



# Streetsville Blooms

Streetsville Horticultural Society

*Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association*

[www.streetsvillehort.ca](http://www.streetsvillehort.ca)



Volume 29, Issue 8

April 2022



**Next Meeting**  
**April 12th, 2022**  
**Streetsville United Church**  
**274 Queen Street South**  
**Doors open at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Meeting starts 7:30pm**

## Co-President's Message

Hi everyone, is spring just around the corner? I see a very few crocuses blooming in my garden, and lots of daffodils and tulips peeking out of the soil. The grackles, red winged blackbirds and robins are back. It will soon be time to start annual and vegetable seeds for your garden.

If you are interested in something different as a seed growing project, I hand pollinated some of the amaryllis blooms on plants that I grew this winter, and now have several dozen seeds pods. I will bring the seeds to our April meeting and growing information.

## Coming Events

The Ontario Horticultural Association is hosting an Earth Day Celebration on April 22nd at 7 pm via WebEx. Webex Login information will be shared with all Societies/Clubs on April 15th! This talk will not be recorded, so don't miss out!!

You are invited to celebrate the splendor, beauty & diversity of our planet & spread an environmental message on Earth Day.

The presentations will be:

- An Introduction to Agra-Wool - a natural floral foam option
- Easy DIY Floral Design by Rose Odell
- Special Guest Speaker, Sean James on "Soil, and the things living in it"

Sean James was named by Landscape Ontario as 2020 and 2021's Garden Communicator of the Year. Gardening has been Sean James' hobby and profession for almost 40 years. A graduate of Niagara Parks School of



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Horticulture, a Master Gardener, writer, and teacher, Sean focuses on eco-gardening techniques, which makes sense since he grew up surrounded by nature near Crawford Lake in Campbellville.

All SHS Members are welcome to join us, however it will be a first come, first served basis on the WebEx account. Registration will not be required. Share your love for nature with fellow nature lovers this Earth Day by joining us!

The District 15 AGM will be held on April 30, 2022, via Zoom at 2:00 pm, more information will be available soon.

## June Events

The Streetsville Bread and Honey festival will be a one-day event held from 9am to 6pm on Saturday June 4th, 2022. We have contacted the organizers as we would like to have a booth to promote Streetsville Hort, we have not yet received a reply. If we are approved as participants, we will need volunteers to staff our booth, time needed 1-3 hours per shift, please contact a Board member to volunteer.



Ursula Evanoff discovered television a program that SHS members may be interested in. It is on Sunday at 3:30 pm on ONE Tv on Bell and ONE TV on Rogers – (it is channel # 265 on Rogers) It is called “AGELESS GARDENS”. She says it is so interesting and informative with different topics every week, I enjoy it every time I watch it.

☞ Carol and Monica

## THE REFRESHMENT TABLE

A very special thank you to Marg Rowan and Maureen Dodd for arriving early to help me set up the refreshment table and thank you to those who stayed to help clean up. If this was you, don't forget to include this time in your volunteer hours.

Thank you to all who contributed to the refreshment table goodies, this is also additional volunteer hours. The next meeting, we will have a sign-up sheet for goodie contributors, for the May/June meetings. If you would like to contribute to the April meeting, please contact me to let me know. Please remember to bring your own



Styrofoam cups are getting low.



Lug-A-Mug. ☞ Martha J. Witney



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## Membership Desk

March saw our membership grow to 81, as 3 people renewed at the in-person meeting, and we welcomed new members Grant and Carol Brooks. Thank you to Belynda, Sandra, and Faulene who volunteered to help as "Greeters" at the Membership table. The role entails welcoming new members, answering questions, showing them around the venue, and sitting together during the meeting. ✂ **Shelley Dodd**

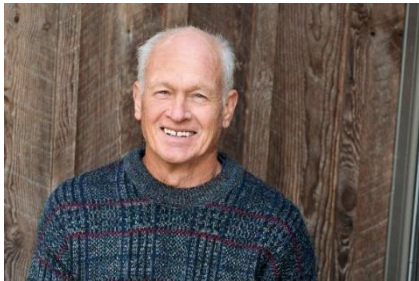
## Rotary Park

Our Spring clean-up is on Thursday April 21st, starting at 9.30am. This will include picking up any garbage, leaves that the City didn't take away, cutting back grasses and any dead material and discussing plans for the coming season.

We would love to see you there, especially if you've never volunteered there before. We are just North of the library and the Tim Hortons on Queen Street in Streetsville. We think it's a great place to do some gardening. ✂ **Jon Eldridge**

## Speaker of the month

"How to create a naturalized woodland garden in an urban setting" by Martin Ford a third-generation horticulturist from the UK. He was raised on a 100-acre market garden in Wales and a citrus/kiwi/peach orchard in New Zealand. He trained in Britain as an arborist, felling large Elms during the height of the Dutch Elm disease.



