

GREENLEAF

www.oshawagardenclub.ca

May 2020

From our President

Hi everyone,

Sherry, our Greenleaf Editor, is still out of the area and busy looking after her grandkids while her family is engaged in essential front-line services. Thanks to a great team here at the OGC board, we have put together a special issue of Greenleaf with lots of information to help you with your plant purchases and accessing other garden supplies.



The good news is that in spite of cooler weather this week, we have been blessed with some good weather for prepping our gardens for upcoming plantings. The other good news is that some restrictions are being changed to allow us to access what are now seen as essential services from garden centres and related services. Hopefully that guide below will help you to find what you need. The caution is that restrictions and guidelines continue to change almost weekly, so all of this is subject to change too. The Friends of Oshawa Garden Club Facebook page and our Oshawa Garden Club website are most likely to be some of the best places to access more current information.

All OGC membership meetings and activities remain suspended until further notice at this time. That now includes our annual Plant Sale, scheduled for May 30th. I am experimenting with resuming our OGC Board Meetings through the use of Zoom over the next few months. Times certainly are changing, and we appreciate your patience as we adapt to these new realities.

Despite all of this, this past week has been busy for me. I have been involved in conference calls and emails with the City of Oshawa and Parkwood to look at the resumption of some of our past projects in the community and to start some new ones. Guidelines are being received from local Health Departments to allow Community Gardens to re-open in a safe and controlled manner. In addition, the City of Oshawa will be converting some of their flower gardens around City Hall to Giving Gardens. The decorative gardens will now be used to grow vegetables to be shared with those in need through local food banks in coming months. The OGC has been asked to be one of several volunteer community groups to adopt one of these plots to establish and maintain these Giving Gardens. It is likely that we will be putting a call out for volunteers and donations of vegetable seedlings, fertilizers, etc. for this initiative in the coming weeks. Stay tuned for details.

The OGC will also be supporting a proposed Virtual Peony Festival that will feature videos of member peony gardens during June once final approval is received. If you have a notable peony garden that you would like to make available for filming, please let me know. All health

guidelines will be observed to keep this kind of filming safe. Stay tuned for further details as plans for this Virtual Peony Festival develop.

I am providing additional updates below. So, at this time I will simply say to you that the OGC is alive and well and we will be looking forward to resuming our horticultural pursuits as a club as soon as it is possible. The OHA Conference and AGM in London scheduled for July has now been cancelled as was the District 17 AGM in April. While I do not expect that our membership meetings will start again until at least September, I am hopeful that we may find additional activities such as local garden visits to keep you engaged over the summer as long as restrictions continue to be relaxed.

Stay Calm and Garden On! We are getting through this together.

Merle Cole

president@oshawagardenclub.ca

June Speaker – (While still on the books, it is not expected that this will take place)

Gardening with Emma - Emma Biggs

Emma is a 14-year-old gardener, who has written two books, has a radio show, and a blog. Her passion is tomatoes and she has grown over 100 varieties. Check out what Emma brings to the table in a big way at her website emmabiggs.ca

I had the pleasure of hearing Emma being interviewed on a CBC morning radio show about a week ago and was impressed by her passion for gardening, especially vegetable gardening and her knowledge and willingness to experiment. If we are unable to hear Emma in June, she will certainly be on our recall list for the coming year.



The Parkwood Project

For those of you who have been volunteers with this project, we ask you to be patient as we wait for a new plan to be developed to bring you back to Parkwood to maintain the work done last year and prepare for the next phase. Hopefully we will be able to get small groups back to work soon in a way that is safe and controlled. Over the winter the old cedar hedge on the west side of the tennis courts was removed and a crew was on site last week to remove the remaining roots in preparation for further work on the gardens to fill the sizable gap left by that hedge.



Member Sources and Resources



Special Announcement – Witzke’s Greenhouses has increased the discount for Oshawa Garden Club member plant purchases to 20% (from 10%).

We are also making arrangements for a dedicated Oshawa Garden Club access evening in May to the Witzke Greenhouses so you can shop in a more relaxing environment. More details to come soon!

Area Nurseries offering Discounts for Oshawa Garden Club members – you must show your membership card to receive the discount. All nurseries have implemented appropriate social distancing measures.

Century Home & Garden , 1131 Hwy 7A, Port Perry L9L 1B5 905-985-2672 info@centurygreenhouses.com www.centurygreenhouses.com
Country Market & Garden , 2535 Taunton Rd E, Bowmanville, ON L1C 3K2 905-263-2090 www.countrymarketandgardencentre.com
Crooked Creek Garden Centre , 4480 Concession Rd 4, Newtonville, ON L0A 1J0, 905-786-2212 naturenuts1@hotmail.com www.crookedcreekgardencentre.ca
J. Kamstra Landscaping , 1460 Taunton Rd E, Oshawa, ON , L1H 8L7 905-579-5571 www.kamstralandscaping.ca
Kingsway Greenhouse , 1156 King St E, Oshawa, ON L1H 2H5 905-434-3851 info@kingswaygreenhouse.com www.kingswaygreenhouse.ca
Rekker's Garden Centre , 2258 Hwy 2, R.R.#6 , Bowmanville, ON L1C 3K7 905-623-2300 mailbox@rekkers.com www.rekkers.com
Van Belle Nursery , Hwy #2, Bowmanville, ON L1C 6E3 905-623-4441 sales@vanbelleflowers.com https://vanbelleflowers.com/plants-garden-centre/
Vandermeer Nursery & Garden Centre , 588 Lake Ridge Rd S, Ajax, ON L1Z 1X3 905-427-2525 info@vandermeernursery.com www.vandermeernursery.com
Witzke's Greenhouses Ltd. 1621 Pebblestone Rd, Courtice, ON L1E 2H1 905-436-9204 wgh@witskesgreenhouses.ca www.witzkesgreenhouses.ca

Nurseries further afar/Specialty Outlets (discounts do not apply)

- Gardens Plus, Peterborough www.gardensplus.ca – easy care perennials
- Valleyview Gardens, 8636 Reesor Road, Markham, info@valleyviewgardens.com – nursery and tropicals
- Robert Young, younglansing@yahoo.ca ; 905-571-4833 located in Oshawa – Dahlia tubers

Soils and Mulch by the yard/delivery

- Pick a Mix, Mount Albert – www.picamix.ca – delivery to Oshawa area weekly
- Arnts – 4105 Lakeridge Rd., Whitby www.arnts.ca
- Kamstra Landscaping – www.kamstralandscaping.ca

Decorative Garden Ironworks

- Eastcliffe Farm – plant supports, trellis and arbours – www.Eastcliffefarms.ca

Websites of Interest

<https://oshawagardenclub.ca>
<https://gardenontario.org/>
<https://thefabulousgarden.com/>
<https://www.provenwinners.com/>
www.diggitgardens.com

If you have other great sources and resources to share with your OGC friends, please let us know by emailing Judy Jaeger jaegerj080@gmail.com . Provide contact information and specialty of the business or website.

Just remember to stay safe and keep a safe social distance and wash your hands after any outside contact.

[More resources on-line](#)

FRIENDS OF THE OSHAWA GARDEN CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE

We now have over 340 members on this page

[OGC on Facebook.](#) Click

[Visits to Jill's Garden](#) Click

Oshawa Garden Club Memberships

Just a reminder that if you have not renewed your membership for this year you should still do so as we rely on our membership fees for our funding.

Encourage your family and friends to join on-line as well to gain the benefit of our member discounts at many, many local garden centres. Discounts now range from 10 to 20% at our partner locations.

Access on-line renewals and memberships at **[OGC Membership](#)**

