

The Watering Can

West Carleton Garden Club & Horticultural Society

This Month...

The winter months are a great time to plan our gardens for the coming season. Last month we welcomed Anne Harbord who gave us some good tips about how to install raised gardens and this month we will investigate how planting for pollinators will enhance our environmental stewardship.

Berit Erickson

A longtime gardener, Berit has fairly recently established a pollinator garden around her Ottawa home. From her website: "I consider myself a pollinator and habitat gardening enthusiast. I've read a lot, and I've accumulated 3 years of pollinator gardening experience. Before that, I was in your shoes. I think I can anticipate the questions you have and the challenges you will face. I want to share my successes, what I've learned in my research, as well as my mistakes."

West Carleton Garden Club



WCGC February meeting

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

"Creating Your Own Pollinator Garden"

With **Berit Erickson**
[Corner Pollinator Garden](https://cornerpollinatorgarden.net)

Doors open at 7:00 pm, meeting starts at 7:30 pm

Carp Memorial Hall
3739 Carp Road, Carp, ON

www.wcgc.ca

This is an in-person meeting. In the event of inclement weather, an online meeting on Zoom might be arranged in which case you will receive an email with instructions. Always check the website for current information.

Berit's website is replete with useful information and links about how to install and care for a pollinator garden. (Link to her website here: <https://cornerpollinatorgarden.net> and to her brochure on p. 2 below.)

Seedy Saturday

Together with the Stittsville Goulbourn and Kanata-March Horticultural Societies, we are currently in the process of organizing the third annual Seedy Saturday event to be held at Carp Agricultural Hall on Saturday, March 8th. You will start seeing the event poster on external social media postings.

It would be a great help if you could start **sorting through your seeds and preparing them for donation to make Seedy Saturday a memorable community event.** (You can bring them in to the February Meeting if you like.)

It is important that they are well identified.. There is no preferred covering, any kind of envelope is fine, just ensure they are well labelled.

(Also see pp.3-4 below.)

OHA News:

OHA Winter Trillium: <https://gardenontario.org/wp-content/uploads/Trillium-Winter-2024-25.pdf>

OHA D2 Newsletter: <https://gardenontario.org/index.php?gf-download=2025/01/D2-Three-River-Valleys-Newsletter-2025-Vol-12-No.-1.pdf&form-id=4&field-id=101&hash=60c8587a66e6a6fec2c3a9cf5469896e8fb1fc22508294af4028dfb9defd6b2&gv-iframe=true>

♦ Did you know that word **February** comes from the Roman festival of purification called Februa, during which people were ritually washed. Its meaning has expanded to include notions of getting rid of the old to make room for the new. From a gardening perspective, we can review our successes of past years. If you, like me, keep a visual diary of the changing garden over the months, it's the time to review, compare, design and plan for the coming season. A few links on this subject:

- <https://local-news.ca/2024/02/07/february-garden-to-do-list-2/>
- <https://awaytogarden.com/the-february-garden-chores/>

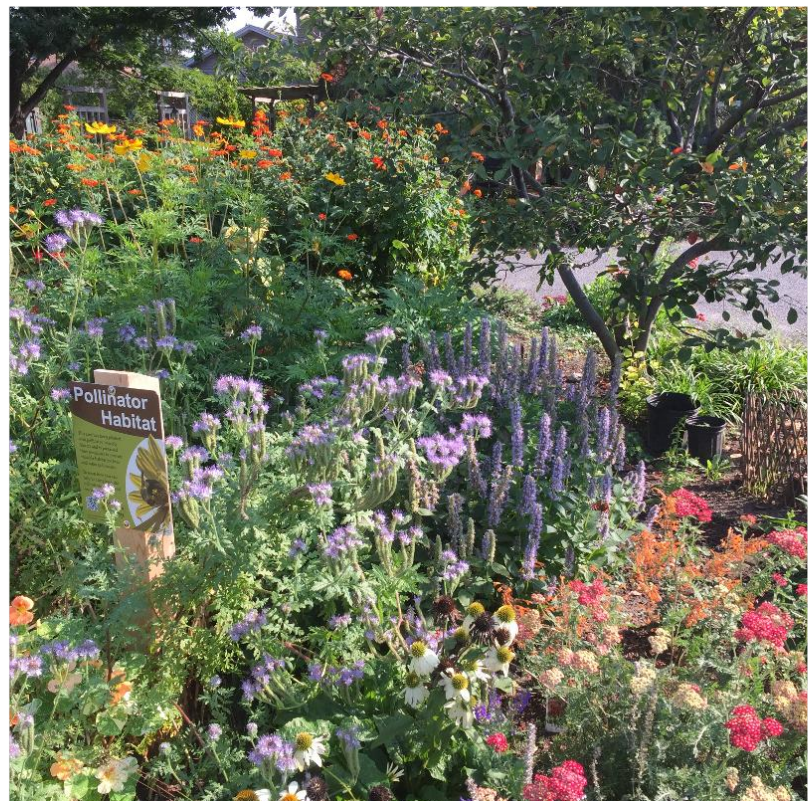
And for those who want to plan their vegetable garden, this might be useful (for the Carp area):