After working at Wisley Gardens in London he immigrated to Canada. In his new environment he came to understand the impact of climate on horticultural practices brought over from Britain and recognized the need to adapt these practices to the climate extremes of Ontario.

Martin has worked in the horticultural and landscape industry throughout his life while also teaching Landscape Management and Arboriculture at Guelph University.

At our last meeting Jeanne McRight gave a talk on Blooming Boulevards, which was well received. She sent us a link that provides more information on her organization and even if you don't plan to have a blooming boulevard, it's worth looking at for lists of shade loving and sun loving native plants, among other things.

<http://www.bloomingboulevards.org/services-7>. ✂ **Jon Eldridge**



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## LITTER PICK UP - LESLIE LOG HOUSE

4415 Mississauga Road

**SATURDAY, APRIL 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 a.m.**

Winter is finally over, and the snow has been replaced with litter at the Log House and surrounding Pinchin property, especially along the edge of Mississauga Road.

We will be holding a garbage pickup at the Leslie Log House on Saturday, April 23rd at 9:30 a.m. Rain Date: Sunday, April 24th. Bring boots (if the ground is still soggy) and gloves! Garbage bags will be provided. See you there! ✂ Carol Ashford, Leslie Log Chair.

## Sightings at the Leslie Log House

Clockwise: Male House Finch, Coyote, Red Bellied Woodpecker, Mockingbird. Center: Red Tailed Hawk.



Photos by Carol Ashford





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## Plant Sale 2022

Our Plant Sale will be held at the Leslie Log House on **Saturday May 28, 2022**, the weekend after the Victoria Day holiday.

For those of you who are new members and as a reminder for our veteran members. **We need every member to make this sale successful! The plant sale is also a wonderful opportunity to get to know other SHS members.** We need your time, and we need your plants.

The plant sale is SHS's biggest fundraiser of the year; it pays for Speakers, Meeting space rent, Premiums, Community planting and Judges for the Flower Show. Plus, it allows us to keep our membership cost affordable. Our goal is to meet or exceed the \$7,000 we raised in 2018.

There are many opportunities for volunteers. Over the next few weeks, we will be looking for recruits. Think about what you can do to help. Our activities start in mid-April.

In 2019, 47 volunteers donated a total of 744.75 hours.

**What do we need?** We need plants and we need your time. What can you do? Go through your garden pictures and see if there are plants you do not want, or plants (especially hostas) that are so big they need to be split or if you are still waiting for that special plant to earn its keep, maybe it needs a new home!

As your garden comes to life take note of which plants have grown far too big over the past 2 years. Then in late April to early May dig the plants up and split them, or you can carve a section off the main part of the plant.

This year we are asking that the soil around donated plants be examined carefully for Asian Jumping worms, they look a lot like large ordinary earthworms, they live just under the soil surface and will jump and squirm when disturbed. For more information please see: <https://haltonmastergardeners.com/2021/10/07/jumping-worms-are-here/>

When your plants have been dug up, place them in plastic grocery bags and remember to include (in a zip lock bag or similar) a note with the name of the plant flower colour, and other information if known such as height and sun requirement.

You can bring your plant donations to Pengilley's on potting days only, if that is not convenient you can drop off plant donations at these locations.





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Carol Ashford	1750 Melody Drive, Streetsville
Monica Ross	6978 Chilcot Court, Meadowvale
Dean Scully	6592 Eastridge Road, Meadowvale
Janice Ward	3157 Alfresco Terrace, Meadowvale
Mary Ann Brown	29 Alphonse Cres, Streetsville

We want left over clean plastic pots, standard 1 litre pots or 6 inches wide not smaller and plant trays that are cluttering up your sheds and garages. Please bring them to the April meeting.

We also want what you don't want! If you have old garden ornaments you no longer want in your garden such as planters, signs, lanterns, statues, birdhouses, feeders, etc. Most of these items will be sold at low prices as is, depending on the condition of the items some will be 'free to a good home'.

## Volunteer activities

Sign up sheets will be available at the April general meeting.

Some of our members are not able to dig up plants and volunteers will be needed to dig up plants for those who can't.

We have a substantial number of pots collected for the 2020 plant sale, they are stored at the Leslie Log House, they have to be moved from the LLH to Pengilley's nursery in Churchville before we can start to pot plants.

Potting plants, making labels, labeling, moving plants from Pengilley's to plant sitters' homes.

