

The Watering Can

West Carleton Garden Club & Horticultural Society

At last, Spring?

Well, we have had a bumpy ride during the weeks since our last newsletter. Looking ahead to more seasonal temperatures gives one hope.

It is regretful that our April meeting had to be cancelled because of inclement weather. We will reschedule Tauney Stinson as her topic on 'Foraging' was of interest to many of us. Stay tuned.

Our May Speaker

Bri Petersen created the website Urban Gardening Canada as a place for Canadians to go for gardening information tailored to our cold, northern climate. After noticing that all the information came from American websites she decided it was time to create a website specifically for Canadians. Finally, a place where information is in Celsius, and the crops can actually survive and thrive in our short Canadian summers!



WCGC May 2025 Meeting

Tuesday, May 13, 2025,
Carp Memorial Hall
Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

**“Building a Resilient Garden
in the Face of Climate Change”**

Bri Petersen

of Urban Gardening Canada



OHA NEWS



<https://gardenontario.org/trillium-spring-2025/>

Also, the most recent OHA District 2 Newsletter:

<https://gardenontario.org/index.php?gf-download=2025/04/Three-River-Valleys-2025-Vol-12-No.-2-FINAL.pdf&form-id=4&field-id=101&hash=06a368cccd9a9a4ef465bdee1bd2440bac484011261973377687e2dff00ed27d&gv-iframe=true>

Next Meeting

Our **June 10th meeting** is a social meeting, as well as our first **Flower Show** of the year. Show rules can be sourced on p. 4 and 5 below and at this link:

https://www.wcgc.ca/documents/WCGC_FlowerShows_2025_Rules&Schedules.pdf

Tips for Showing from Gay:

https://www.wcgc.ca/newsletters/20242025/WateringCan_Apr_2025.pdf?attredirects=0

WCGC Plant Sale

We have reserved our spot at the Carp Farmers' Market on **Saturday, May 17 (8:00 am to 1:00 pm + set up and take down)** for our annual plant sale, our most important fundraiser of the year. As usual, we will need volunteer helpers for the event, and you can contact Brenda by email at: president@wcgc.ca. Our plant donations are very important to the success of the fundraiser. Also, would anyone have some sun/rain **canopies** we could use for the event? Contact Brenda please and thank you.

Plants: Plants can be potted perennials, shrubs, annuals, herbs, etc. Plants must **not** be considered of the invasive kind as identified here:

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

- Native plants and vegetables/herbs are always good sellers.
- Kindly do not pot up your plants a day before, they will be droopy and not attractive. Please pot up at least a week before and water well.

Labels: Identify and label plants with some or all of the following information:

- o Plant Name: common and/or horticultural
- o Type: Annual/Perennial/tree/shrub/etc
- o Full sun/shade/
- o Habit: compact/spreading/
- o Colour of flower
- o Height/width
- o

Earth in pots: In an effort to limit pathogens (bacteria, jumping worms, etc.) if at all possible, please repot plants into fresh potting soil or soil which has been **solarized** (see gardening tips from Kate in last newsletter).

Cash sales only.

See poster, p. 6.



Above, in my garden last year at this time - look at the forsythia blooming!

GARDENING TIPS from Kate

Spring is upon us: what to do or where to start in the garden. This spring has offered us a number of challenges, however, you may consider some options to get you started:

- apply dormant oil spray to fruit trees and shrubs
- watch for lily beetles emerging on warm days; handpick & destroy.
- turn over the compost pile & mix in some shredded leaves
- plant flower and vegetable seeds, summer bulbs & tubers (indoors)
- prepare containers, for container gardening
- prune fruit trees and grape vines
- remove winter protection from shrubs & evergreens, on an overcast day to prevent sun-scorch

While you're considering those options, I would like you to take a moment and consider taking the next steps in planting for pollinators. You may already have some of these plants in your herb and perennial gardens. I find knowing where and what to look for improves my sightings of garden visitors and the enjoyment of my garden.

BUTTERFLIES

American Painted Lady:

Black Swallowtail:

Blues (like Azure and SilveryBlue):

Eastern Tiger Swallowtail:

Great Spangled Fritillary:

Mourning Cloak:

Pearl Crescent butterfly:

Red Admiral, Question Mark:

Spicebush Swallowtail:

White & Sulphurs:

Monarch:

WHERE TO FIND THEM...

Pussytoes, Pearly everlasting

Golden Alexanders, dill, parsley, fennel (non-native).

Lupines, vetches, dogwoods, viburnums, blueberries, meadowsweet

Birches, willows, ashes, prunus species

Violets

Willows, meadowsweets, elm, poplar

Asters (New England)

Nettles, elms, hops, hackberries

Spicebush

Brassicas: broccoli, kale, cauliflower, etc.

Milkweeds

(Source: ontariowildflowers.com)

Happy Gardening!



**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.



West Carleton Garden Club

Annual Plant Sale

at the

Carp Farmers' Market

3790 Carp Road, Carp, ON K0A1L0

Saturday, May 17, 2025

8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Locally grown perennials, annuals, natives,
herbs/veggies. Cash Only

~ No invasive species ~

Come early for a good selection!

General Info About WCGC:

The West Carleton Garden Club & Horticultural Society is a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association, District 2. The club was established in 1989 and joined the OHA in December 1990.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month (except July and August) in the Carp Memorial Hall, 3739 Carp Road at 7:30 p.m. where featured speakers share their knowledge.

Guests are always welcome to our meetings. The \$5 admission fee for guests can be applied toward an annual membership. Yearly membership fees are \$15 for an individual, and \$20 for a family and are due in September.

Our membership year runs from September 1 through August 31. To inquire about membership, contact Karen Buckley : membership@wcgc.ca.

Planning for Next Season:

Kathleen Teahen and your executive are hard at work securing interesting speakers for the 2025-26 season starting in September. Some plans are also in the works aiming at perhaps arranging opportunities for those who would like to visit some garden venues as a group this summer.

Stay tuned!