



Carleton Place & District Horticultural Society

May 2025

President's Message

My message this month is to speak to importance of volunteerism in achieving the goals of our society and to the sense of purpose and fulfillment gained by participating. Beyond the activities themselves, our members are wonderful people to get to know. My personal thanks to our members who contribute so much of their time, energy and knowledge to meet our mission of investing in our community through horticultural programming, building a strong social network that provides our members and neighbors with opportunities to learn and engage in horticultural education, activities and fellowship.

CPDHS volunteers have been busy this spring accomplishing a long list of achievements and supporting a diversity of horticultural interests across all ages. Victoria School Garden volunteers are bringing our public gardens to life to provide our community with an accessible place of beauty and peace for another summer. Our Spring Plant Sale volunteers and donors are ramping up for our primary fundraiser on May 24th. A special new event for July will be announced at this meeting. None of these things happen without members who are willing to get involved and volunteer time and effort.

Tonight, one of our hardest working volunteers is being recognized with the Ontario Horticultural Association–Garden Ontario annual District Appreciation Award for outstanding contribution in innovation and volunteerism.

We all have busy lives, and plenty of personal tasks to look after. But if you are able to volunteer even a small amount of time and energy to a worthy cause it pays you back with meeting new and interesting people, skill development, mental and physical health, a sense of purpose and fulfillment, and a deeper connection to your community.

Happy gardening,
Rick Roberts, President

June 4th Meeting - Vines and Their Care



Our guest speaker, Mary Shearman Reid, will talk to us about growing and caring for vines including clematis. From teacher to banker to garden centre owner, Mary Shearman Reid for the past 20+ years finds herself at Green Thumb Garden Centre (SE of Merivale and Hunt Club off Bongard). Mary grew up in a family of gardeners, worked as a gardener during her summers at university, and tries to find time to garden at home. She uses those practical skills and knowledge as well as her business and retail skills at Green Thumb. Mary is a member of Landscape Ontario, a CLP (Certified Landscape Professional) and volunteers as a Master Gardener. Mary enjoys teaching for the local school boards, and speaking to garden clubs and horticultural societies.

CPDHS Winter Reading Book Club

Submitted by Irene Tobis, Director

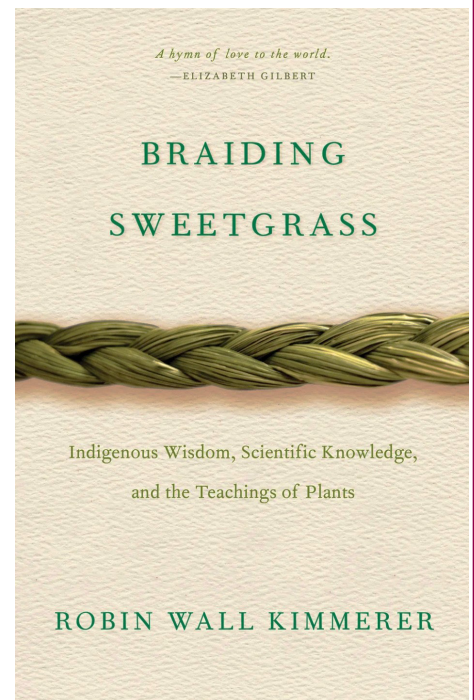
Our new Winter Reading Book Club met in March and April -- and thoroughly enjoyed both the book and the discussions. We all loved the book and highly recommend it for all to read.

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer is a poetic and thought-provoking blend of memoir, science, and Indigenous philosophy. Kimmerer, a botanist and member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, weaves together personal stories, ecological science, and Indigenous teachings to explore our relationship with the natural world.

Originally published in 2013, it was passed hand to hand and friend to friend, it landed on the New York Times bestseller list in 2020. Newsweek magazine recently honoured the author as one of the “100 Most Influential People of the Year”.

The book is organized into thematic sections—**Planting Sweetgrass, Tending, Picking, Braiding, and Burning Sweetgrass**—mirroring cycles of cultivation and connection. Through stories about plants such as sweetgrass, strawberries, and trees, she illustrates how the natural world offers not only material sustenance but also emotional, spiritual, and ethical guidance.

