

The Greenleaf Newsletter

Oshawa Garden Club



July/August
2026

Contents

President's Message ..	2
Lifetime Memberships Awarded	3
Upcoming Meetings and Events:	3
Giving Gardens Update	4
OGC Annual Plant Sale	6
22 nd Annual Peony Festival	7
Hiring an Arborist	9
Hearth Place	10

Cover photo by Cecile
Willert

Submission deadline
for September /
October newsletter:
August 15



The Oshawa Garden Club
(OGC) is an active
member of District 17 of
the Ontario Horticultural
Association (OHA)



President's Message

I hear we are in for a long hot summer with lots of rain and thunderstorms.

While we may not have to water as much, organic mulch will keep the soil cool and block evaporation. Prioritize continuous weeding, especially those invasives, so they don't steal resources from the plants you paid for and planted! For drought tolerant perennials, in case the wet forecast is wrong, natives are the way to go. I trust you bought some at our Plant Sale. Pests! Hand pick or blast with water and avoid using chemical treatments.

June was a busy month for the Club with the Peony Festival, two Sharing Gardens, the Strawberry Social and Ingrid Janssen speaking on *Passionate about Peonies*. It was great seeing everyone, socializing, exchanging ideas, recruiting new members and finally enjoying some warm weather.

We will keep in touch through the summer with our Sharing Gardens and the OHA convention (July 24-26) and meet back again in September to hear Lorraine Johnson speak on Climate Change and the Garden.

Enjoy the fruits of your labours!

Let's stay connected,

Rose Mary Mason

president@oshawagardenclub.ca



The Greenleaf Newsletter

Oshawa Garden Club

The Greenleaf is a newsletter of the Oshawa Garden Club.

President:

Rose Mary Mason

Newsletter Editor:

Cecile Willert

Regular meetings:

38 Lviv Blvd, Oshawa

Doors open at 7:00 pm

Meetings start 7:30 pm

Winter meetings on

Zoom (Jan/Feb/Mar)

E-mail address:

info@oshawagardenclub.ca

Web address:

oshawagardenclub.ca

Facebook:

"Friends of the

Oshawa Garden Club"



Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Blooming Boulevards Webinars

Saturdays 10:00 a.m.

<https://www.bloomingboulevards.org/book-online>

August 22: Understanding your Soil

September 5: Four Season Beauty and Biodiversity

Robert McLaughlin Gallerty (RMG) Garden Party

Sunday August 9, 2026, 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM

A day of art, nature, live music, planting, pollinators, and community connection.

Activities will be hosted by Oshawa Garden Club, who have also planted beautiful planters throughout the Backyard, including a sensory garden for visitors to explore. Guests can learn about native plants, pollinator habitats, and garden care while enjoying hands-on creative activities, artwork, and a magic kaleidoscope.

Two David Suzuki Butterflyway Rangers will be on site to answer questions about pollinator habitats, native plants, and nature-based community action.

Bring your own lawn chair.

OGC Meeting, Monday September 14, **Climate Change and the Garden**, 7:30 p.m. at LVIV Hall.

Presenter Lorraine Johnson

OGC Meeting, Monday October 19, **Hydrangeas**, 7:30 p.m. at LVIV Hall. Presenters Gini Sage and Karen Durnin, Durham Master Gardeners

Lifetime Memberships Awarded

At our June meeting, Lifetime Memberships were awarded to Debi Foster, Robin Burns and Merle Cole for their many years of service to our Club. Congratulations!



Photo by Patti Becker

Giving Gardens Update

By Alma-Jane MacLean

The cool start to our garden season at the Oshawa Garden Club's Giving Garden has significantly impacted the growth of our vegetables and appearance of pollinators. We have been able to harvest peas, some broccolini, green onions and kale, as well as Chinese cabbage.

One of our fellow community gardeners donated her week's harvest of snow peas! Thank you, Wendy!

Cute little bunnies 🐰 are wreaking havoc on our community garden crops, especially our beans. They have mowed them down to the ground. We keep finding spots where they gain access; they don't need much room.



Gord shoeing what is left of our beans. They were doing well until Peter Rabbit and his friends arrived.



Alma-Jane, Chris, Gord, Ron and Lori with a small crop, but it will be yummy: sugar snap peas and broccolini.



It is difficult to see under the netting but the cabbages are now heading up, Alison checking them and our zucchini plants. They are late but will hopefully be a good crop.

