

Peterborough Horticultural Society

Volume 165 June 2026 Number 6

Wednesday June 24th, 2026 @ 7pm, at the Lion's Centre "Ask Me Anything" Panel of Experts

Join us in welcoming our Panel of Experts to our stage on June 24th. The panel of experts will be speaking to us about Perennials, Pest and Pollinators.

This month's meeting invites full participation from our members. We have brought together a panel of local experts – Tim Hobbs of True North Gardens, Laura Gardner – Peterborough Master Gardener and Liz Straszynski who will answer your gardening questions. Each panel expert will take turns speaking on their topic, then we will open the floor to your questions. **Get your questions ready!!!**

Tim Hobbs will be speaking on Perennials – Tim has been a gardener for more than 35 years. TrueNorth is located on several acres south of Warkworth. Tim is a specialist in daylilies and has spoken to the Ptbo Horticultural Society about his experience hybridizing daylilies. Tim, along with his partner Donna Pass, manage about 50,000 daylilies, along with other tough and drought tolerant perennials such as hosta, echinacea, hibiscus, baptisia, amsonia and many others. Garlic is another specialty at TrueNorth. Tim is interested in plants that look after themselves while attracting bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. Tonight, Tim will step beyond daylilies and speak about some other perennials that are popular at TrueNorth and then he will answer your questions.



Laura Gardner will be speaking on Pests – Laura will concentrate on ecological and sustainable gardening practices, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), identification and myths arounds pests.

Since 2020, Laura Gardner has been a volunteer with the Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners, is a certified Pollinator Steward with Pollinator Partnership Canada and holds a certificate in Horticulture from the University of Guelph. She currently volunteers as a moderator and gives gardening advice on the Master Gardeners of Ontario and Over the Fence with the Peterborough Master Gardeners Facebook pages.



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Liz Straszynski will be speaking on Pollinators – Liz will give a brief presentation on pollinators, their importance and what gardeners can do to keep them around.

Liz, an educator and biologist, has taught Biology and general Science as a classroom teacher for the past 25 years. In the 2019-2020 school year, she leveraged the pandemic by creating a Clean 20 award-winning pollinator garden-in-a-bag project called "Bee the Change". She is also Canada's 'winning-est' Envirothon coach and provides support to students doing the AP Environmental Science course (not typically

taught in schools).

Special note: Tim Hobbs will have perennials for sale at the meeting

This meeting will not be available on Zoom Guests are Welcome for \$5 per person

President's Message – June 2026

June 24th will be our last General Meeting of the Peterborough Horticultural Society before we break for the summer and get a chance to focus on our own gardens, plant shopping and summer activities.

We do not meet in July or August; it is a well-deserved couple of months for your board of directors after meeting monthly, working on newsletters, scholarships, a flower show, a plant sale, a bus trip and so much more.

Our Board is hardworking, dedicated and a creative group of individuals that I have the privilege of working with. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to each Board member for making the Peterborough Horticultural Society a FUN, informative, community-oriented society.



"Ask me Anything" a panel of experts is coming to our stage this month, each "expert" will be sharing their knowledge on Perennials, Pollinators and Pests. If you are unable to make it to the June meeting, on behalf of the Board I would like to wish you all a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing you again when we resume at the September 23rd meeting where Dave Ellis will be speaking on "Wildlife Photography" which is sure to be a great presentation.

Feel free to send us photos of your garden so we can share the results of your hard work and passion for all things garden related.

Let's enjoy designing, planting, transplanting and even weeding in our gardens this season.

Happy Gardening,

❖ **Anne Trudel-Inglis**
PHS President

A Special Shout Out to Anne Craig!

Anne stepped in at the last minute to speak at the May members meeting when our planned speaker cancelled for personal reasons.

Anne spoke about "**Rethinking the Lawn: Cultivating Change in our Green Spaces**". Her presentation covered the history of the lawn as a landscaping choice, the environmental impact of maintaining a lawn and some very creative and doable ways to adapt your lawn to a more environmentally friendly greenspace.



From all of us who attended and thoroughly enjoyed Anne's presentation – THANK YOU!

Membership Reminder

The best way to renew?

For renewals (if your contact information has not changed):

- Please send an e-transfer in the amount of \$25 (individual) or \$30 (family) to ptbohortsoc@gmail.com or
- Send a cheque made out to PHS for \$25 single or \$30 family to:
Mary-Rose Daigle
512 Dickson Street
Peterborough, ON K9H 3K1

If your contact information has changed OR you are joining as a new Member:

- complete this online form: <https://forms.gle/FfxF1XizrCCdfk7>
- payment options: e-transfer or cheque (see bullet points above)

For membership renewals & information, check out our Membership page:

Welcome back to our in-person meetings!

