

The Watering Can

West Carleton Garden Club & Horticultural Society

Fall Is Here

So far, at time of writing, we've had a lovely beginning of Fall, early this year, and replete with warm sunny days. The lack of rain is still a concern though and seasonal cleanup of our gardens has already started for many of us.

Our meeting

Beth Salter will be enlightening us about how she and others at Ramsey Creek gardens go about putting together their lovely seasonal arrangements.

Seed Swap

We are happy to announce our annual fall seed exchange which will take place at the meeting. **Donna Cook** is organizing and has once again prepared an info sheet which is attached to this newsletter. Please bring your labelled seed packages in to swap between 6:30 and 7:00 pm. Also, remember to keep some seeds for our Seedy Saturday in the spring.



October General Meeting

Tuesday, October 14, 2025
Carp Memorial Hall

"Festive Arrangements"
with
Beth Salter of Ramsey Creek Gardens
+
Seed swap

Doors open at 6:30 pm, meeting starts at 7:30 pm
Members: Free. Guests: \$5





Our Oct. Presenter

Beth Salter has studied agriculture, horticulture, and floristry. She has been working in the landscape and greenhouse industry since she was just fourteen years old. It has been her dream to build a greenhouse. Together, Beth and her mother Carolyn have built **Ramsay Creek** around the dream of making gardening more accessible to everyone.

"The nursery sells annuals, container gardens, perennials, and shrubs, as well as veggies and herbs, and Christmas delights to name a few."

They are located minutes off Hwy 29, directly between Carleton Place and Almonte.

(Photos above and on previous page from their website with permission.)

Refreshments, etc.

Would members whose family names begin by F to K please bring in some sweets and/or items for door prizes. Many thanks; don't forget your seeds!

*To send Anne a garden-related photo: newsletter@wcgc.ca

Our Members' Gardens*

It is lovely to be able to ramble through garden centres of which we have plenty in our area, and also, to experience the delight of discovering what our Members are growing is such a treat. Over the summer and more recently, we have wanted to get a taste of what's growing in our own gardens, and you haven't disappointed. Thanks to all who have sent in their photos and please continue to do so, as they enliven our newsletters, social media pages, and publicity posts. Here is a sampling of some of these pics:





Photos courtesy of Dan Stumpf

SEPTEMBER 2025
85 entries (23 Classes)

Participant	1st 5 pts	2nd 3 pts	3rd 2 pts	Honourable 1 pt Mention	<i>Best in Show</i> 5 pts	TOTAL Points
1. Brenda Baird	00000	00000		00		47
2. Celina Bak	00				Horticulture	15
3. Karen Buckley	0			00		7
4. Donna Caldwell	0000	00	00			30
5. Pam Colquhoun		00	00			10
6. Johanna Cutts	000			00		38
7. Joanne Douves Proudfoot	00	00	0		Design	23
8. Wendy Good		0	00	0		8
9. Gay MacQuarrie	0000	00	0000	00		36



Please pay your membership at the October meeting (cash or cheque) or send an e-transfer to Sheila Stumpf at treasurer@wcgc.ca with mention of your name in the comments.

Focus on a Native Species

Staghorn Sumac



https://cwfcfc.org/en/resources/encyclopedias/flora/staghorn-sumac.html?utm_campaign=gw&utm_medium=email&utm_content=25047&utm_source=enews

Carp Memorial Hall

Thank you again to members who have tended the garden at the hall over the summer.

We will be organizing a worker bee to put the garden at the OPL Library, Carp Branch to bed later in the Fall and will be getting back to you for volunteers.

Looking for a 2nd reviewer for our year-end books

We are looking for a second person to review and sign off on our 2025 year-end books. Our Treasurer provides you with all the documents needed to spot check our financial activities for the 2024-2025 fiscal year and as we are a small organization (about 5-10 transactions per month) the task is not a big one, but a very important one. Our First reviewer will receive the documents in early October and once she is finished (by mid-October) Sheila will deliver the package to you. Completion of both reviewers sign-off is to be done by the end of October in preparation for our November 11th AGM.

If you are interested and able to help, or have any questions, please contact Sheila Stumpf at treasurer@wcgc.ca.

WCGC Bursary

Each year our club gives out a \$250 bursary to a deserving student at West Carleton Secondary School who will be going on to pursue studies in the horticultural or agricultural sciences. This year, we are pleased to have granted it to **Mark Munro** who is studying at the University of Guelph.

October 2025



SEED EXCHANGE

Seed Collecting

Collecting flower and vegetable seeds from your favorite plants is indeed a delightful and fulfilling activity that brings joy to gardeners of all ages. It allows you to engage with nature, understand plant life cycles, and create a more sustainable gardening practice.



COLLECTING

Proper seed harvesting and drying techniques are essential for ensuring that your seeds remain viable and healthy for future planting.

Always harvest your seeds when they're dry. Around midday or early afternoon on a sunny day is ideal but try not to collect them when they're damp. Lay seeds out separately on newspaper which will help with drying.

SAVING

By saving seeds from your existing plants, you can save money on seeds for the next planting season. This not only reduces your gardening costs but also encourages you to try a wide variety of plants without the financial burden.



INCLUDE

- plant name
- plant height
- growing conditions (full sun or partial shade) and
- flower colour if possible. 🌻 🌻

This will help our fellow growers see the final result.

TRADING

Trading seeds reduces the need to purchase new seeds every year, making it a budget-friendly way to grow your garden.

Happy Gardening and Trading
By Donna Cook