- <https://www.almanac.com/gardening/planting-calendar/postalcode/KoA1Lo>

♦ More about Berit Erickson:

Berit's brochure can be found on her website here: <https://cornerpollinatorgarden.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/createyourownpollinatorgardenbrochurefeb2024.pdf>

Pic below from her website.



At last year's Seedy Saturday!



This year's event can be a great success too. Let's start gathering up and labelling our seeds to donate. **We will need volunteers** for this event: baking treats, helping with setup, tear down and on the day, helping at our table (selling seeds) and working at the door. Brenda will call for volunteers at our meeting and you can always email her to say you're interested by contacting her at: president@wcgc.ca.



Seedy Saturday

Saturday, March 8, 2025
 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Carp Agricultural Hall,
 3790 Carp Road, Carp, ON

Admission: \$2 cash - for 3 door prize tickets*
 Kids free

**Proceeds from ticket sales to be donated to Kanata,
 Stittsville and West Carleton Food Banks*

- Low-priced seeds from local sources - annuals, perennials, veggies and natives (cash sales)
- Seed Swap
- Vendors and Workshops
- Kiddie Corner (Let's Plant)
- Master Gardeners for advice
- Coffee, refreshments, door prizes





Looking ahead...

Gay MacQuarrie has organized our Flower Show schedule for this year. The document below and others regarding our shows in 2025 are posted on our website here:
<https://wcgc.ca/resources.html>

**West Carleton Garden Club
and
Horticultural Society
SPRING FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE**



WHEN: June 10, 2025
 Entries to be placed between 6:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.
WHERE: Carp Memorial Hall
THEME: "Long Weekend Fun"

DIVISION 1 – HORTICULTURE			
CLASS	SPECIMENS		
1	Allium	Same cultivar	3 stems
2	Clematis		1 bloom with own foliage attached
3	Coral Bells (Heuchera)	Same cultivar	3 stems
4	Dicentra (Bleeding Heart)		1 stem with foliage
5	Hemerocallis (Daylily)		1 scape
6	Iris, Bearded		1 stalk
7	Iris, Beardless	Same cultivar, e.g., Siberian, Japanese	3 stalks
8	Lupin		1 stem
9	Peony*		1 bloom
	<i>*When showing Peonies, please remove side buds and all but the uppermost leaves</i>		
10	Rose		1 specimen bloom
11	Rose	Such as Modern Shrub	1 spray
12	Collection of Perennials	Minimum 3 different cultivars, 1 stem of each in one container, named	
13	Perennial A.O.C.	Any other cultivar not listed above	1 specimen stem

DIVISION 2 “Long Weekend Fun”		
NOVICE “A” Classes – A Novice has not received a 1 st place ribbon in Design in One of two consecutive years of exhibiting.		
CLASS	DESIGN	
14a	“The Swimming Hole” NOVICE Exhibitors	A design incorporating the visible use of water
14b	Same as above but for ADVANCED exhibitors	
15a	“Sunday Picnic” NOVICE Exhibitors	A design in a basket
15b	Same as above but for ADVANCED exhibitors	

DEFINITIONS

A.O.C. meaning “Any Other Cultivar” - i.e., a cultivar not already listed in its own Specimen Class in the Schedule.

Cultivar – Refers to different cultivated forms (or varieties) of the same species, e.g., Petunia “Happiness,” Petunia “Calypso,” and Petunia “Satin Lace” are three different cultivars.

Visible Use of Water – A design that must include water that is clearly visible. Any design in which water is an important component. May be water-viewing, underwater, etc.

Water-Viewing – A traditional line design, adapted in Canada in the 1960s, with a dominant line of plant material and great use of space, in a shallow container with ½ to 2/3 of the container surface showing water. Modern line design does not fit this definition but could be used in a design calling for “Visible Use of Water”.

Underwater – A design with part(s) placed under water to create interest. Although the design must have part(s) under water, no definite percentage is required. A portion of the design must be above the water line. The parts under water and out of water must form a unified design.