At its core, **Braiding Sweetgrass** is a call to reciprocity and gratitude. Kimmerer challenges Western ways of seeing nature as a resource to exploit and instead advocates for a relationship of mutual care and respect. She encourages readers to see the Earth as a generous giver of its gifts, and to act as honorable, responsible stewards in return.



CPDHS
participated
in the Town of
Carleton
Place's
Earthfest
May 3, 2025

Thank you to
all of our
members who
volunteered at
this event!



Flower Shows 101

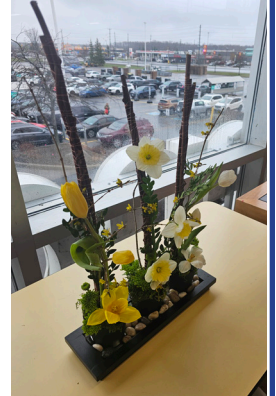
Participating in a Flower Show - Saturday, April 26, 2026 Workshop Recap



The second workshop, which was well attended, was a great success, that your demonstrations were outstanding and that the participants went away with knowledge and skills that we will look forward to seeing in the Spring and Summer Flower Shows.

CPDHS Summer Flower Show

This will take place on Saturday, July 5, 2025 at Zion Memorial United Church. It will be a great opportunity to show the public how creative our members are with flowers. See the Flower Show Schedule below.



Carleton Place and District Horticultural Society

SUMMER FLOWER SHOW

Saturday, July 5, 2025

Zion Memorial United Church

37 Franklin Street, Carleton Place, Ontario

Exhibits may be placed from 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

No entries will be accepted after 10:45 a.m.

Judging will take place from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Open to the public from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

All entries must be picked up by 4:30 p.m..

Entry tags will be available on the day of the Show, as well as at the June meeting.

RULES GOVERNING FLOWER SHOWS

General Rules

All exhibitors, except where expressly noted, must be current members of the Carleton Place and District Horticultural Society.

All entries must be labelled using entry tags provided by the Society.

The Flower Show Committee reserves the right to add, delete, or divide classes.

Care will be taken with the exhibitor's property, but the Society will not be responsible for any loss or damage.

The judge's decision is final. Judges may withhold an award if, in their opinion, the exhibit is not worthy.

Judging will be in accordance with the Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards for Horticultural and Design, Second Edition, 2019 (OJES), available from the show chair. Please refer to the OJES for information and definitions.

Rules for Horticultural Specimens

The exhibitor must have grown the horticultural specimens.

An exhibitor may enter a maximum of two entries in each of the specimen classes, provided that each entry is of a different cultivar.

Exhibitors will provide their own containers: clear, uncoloured glass for horticultural specimens is recommended.

For educational purposes, exhibitors are encouraged to name their specimens.

Houseplants must have been in the exhibitor's possession for at least 3 months.

Harmful, scarce, protected, or endangered plants must not be entered. Please refer to OJES, page 14.

Rules for Design Classes

Only one entry is permitted per class per exhibitor.

Novice Entries - members can show as a Novice for two years or until they win a red ribbon in the Novice category. They can enter the Open classes at any time, but cannot then return to Novice.

Fresh plant material may come from your garden or any other source.

Fruit, branches, and decorative wood may be used, and dried and/or treated material may be included. No artificial plant material is permitted.

Accessories are permitted unless otherwise noted.

Plants in soil are not permitted.

Exhibitors are responsible for the correct placement of their entries. Members of the Flower Show Committee will be available for assistance.

Youth categories are open to relatives of the Carleton Place and District Horticultural Society members and those who have attended CPDHS Young Gardeners Youth Workshops.

Awards

Entries earning First, Second, Third Place, and Honourable Mention will be recognized on entry tags.

Best in Show ribbons will be given for each division.

Additional ribbons may be given at the judge's discretion.

Annual awards will be presented at the Society's December meeting.