If you are attending an in-person meeting and want to renew, please insert your membership fee (cash or cheque) in an envelope with your full name printed on it and give it to Laura at the front door desk. Name tags will be printed and ready for you to pick up at the next meeting.

<https://peterboroughhort.com>

May Flower Show & Tell – A Huge Success!

The May 2026 flower show was fun for all and the entries were gorgeous. As usual everyone had fun selecting their favourite from the among the entries in the four categories and the competition was friendly (mostly 😊).

Congratulations to our winners:

Category: Perennials

Winning Entry: Hellebore

Won by: MJ Pilgrim



Category: Flowering Bulbs

Winning Entry: Double flower fringed Tulip "Fancy Frazzled"

Won by: Mary Macfarlane



Category: Flowering Branches

Winning Entry: Crabapple Prairie Fire, Lilac, "Scentara", Lilac "Charles Joly"

Won by: Mary Macfarlane



Category: Au Naturel

Winning Entry: Lilac, Allium, Soloman seal narcissus, hellebore, martensia, chives

Won by: Marjorie Vendrig



BUG Club Corner

For 2026 (and possibly longer?) we will be posting articles on common bugs, both beneficial and non-beneficial species. We welcome responses to articles, ideas and/or suggestions.

House Centipedes

(Scutigera coleoptrata)

“House Centipedes” are not dangerous to humans, and they do not spread disease. In fact, they are natural pest controllers, eating spiders, ants, roaches, flies, and bed bugs. They don’t destroy your house like carpenter ants, they don’t harm or destroy stored products, fabrics, pets, humans or the structural integrity of your building.

They tend to hide in dark, damp and cool places that don’t have much regular activity.

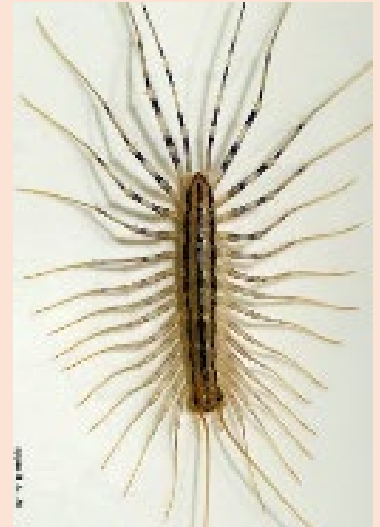
They have very poor eyesight and rely primarily on sensing vibrations and chemical cues (like pheromones) to hunt prey and navigate. They are arthropods, which means they molt as they grow. They can live for an average of three to seven years, taking about three years to reach full maturity.

House centipedes are not intellectually "smart" in the human sense, but they are highly sophisticated hunters. Driven purely by instinct and complex sensory networks rather than a conscious brain, they are remarkable for calculating risks, ambushing prey, and navigating obstacles in your home.

Under the cover of nighttime, they patrol the house and track down bugs you really don’t want in your house. When you start seeing centipedes more often in your house, it could indicate that you have an infestation of pests that you should be more concerned about. House centipedes don’t pose a health risk, and they can be helpful in controlling and killing insects rather than using pesticides inside your house which might pose real health risks to your kids, pets and family members.

Yes, they are kind of creepy and can run away at Olympic speed which is a bit unnerving.

It is important to remember though, that they are more afraid of us and they are running away to find cover and a place to hide. Don’t be too quick to squish them- their presence is beneficial and keeps the really nasty pests in check.



Sources : www.WebMD.com; <https://uwm.edu/field-station/bug-of-the-week/house-centipede/>; www.Redditt.com

◆ **Laura Jack**

The Scholarship Program

Tickets for this year's June bus trip to Prince Edward County were sold very quickly.

These trips are very popular among our members and raise important funds to support our scholarship program for area high schools. Last month, our club launched the sale of the newly designed Peterborough Horticultural Society t-shirts and funds from this sale will also be directed to our scholarship program.

Every year, our Horticultural Society donates \$150.00 to each of the seven local high schools: Kenner Collegiate, Crestwood Secondary School, Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School, Adam Scott Collegiate, Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School, St. Peter Catholic Secondary School, and Monseigneur Jamot. Each of the schools chooses a deserving graduating student who will be pursuing post secondary studies in a discipline such as environmental studies, floral design, landscaping, arboriculture - all disciplines related to horticulture. From time to time, we receive thank you cards from the award recipients and share them with our members. The scholarship program is an important contribution to our community and helps to ensure the continuity of general interest in horticulture for coming generations. Thanks to all our members for your continued support in our projects.