Giving Gardens Update (continued)



Chris, Alma-Jane and Lori with our July 3rd crop of kale, Swiss Chard, green onions, snow peas and dome broccolini. Ron was behind the camera.



Our eggplants are flowering well. If we get enough pollinators we should get a good crop of eggplants.



Garlic is just about ready to harvest. The tomatoes are doing great, as are the potatoes.

OGC Annual Plant Sale

By Carmen Lint

A HUGE thank you to all our incredible volunteers who braved the weather today to assist with the OGC Plant Sale! 🌧️🌱

To everyone who stepped out in the rain to support the Oshawa Garden Club, thank you so much. Your dedication keeps our community growing! 💚

We also want to extend our gratitude to our amazing community partners. A special shout-out goes to the GL Roberts Horticulture Program for teaming up with us and selling your beautiful pelargoniums and vegetables! 🌸🥬

Here's to hoping the weather cooperates next year! ☀️👍

See you next year!

Happy Gardening!



22nd Annual Peony Festival

By Rose Mary Mason

This year's event was held June 6 & 7. Saturday started off damp and ended up quite windy with lower than average attendance as the result (even with 26 full tour buses). Sunday was a beautiful day and visitors from around the globe arrived in a steady stream.

Oshawa Garden Club volunteers were out in force with an information booth staffed by Sailu, Lidia, Patti, Michelle, Cecile, Jaki and Catherine. It was shared with Butterfly Rangers Ann and Judy. Also wearing two hats, Carmen and Ingrid were at the Durham Master Gardeners booth while Rose Mary, Ingrid and Debi assisted with the Canadian Peony Society judged peony show in the arena.

The Oshawa Garden Club Tree Peony Trophy was awarded to "Anna Marie" from the Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens and the Grand Champion was "Salmon Chiffon", also from the OVBG.

Last but not least, Debi Foster's interpretation of "All by Myself" won Best Design!



Sailu and Patti
Photo by Rose Mary Mason



Carmen
Photo by Rose Mary Mason



"Anna Marie" Best Tree Peony
Photo by Rose Mary Mason

22nd Annual Peony Festival Continued



Cecile and Michelle
Photo by Rose Mary Mason



Debi Best Design
Photo by Rose Mary Mason



Photo by Cecile Willert



"Salmon Chiffon" Grand Champion
Photo by Rose Mary Mason

Hiring an Arborist



Hiring An Arborist

When hiring a contractor to perform tree care or service on your property there are important issues you should consider:

- Arboriculture is the profession of tree care & service:
- Arboriculture is a highly technical profession:
- Arboriculture can be dangerous and can include many life threatening hazards:
- Unlike Electricians or Plumbers, Arboriculture is not a regulated trade in Ontario:
- Property owners need to ensure their Arboricultural contractor has the skill and knowledge to safely perform tree care or service.

When hiring an Arborist here is a list of things you can ask for:

- Liability Insurance
- Worker Disability Insurance (or WSIB)
- Professional Credentials
- Professional affiliations
- Testimonials

This brochure provides information to help property owners or managers to protect themselves, their property and workers from accident.



Hiring An Arborist

Here are some of the credentials that may help to ensure competency in Arboriculture.

International Society of Arboriculture:

- ISA Board Certified Master Arborist®
- ISA Certified Arborist®
- ISA Certified Tree Climber™
- ISA Utility Specialist™
- ISA Urban Forest Professional®
- ISA TRAQ (Tree Risk Assessment Qualification)

You can verify credentials by name or ISA# at treesaregood.com

College or Diploma Programs:

- Humber College, Sir Sanford Fleming College, Algonquin College, Niagara College

Ontario College of Trades:

- Arborist Apprenticeship Program 444A
- Utility Arborist Apprenticeship Program 444B



ISA, Ontario Chapter
Tel: (416)493-7022

Toll Free:
1-888-463-2316

www.isaontario.com



Reprinted with permission of ISA Ontario.

<https://www.isaontario.com/hire-a-certified-arborist/>



Daylily by Rose Mary Mason



Carpenter Bee on Smooth Hydrangea
Photo by Rose Mary Mason

Hearth Place

By Jill Snape

On June 12th, OGC volunteers planted donated hostas at Hearth Place. Thank you to those who donated the plants as well as the volunteers.