Caring for plants after they are potted up until the plant sale, soliciting donations from local nurseries and garden centres, collecting plastic trays and cardboard boxes for customer's use, distributing signs and flyers, publicity, running the raffle table, crafting speciality items for sale and for the raffle table.



< This was a homeless chair found on the side of the road! Now painted and a hole cut in the seat with a planted pot in the hole.

This was an old laundry basket>





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On May 27th or May 28th, transporting potted plants from the plant sitters' homes to the plant sale location. May 28th Sale day: set up starts at 6.30 am, sale starts 8.30 am, clean up after the sale 2.30 pm, providing refreshments for volunteers, cashiers, sales staff, parking directors and more.

Plant potting is done at Pengilley's nursery in Churchville, off Mississauga Rd, just north of the 401, usually on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays starting the last week of April and continues until 10 days before the sale. You do not have to attend all sessions, or stay for the whole time, finish time is when we run out of plants to pot or about 12.30-1pm.



**Directions to Pengilley's;** North on Erin Mills Pkwy, over 401 and 407.

Turn first right on Hallstone Road, pass through one roundabout and take Hallstone to end.

Turn left on Creditview Road to stop sign, then Stay to the right (Churchville Road) and cross the single lane bridge over Credit River.

7767 Churchville Road is on the right before you go up the hill or you can turn right onto Church Street directly after the bridge, drive to end, turn left onto Victoria Street, drive to the end of the road, Pengilley's nursery is on the left at the end of the road.

## Planned potting days

## Start Time

Wednesday April 27	Potting Plants	9.30 a.m.
Saturday April 30	Potting Plants	9.30 a.m.
Sunday May 1	Potting Plants	10 a.m.
Wednesday May 4	Potting Plants	9.30 a.m.
Saturday May 7	Potting Plants	9.30 a.m.
Sunday May 8	Potting Plants	10 a.m.
Wednesday May 11	Potting Plants	9.30 a.m.
Saturday May 14	Potting Plants	9.30 a.m.
Sunday May 15	Potting Plants	10 a.m.
Wednesday May 18	Potting Plants	9.30 a.m.

Bring plants, trowel, clippers, gloves, a hat, a bottle of water, perhaps a snack and lots of energy. If the weather is wet, unseasonably cold and unpleasant, we pot in the greenhouse.

**Plant Sale Chairs; Monica Ross, and Carol Ashford, Plant Sale Expert Extraordinaire**





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## BLAST FROM THE PAST - APRIL 1999

### SPRING CLEANING YOUR GARDEN

Neighbourhoods come alive on that first balmy day of spring when winter-weary gardeners can finally work outside, eagerly anticipating the promise of spring. Here are a few reminders for those of you anxious to get cracking on your garden this year.

- Clean up the fallen twigs and prune branches damaged by winter storms.
- Rake up thatch and dead grass from your lawn.
- Fertilize your grass with a good quality lawn fertilizer. This will help clear up any snow mould lingering on the grass and supply a boost of nutrients to get the turf grass plants off to a good start this season.
- Remove winter wrap from evergreens and tender shrubs such as rhododendrons or azaleas.
- Cut back the dead stalks of perennials and ornamental grasses.
- Remove the winter protection from rose bushes and prune out the dead and spindly wood. Cut the remaining canes back so each has 3 - 5 buds left.
- Prune summer flowering shrubs such as Rose of Sharon, butterfly bush and hydrangeas. Now is NOT the time to prune spring flowering shrubs like spirea, forsythia, viburnum or Japanese Kerria, as you will cut all the flower buds off.
- Remove small weeds from your perennial and shrub borders before they get to be a bigger problem.
- Turn your compost heap start it working after winter dormancy.
- Put a neat edge on all your flower beds.

### APRIL - Week By Week

**Week 1** - Outdoors: After snow melts, loosen the soil and add compost. Plant onion sets, Swiss Chard, spinach, peas. If Sweet Peas not started indoors, plant in rich soil in a sunny location near fence for climbing. Divide rhubarb. Save extras in pots for plant sale.

Indoors: sow Cosmos, Cleome, Lavatera and Tomatoes.

**Week 2** - Outdoors: Sow grass seed on bare spots. Cover with one inch top soil and compost. Plant pansies in containers, window boxes. Transplant your started Begonias and Dahlias into 3 inch pots indoors.

**Week 3** - Outdoors: Sow day lilies, leaf lettuce, romaine, leeks. Prepare window box containers with soil. (1 part potting mix, 1 part soilless mix (plant starter) 777 Fertilizer granules). For new containers make sure there are drainage holes. Transplant lettuce and parsley if started indoors. Prune roses (not climbers) back to 3- 4 buds.