We congratulate all the award winners at the schools and wish them the best in their future endeavours.

◆ Marjorie Vendrig

Planning Ahead!

More Flower Show & Tell events to come

Just a reminder about upcoming events:

The next Flower Show & Tell event is September 23rd – details will be in the September newsletter.

This will again be an event where everyone gets to vote. There will be two "specimen" type categories and a "creative design" category, so start planning now!

Pictures of Summer Show & Tell event – this is a repeat of the Houseplant picture competition with a twist!

In January you will be able to send in pictures of your most prized houseplants AND pictures from your garden from this summer. Voting will take place at the March 2027 meeting.

Details will be in the January newsletter but start snapping those summer pictures now!

Recap – June 2026 Prince Edward County (PEC) PHS Bus Trip

Our Bus trip was a HUGE success...it all started with touring a private garden created on four acres in Consecon (in PEC). Our gracious host, Christopher first explained how his “gardens” came to be, then he let us loose to explore and enjoy - which we did. Christopher’s garden was recommended by Charlie Dobbin!



Christopher is seen here sitting in the background – talking to Lois.



Fred and Laura enjoying the tour!



We then bounced down the road to **Carson’s Garden + Market**, Bloomfield where we experienced much needed retail therapy. Carson Arthur treated us to 10% on our purchases – we certainly appreciated that.



Our next stop was at the **Oeno Sculpture Garden**, where we enjoyed delicious home-made picnic lunches (sandwich, quinoa salad, raw veggies, and **5 cookies**) all provided and **delivered to us** by the Mountain View Woman’s Institute! We had plenty of time to walkabout the unique one-of-a-kind life-sized sculptures in this amazing garden.



We were fortunate to find some shaded areas with a cool breeze right Mary?



We were pleased to see Susan Rankin’s (Apsley Artist), Glass Column Series sculptures.



After lunch we headed down the road for more retail therapy, enjoyed by all!

Thanks to **Lockyer's Garden Centre**, Picton. It's a good thing the bus had storage underneath as plants were coming home – you can never just buy one plant.



We passed by Military Base 31 located in Picton. Thanks Mary-Jane for that bit of history about the Base, it was fascinating to hear the connection to our Avro Arrow.

Our last destination was **Dropseed Native Plant Nursery** in Milford where we bought native plants. We enjoyed getting to know how Dropseed came to be. More retail therapy!



Thanks to our Bus driver, Stan for taking this fantastic group photo at Dropseed!



A BIG THANK YOU to Mary-Jane for organizing/planning our June 2026 Bus Trip.

Also a huge thank you Living Hope Church for the use of their parking lot!

PHS Shirts for Members

Say hello to your new favourite gardening shirt!



Designed by the Board, to be screen printed right here in Peterborough.

Funds raised from sales will help us to broaden our scholarship donations for 2027 and we hope that visibility out and about in the community will spark conversations and interest and help attract new members.

Pre-sales will take place at this month's meeting. Shirts are \$25 each. In order to go ahead with the order, we need to confirm 24 sales. Please consider bringing extra cash with you this month to place your order. We will have blanks at the meeting to help determine the size and style you're interested in!

PHS Speakers for 2026

In Person meetings at the Peterborough Lion's Centre

June 24: **"Ask Me Anything"** – Perennials, Pests and Pollinators: Panel of Experts

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

Sept. 23: **Dave Ellis** – "Wildlife Photography"

Oct. 28: **Jessica York (Branch Ranch)** – Demonstration of Seasonal Decor

Nov. 25: **MJ Pilgrim** - "Christmas Trivia"
PHS AGM will take place after MJ's talk

Garden Ontario
50/50 Raffle

Heat Up Your Summer with a Big Win!

- Bring the Heat, Bring the Fun
- It's a Summer Win Waiting to Happen

Draw: July 26, 2026

Get Your Tickets Today!!

Ticket Prices:
700 for \$75
200 for \$50
40 for \$20
10 for \$10

50% Goes To the Winner!

Proceeds support Garden Grants and Education in Ontario

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha> Licence # RAF1533331

Gardening Resources

OHA Garden Ontario website <https://gardenontario.org> lots of downloadable resources and the Autumn 2025 Trillium

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

Xeriscaping Handout from Pam Clarke is attached at the end of this newsletter for reference.

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

Upcoming Events and Activities

June 19th & 20th – “Discovering Ontario” Triennial Flower Show 2026; Landscape Ontario, 7856 Fifth Line South, Milton ON (\$10 fee, cash at the door)

September 23rd – Flower Show & Tell (part of the regular members meeting)

January – accepting submissions for the Pictures of Summer Flower Show & Tell