Points will be accrued as follows:

First Prize: 5 points **Second Prize:** 3 points **Third Prize:** 2 points

Honourable Mention: 1 point **Best in Show:** 5 points

Youth Awards

Entries earning First, Second, Third Place, and Honourable Mention will be recognized on entry tags.

Best in Show ribbons will be given for each division. Additional ribbons may be given at the judge's discretion.

DIVISION 1: HORTICULTURE

Section A: Summer Specimens

Class 1: Allium (Allium) - 1 stem

Class 2: Aquilegia (Columbine) - 1 stem

Class 3: Clematis (Clematis)- 1 stem

Class 4: Delphinium (Delphinium) - 1 stalk

Class 5: Dianthus (Pinks) - 3 stems

Class 6: Dicentra (Bleeding Heart) - 1 stem

Class 7: Heuchera (Coral Bells) - foliage, same cultivar, 3 stems

Class 8: Hosta (Hosta) leaves, mini (less than 6 sq. in.), same cultivar - 3 leaves

Class 9: Hosta (Hosta) leaves, solid colour, same cultivar - 3 leaves

Class 10: Hosta (Hosta) leaves, variegated, same cultivar - 3 leaves

Class 11: Collection of Hosta leaves, at least 5 different cultivars, named - 1 leaf of each in a single container

Class 12: Iris (Iris), bearded - 1 stalk

Class 13: Iris (Iris), beardless, e.g., Siberian, Japanese, or Spuria - 1 stalk

Class 14: Liliium (Lily) - 1 stem

Class 15: Lupinus (Lupine) - 1 stem

Class 16: Paeonia (Peony), single - 1 bloom

Class 17: Paeonia (Peony), double or semi-double - 1 bloom

Class 18: Rosa (Rose) - 1 specimen bloom

Class 19: Rosa (Rose) - 1 spray

Class 20: Rosa (Rose), miniature - 1 bloom or spray

Class 21: Rosa (Rose), selected for fragrance - 1 bloom floating in a bowl

Class 22: Any other perennial not listed above, named - 1 stem, spike, or spray

Class 23: Collection of perennials, at least 3 different cultivars, named - 1 stem of each in a single container

Class 24: Pelargonium (Geranium) - 1 stem

Class 25: Any other annual, named - 1 stem, spike, or spray

Class 26: Collection of annuals, at least 3 different cultivars, named - 1 stem of each in a single container

Section B: Edibles

Class 27: Collection of edibles, at least 3 different cultivars, named - displayed on a white dinner-sized plate (provided)

DIVISION 2: DESIGN

Theme: *Walking in a Summer Wonderland*

Designs will be staged on a white table covering and have an allotted space of 56 cm (22") in width unless stated otherwise.

Class 28: *Woodland Stroll* - a Landscape design

Class 29: *Small Wonders* - a Small design - will be displayed in a black niche, which is 25 cm x 25 cm (10" x 10"), Open Class

Class 30: *Small Wonders* - a Small design - will be displayed in a black niche, which is 25 cm x 25 cm (10" x 10"), Novice Class

Class 31: *Side by Side* - a Parallel design, Vegetative, Open Class

Class 32: *Side by Side* - a Parallel design, Vegetative, Novice Class

Class 33: *Summer Harmony* - a Design

Class 34: *Oh, Canada!* - a Design

DIVISION 3: YOUTH Ages 8 years and younger

All entries must be the sole work of the exhibitor. Assistance with things like cutting and tying is allowed. Designs will be staged on a white table covering unless otherwise stated.

Class 35: *Woodland Stroll* - a woodland scene/diorama in a box. Scene may include pictures on paper, cardboard, wood, dried plant material, seeds, cones, bark, small stones, etc. Suggested box size 28 cm by 36 cm (11" x 14").

Class 36: *Stop and Smell the Flowers* - a Bouquet in a jam jar

Class 37: *Blowing in the Wind* - a hanging mobile or wind chime. This design will be hung up. Focus is on using natural materials, e.g., sticks, cones, seed pods, bark, etc. You may Reuse and Recycle items to be added, e.g., scraps of yarn, string, or ribbon, beads, recycled caps and lids, shapes cut from cardboard, etc. Use your imagination!