**Week 4** -Put up stakes for tomatoes to avoid disturbing roots later. If rose shoots are 4 inches apply insecticidal soap and sulphur every 2 weeks to protect against aphids, mildew and insects. This week perennials should be divided and bagged for plant sale.

Mary Gilbert

**BOUQUETS TO:** Sue Flack and Jean Kennedy for the delicious refreshments at our March meeting.

To: Irene Murdoch, Ethel Glover, Monika Sitar, Enza Lafratta, Christiane St. Aubin, Jean Innes, Bill & Lil Duke, Flora Boffin and Patricia Mann for volunteering to deliver newsletters.

To: Monika Schouten for continuing to donate prizes to our door prize table.

THANKS A BUNCH!!To: all those people who stayed to help put the chairs back





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## Native Corner; Bitternut Hickory – *Carya cordiformis*



Bitternut Hickory got its Latin name (*cordiformis*) from its heart-shaped nuts, and its common name from their bitterness. They are so bitter that only a squirrel will eat them. But that little “tree rat” (as some people uncharitably think of squirrels that nibble on their favorite tulips) is the linchpin to keeping the Northern Forest alive and healthy. It is hard to think of the squirrel as a noble creature (especially when it digs up my new seedlings), but it does perform a vital function in the forest: it eats three out of four nuts and buries the fourth, usually in a place it's most likely to sprout. Despite this acrid flavor, the early settlers used to express an oil from the nut, which they used as a remedy for rheumatism; They even burned the oil in their crude lamps. And, since this tree, like all its genus, has wood with resolutely shock-resistant qualities, they used it for striking tools and agricultural implements, for hoops and wagon parts.

*Carya cordiformis* grows up to 100 feet high with a fine straight trunk 2 or 3 feet thick and stout spreading or ascending branches that form a

handsome dome-like head. Even when the tree stands bare, its numberless twigs, unusually fine and slender for a Hickory, etch a delicate pattern against the snow-filled winter skies. When young, it has slate gray to light brown smooth bark which becomes fissured with age. The alternate, compound leaves, composed of seven to nine leaflets, are 6 to 10 inches long. In spring, the emerging leaflets are shiny green on top and slightly pale and hairy underneath. As they twist and turn in the wind, they change the entire look of the tree. This tree is monoecious with male and female catkins on the same tree.



The wood isn't as hard as Shagbark or Pignut Hickory, but it is quicker growing though much shorter-lived at 200 years. Its main claim to fame is its popularity as the finest Hickory for smoking food. The Cherokee knew this and used the wood ash along with salt and pepper to cure pork. The ash was also used to make lye. Settlers used Bitternut Hickory oil to light their lamps, and even today people make hickory bark torches because of their intense flame and small amount of ash. Benjamin Pressley of Stanley, North Carolina, writes “I have seen this torch burn for as long as two hours. This torch is a combination of green and dry strips of hickory bark and a core of



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an easily combustible material that keeps a constant strips of hickory bark and a core of an easily combustible material that keeps a constant supply of tinder furnished to the torch.”

I hope to see you out and about exploring! Happy spotting! As always, never dig up plants from the wild, and don't buy from nurseries that do. **Heather Marchment**

## Native plant sales

Planting weather is just around the corner and what better way to add to your garden, then to plant native! The North American Native Plant Society's annual plant sale is quickly approaching. They're having three sales this year – 2 virtual and 1 in person. The in-person one is by far my favourite – it's filled with lots of vendors, tons of like-minded people, reasonable prices, and you're certain to find a plant appropriate for your garden. The in-person sale is on May 14, at the Toronto Botanical Gardens from 930am to 230pm. You can find out more about the virtual plant sales and any other info you could possibly want on native plants on their website [www.nanps.org](http://www.nanps.org).

**Heather Marchment**

Congratulations to Monika Schouten, Winner, Class 1 - Group of Spring Flowers Grown from Bulbs.

Shelley Dodd Winner Class 2-Baby it's Cold Out and Shirley Boyes Winner Class 3 - Yellow

For their “red ribbon” entries in the Spring Photo Contest!







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## Beaver Activity at Osprey Marsh



The beavers live in the ponds behind my home, part of the Osprey marsh and are chewing a large quantity of trees.

✂ Steve Fenech





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## Tip Of the Month



Plant seeds in recycled household items instead of store-bought plastic trays, soil blocks or pots.

Instead of wasting money and creating more trash you can make your own seeds pots using old milk or juice cartons; Egg Cartons, since they are bio-degradable and compostable, they along with the seedling can be transferred right into the ground/soil/pot and Paper Rolls from toilet paper.

# Welcome to Spring!

# Are you ready?

