design Class

1. **'Au Naturel'** – Free form design, using fresh spring blossoms, and materials from nature. The design should be suitable for a coffee or kitchen table – not exceeding 30" high and 30" across.
 2. **'Good Enough to Eat'** – A display suitable for a kitchen or dining room, using spring edibles such as rhubarb, asparagus, lettuce, etc. and other spring plant materials from the garden or foraged. The display should not exceed 30" high x 30' across.
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OHA 50/50 DRAW

Submitted by Marian Heil, OHA Treasurer



Next 50/50 Draw: July 19, 2025

Tickets will be on sale until July 18 at midnight

Licence # RAF1449351

For your chance to win, visit

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha>

Your ticket purchases for the OHA 50/50 Draw not only helps us keep Ontario Beautiful but it supports education for youth and adults. It also supports environmental programs, awards and grants assisting with pollinators, tree planting and community beautification.

PETERBOROUGH LANDSCAPE SUPPLY



We're on the lookout for passionate garden enthusiasts with horticultural knowledge to join our friendly team.

If you love plants, dirt, and all things garden, come grow with us! 🌱 🌸

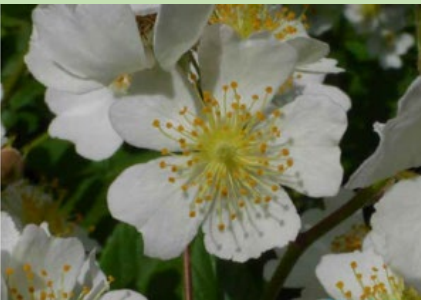
Full- and part-time positions available

We have opportunities at both our locations
**1550 Lansdowne and
2200 Keene Road**

Invasive Species Awareness

Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*)

Multiflora rose, also known as baby, Japanese, many-flowered, multiflowered, rambler or seven-sisters rose, is a member of the rose family (Rosaceae). It is an invasive, perennial, fountain-shaped or rambling shrub native to eastern Asia (i.e. Korea, Taiwan, Japan and parts of China).



Multiflora rose is a multi-stemmed, deciduous perennial shrub that can grow and reach sexual

maturity very quickly. It reproduces both by seed and vegetatively. It is thought to have a very long lifespan, the exact length of which is unknown.

This plant is capable of aggressive growth, often climbing over and outcompeting native plants and trees for light and nutrients. A single plant can form dense, thorny thickets within a few years of introduction.

Wherever multiflora rose establishes, it has the potential to quickly overtake the landscape, shading and out competing native species for light and nutrients, thereby reducing plant species



richness and diversity. Multiflora rose also uses other trees and plants as “scaffolding”, overgrowing the plant and thereby suppressing its growth and often killing it.

Multiflora rose is highly invasive due to the many traits that give this species competitive advantage over native species. It replicates via asexual and sexual reproduction and is capable of very high seed production. Multiflora rose produces a vigorous root system which can be extensive.

Seeds are dispersed through many vectors, exhibit high viability and can exist in the seed bank for up to 20 years.

Despite seeds being a food source for a variety of animals and birds, spread is rapid and not kept under control by consumption. The plant can live in a variety of environments and growing conditions and grows aggressively, reaching reproductive maturity quickly. The plant itself has few predators.



The fleshy hips turn to green from bright red when mature. Each hip contains 1 to 22 tan to yellow seeds with hard sharp, thin-pointed spicules.

Leaves are 8 to 11 cm long, alternate and pinnately compound. Each leaflet has 5 to 11 elliptic, oblong or ovate leaflets, each 1 to 5 cm long with serrated edges. Leaflets are smooth on the upper surface and paler with short hairs on the underside.

Control method: This plant may be managed with mechanical efforts with significant effort. Mowing plants 3-6 times during the growing season for multiple years should significantly reduce populations. Additionally, mechanical removal by pulling or digging to remove the root crown and as many roots as possible is an effective method to eliminate plants.

Anne Trudel-Inglis

Sources:

<https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/invasive-plants/species/multiflora-rose/>

<https://crops.extension.iastate.edu/cropnews/2021/05/effective-spring-management-multiflora-rose>

Peterborough Horticultural Society Plant Sale is cancelled this year

- Donations of plants dwindles each year, especially unique plants that attract gardeners
- Members are not attending
- Monies gained does not warrant the work involved
- Risk of spreading jumping worms and other invasive species

PHS Bus Trip

Wednesday June 11, 2025:
44 person activity bus from Hamilton Bus lines
\$100 (includes lunch)

**** Only 7 spots left as of Monday April 7 ****

Note that this trip does involve a lot of walking, much of it on uneven ground. It may not be suitable for all members. While the bus does not have a bathroom, there are facilities at most of our stops.



