

The Watering Can

West Carleton Garden Club & Horticultural Society

March is time to:

. Sort through seed packets and plan on what to sow this year in our gardens

. Purchase seed starting soil and pots, or even better, use recycled pots and containers

. Take a look at small trees and shrubs, it may be a good time to shape and prune. <https://landscapeontario.com/pruning-shrubs--evergreens>

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Here is a useful link to calculate when to start planting outside:

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/facts/climzoneveg.htm>

Take a few moments to wander around the OMAFRA website, lots of good information there.

And here's a handy guide from Almanac for the Ottawa area: <https://www.almanac.com/gardening/planting-calendar/on/Ottawa>



March Zoom Meeting

Tuesday, March 8, 2022
7:30 p.m.

"Ikebana/Japanese Flower Arrangement"

with Rebecca Cragg
of [Camellia Teas of Ottawa](#)

Pre-register by sending your name and email address to presentation@wcgc.ca

Members: Free, Guests: \$5



Ikebana

"...Ikebana over the centuries is a search for balance between opposites. Ikebana is, fundamentally, an exploration of the frictions between the visible and the invisible, life and death, permanence and ephemerality, luxury and simplicity. This duality is embodied in the two original Japanese floral styles, of which all the rest can be seen as iterations: tatehana (which translates as "standing flowers," because the flowers seem to be standing upright in their container) and nageire (which means "thrown in," because the flowers appear to be leaning against the container as if they were just tossed there.)"

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/06/t-magazine/ikebana-japanese-flower-art.html>

<https://gardenontario.org/oha-trillium-newsletter-winter-issue-2021-22/>



Summer Garden Visit Planning

Can't wait for summer and garden tours? Hopefully, we will be in a position again to visit some of our beautiful local gardens.

Under the umbrella of the 2022 Year of the Garden initiative, the following link lists some beautiful gardens across Canada which will surely be of interest:

<https://gardenscanada.ca/canadas-garden-route/>

Some of the local gardens to visit in the Ottawa area are: Maplelawn Garden, Mackenzie King Estate gardens, Ottawa Experimental Farm, Rideau Woodland Ramble (pic below from link above), Commissioners Park, etc.

Can't wait till summer!



OHA District 2 news: Members of the D2 Board and the D2 Judges community have banded together to organize a D2 Summer Flower and Edibles Show to be held in Jean Pigott Hall at Ottawa City Hall on **Saturday, August 30th**. This show will be supported by Gardens Ottawa and the City of Ottawa and will form a key part of all the events to "Celebrate the Garden Life" in Ottawa. We have also invited Society members in District 1 to participate. Open classes will be available for the public to participate in this event, in both adult and youth classes. The show theme is "Looking to the Future".

♦ Monthly WCGC Virtual Flower Shows - Reminder

March Theme : “Frozen in Time” – a picture of a plant or plants in the outdoors
(For details, see last newsletter which can be accessed at www.wcgc.ca)

♦ OHA District 2 Virtual Flower Shows

“We will be having virtual mini flowers shows for the months of February, March and April. Entries can be made anytime during each month with the show closing on the last day of each month. Entries will be posted on the D2 Facebook site and in the D2 newsletters.

February Virtual Flower Show: Feb 1 – Feb 28

1. Design - Heart of Gold - a design of your choice 2. Specimen - a potted plant in bloom

March Virtual Flower Show: March 1 – 31

1. Design – Windy Weather – a design showing motion
2. Specimen – a forced bulb or bulbs in a pot or a forced flowering branch in a clear vase

April Virtual Flower Show: April 1-30

1. Design – Harbinger of Spring – a design to include Spring bulbs and/or flowers 2. Specimen – an African Violet in a pot – one plant only

Virtual OHA Show Rules:

1. Photograph your entry against a plain background and send as an attached .jpg file in an email to webdistrict2oha@gmail.com
2. You may send two entries per class, each in a separate email. The file must be attached to your email and not imbedded.
3. In the text of your email, put your name and the title of the photograph if desired.
4. Entries may be submitted anytime during the month of the show.

Please take this time to practice doing a design and taking photographs of your entries. This is a great way to get some experience. You may always contact Sheila King at sheilaking.art@rogers.com or Anne Harbord at anneclark.flowers@gmail.com if you have any questions about design or photographing your entry.

It is highly likely that virtual flower shows will be around for a while yet, so this will be good

Note: You might be interested in the following **virtual judging guidelines** put forth by the OHA:

<https://gardenontario.org/wp-content/uploads/OHA-Photography-Judging-Guidelines-Edition-1-January-15-2021-Final-rev-3-Aug-2021.pdf>