DIVISION 4: YOUTH Ages 9 years and older

All entries must be the sole work of the exhibitor. Designs will be staged on a white table covering unless otherwise stated.

Class 38: *Woodland Stroll* - a woodland scene/diorama in a box. Scene may include pictures on paper, cardboard, wood, dried plant material, seeds, cones, bark, small stones, etc. Suggested box size 28 cm by 36 cm (11" x 14").

Class 39: *Stop and Smell the Flowers* - a Bouquet in a jam jar

Class 40: *Blowing in the Wind* - a hanging mobile or wind chime. This design will be hung up. Focus is on using natural materials, e.g., sticks, cones, seed pods, bark, etc. You may Reuse and Recycle items to be added, e.g., scraps of yarn, string, or ribbon, beads, recycled caps and lids, shapes cut from cardboard, etc. Use your imagination!

DIVISION 6: SPECIAL EXHIBITS

Class 41: *Deck Delight* - A number of compatible plants artistically grouped, by the exhibitor and growing in a single open container for indoor or outdoor use

Definitions

Design: A combination of fresh and/or dried plant materials, with or without other objects arranged to create an artistic unit. A design may include container(s), base (s), and/or accessories. The designer uses the elements of design: space, line, form, colour, texture and pattern in the accepted principles of design: balance, rhythm, proportion, scale, contrast and dominance to interpret the theme and/or class and create a design of harmony and distinction.

Landscape: A design capturing a moment from nature. It may be completely naturalistic with plant material organized as it grows, or stylized. The scale can be reduced, and plant material can be used to suggest a real scene, e.g., a branch can suggest a tree; moss can suggest a woodland.

Parallel: A design in which three or more groupings are placed in a parallel manner with open spaces between the groupings. The parallel directions may be vertical, horizontal or diagonal. The design is in one container or in containers combined so as to appear as one unit. There are two types of Parallel Design: Vegetative and Decorative.

Vegetative Parallel - A design of plant material shown as it grows in nature. Taller growing flowers are placed higher in the design and shorter growing ones are placed lower. There is no mixing of seasons. Plant material is not abstracted or manipulated. Any accessories used must be objects naturally found in an area where the plant material would grow, e.g., pebbles, sand.

Planter: A number of compatible plants artistically grouped, by the exhibitor and growing in a single open container for indoor or outdoor use, e.g., window boxes, urns, etc.

Small: A design from 14 cm to 25.4 cm (5.5" to 10") and which must not exceed 25.4 cm (10") in height, width, and depth, including any container, base, and/or accessories.

(Source: Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards, 2019)

2025 FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE

Doreen Harris, Barbara Fowler, Barb C., Valencia Logan, Heather Lebeau
If you have questions or would like to volunteer to help, please contact us.
Email: CPDHSflowers@gmail.com

Gardening for the Birds

By Dale Odorizzi, Lanark County Master Gardeners

A garden without birds is like a half-finished picture. Some people are gardeners who like to watch birds and others are Bird Watchers who garden to attract them--the end result is a garden with birds.

Like all of us, birds require:

- ▶ **Food** – Food for a diversity of wildlife can be provided through combinations of seed, nut or fruit producing trees, berry-producing shrubs, grasses and/or flowers. Consider food needs throughout the seasons.
- ▶ **Water** – If space limitations prohibit a pond, consider a bird bath or water bowl.
- ▶ **Shelter** – Providing evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs, snags (dead trees), brush piles, logs and rock piles gives wildlife protection from inclement weather and predators.
- ▶ **Space** – Birds view your property in three-dimensional terms. Including diverse layers of vegetation – tall and short trees, shrubs, wildflowers and ground cover – increases the “space” of your habitat.