Thank you in advance for supporting our fundraiser for our horticultural scholarships at 7 local high schools.

8am departs Hamilton Bus Lines, Lakefield

We are making stops at the Haliburton Sculpture Forest, Abbey Gardens (an inspired community project focused on sustainability), a catered lunch garden party at the home of one of the Haliburton Master Gardeners, a tour of Minden's River Walk, and a stop at Haliburton Micromeadows, a small startup native plant nursery.

We will return to Lakefield by 5pm.

Details and registration are here: <https://peterboroughhort.com/bus-trip-2025/>

Questions? Email ptbohortsoc@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events and Activities

PHS Speakers for 2025

In Person meetings at the Peterborough Lions Centre

- Apr. 23: **Jennifer Guertin** "Supporting Pollinators Through the Seasons"
May 28: **Lorraine Johnson** "Edible City: Adventures in Urban Food Production & Edible Native Plants"
Jun. 25: **A Panel of Experts** "Ask me Anything"

Summer Break so no-one has to come in from the garden!

- Sep. 24: **MJ Pilgrim** "Spring bulb planting and planning"
Oct. 22: **Suzanne Catty** "Potions & Lotions from the Garden"
Nov. 26: **Silvia Strobl** "Winter Tree Identification"



Events

April 25th, 2025 – Earth Day Celebration (virtual)

April 26th, 2025 – A Day for Gardeners by the Peterborough Master Gardeners

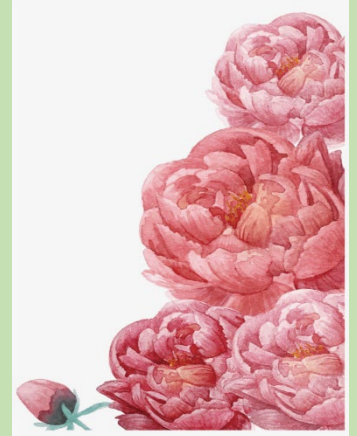
June 12, 2025 – Cobourg Garden Club tour

An exciting opportunity for gardening enthusiasts. Join us on Thursday, June 12, 2025 for a tour of Whistling Gardens, <https://whistlinggardens.ca>. Explore 22 acres of gardens, see the Musical Fountain Show and visit the bird aviary

Minimum seats left on a deluxe motorcoach. Deadline April 25, 2025

Payment/Registration: \$100.00

E-transfer to cobourghort@gmail.com Then send email confirming payment to judy.harris.3888@gmail.com. You will be sent detailed instructions, with bus pick-up location, start and end times and catered lunch options. Includes: deluxe motorcoach (with washroom), admission and catered lunch



Free Gardening Webinars Offered by: 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>

April 19th – Native Plants for Tough Sites

April 26th – Pollinator ID & Wildflower Host Plants

May 3rd – Native Trees and Shrubs for Small Spaces

May 10th – Create a Native Woodland Garden

June 7th – Pollinator-friendly Container Gardens

August 23rd Understanding Your Soil

September 6th – Four-Season Beauty & Biodiversity

September 13th – It's Easy! Seed Saving 101

September 20th – Growing Native Plants From Seed

October 25th – Winter Sowing



Gardening Resources

OHA Garden Ontario website <https://gardenontario.org> lots of downloadable resources and the new Autumn 2024 Trillium

Peterborough Master Gardeners website is <https://peterboroughmastergardeners.com/> read the blog, ask questions, find events in Peterborough area.

Act Now to Keep Jumping Worms Out

<https://peterboroughmastergardeners.com/2024/05/06/act-now-to-keep-jumping-wormsout/>

There are a lot of websites, books and groups that provide resources – if you have a favourite one, please let us know and we will share in the newsletter

Discounts for PHS Members: You must show your **2025** membership card to qualify, and request the discount **BEFORE** your order is placed.

 PETERBOROUGH LANDSCAPE SUPPLY	 15% On LIVE ITEMS excluding annuals	 Kawartha Capital Landscape Supply Store "We've got all of your landscape needs covered!"	 10% Does not include delivery fees
 BURLEY'S GARDENING 745-8322 GARDEN SUITE B&B	 10% On everything	 HORLINGS - GARDEN CENTRE -	
 Gardens Plus	 10% On perennials under \$11	 AND Johnston's GREENHOUSE & LANDSCAPING	 10% On perennials