Planting native plants attracts native insects which in turn attracts birds. We often think of birds as eating seeds, which they do or nectar which hummingbirds do BUT over 80% of a bird's diet is protein which comes from insects. Just like us, birds need protein for healthy bodies. When mother birds are pregnant and when the babies are growing, they need an incredible amount of protein which comes from insects. Aphids for example are a popular treat for nestlings. So, please stop spraying every insect you see. Insecticides are bad for birds.

Native trees and shrubs provide places for shelter and food. Conifers hold onto their cones to provide seeds year-round for our overwintering birds. They also attract insects that attract birds. Deciduous trees make excellent

nesting spots, and many provide seeds and attract insects and caterpillars. Maple, Oaks Cherry and Serviceberries are excellent choices.

There are many types of Viburnums but two of my favourites are the Arrowwood with its beautiful white flowers and small dark blue berries and the Nannyberry. Many, many varieties of birds flock to them.



Dogwoods are another wonderful shrub to attract birds. The Red Twigged Dogwood produces berries early in the season. The pagoda Dogwood has an interesting branching structure and berries that attract. However, the Grey Dogwood grows densely and produces an incredible amount of berries. Grey Dogwood produces their berries later in the season so they provide a dietary boost for migrating birds. We had families of Catbirds nesting in our Grey Dogwood (or as I like to call them, my Birdie Bed and Breakfast).



As well as planting trees and shrubs, there are many perennials that birds enjoy. Some just like the insects they find in your dense perennial gardens. Some love the seeds, especially seeds on perennials left on the plant over winter. Echinacea, Rudbeckia, Heliopsis, Coreopsis and Mulleins are just a few of the native perennials much loved by birds.

If you want to attract birds, earth friendly gardening is mandatory. This is really Bird friendly gardening. So, avoid herbicides, avoid pesticides and plant native plants.

Membership Benefit Horticultural Discounts

As a member of the Carleton Place and District Horticultural Society and upon presentation of your current year membership card, you will receive a discount on **PLANTS** only at the following Garden Centres (including Ottawa and surrounding areas).

Garden Centre	Discount
Budd Gardens 2832 Innes Road, Ottawa	10%
Gemmell's Garden Centre 11862 ON-15, Smiths Falls	10%
Green Thumb Garden Centre 17 Tristan Ct, Nepean	10%
Kiwi Gardens 687 Harper Rd, Perth	13%
Reid Gardens 142 Pick Rd, Carleton Place, ON	10%
Rideau Woodland Ramble 7210 Burritts Rapids Rd, Merrickville	10%
Stoneridge Gardens & Nursery 1851 Galbraith Rd, Clayton	10%
Whitehouse Perennials 594 Rae Rd, Almonte	10%

Note: Canadian Tire Garden Centre, Carleton Place usually gives 10% discount on plants only to CPDHS members upon presentation of their membership card.

These garden centres do not offer discounts to horticultural society members.

Carleton Place Nursery - they have their own points system

Peter Knippel Nursery & Garden Centre Inc

Ritchie Feed & Seed Inc.

When you are at a Garden Centre, anywhere in Ontario, all you have to do is ask if they offer a discount to OHA Horticultural Members upon presentation of their membership card. It never hurts to ask.

Laura Cupper
Membership Coordinator

CPDHS Spring Plant Sale

The Spring Plant Sale is on Saturday May 24th at Victoria School Garden. For our new members, VSG is the public garden that is designed, maintained and sponsored by our Society... (the grounds of the Carleton Place and Beckwith Museum).



We are in need of plant donations! As you are dividing or removing plants in your garden this weekend, please drop them off at Rick's place at 238 Lyndhurst Street, Carleton Place (corner of Lyndhurst and Mississippi Rd) for storage and potting up. Please put them near the garage doors or garden gate. If you need large pots to put your donations in, you can pick up large pots by the garden shed at Victoria School Garden.

Thank you.

This newsletter is published by the Carleton Place and District Horticultural Society and is distributed to its members free of charge.

We depend on our members for its content. If you would like to contribute, please send your submissions to: cphorticulture@gmail.com

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