



Streetsville Blooms

Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association



Volume 33, Issue 8

www.streetsvillehort.ca

April 2026

Next Meeting

Tuesday, April 14th, 2026

Streetsville United Church
in Heritage Hall
274 Queen Street South
Set Up at 6:30 p.m.

Doors open at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

Speaker: Kiki Alwan

Topic: Terrariums - Miniature
Gardens Under Glass



Image courtesy of Shelley Dodd

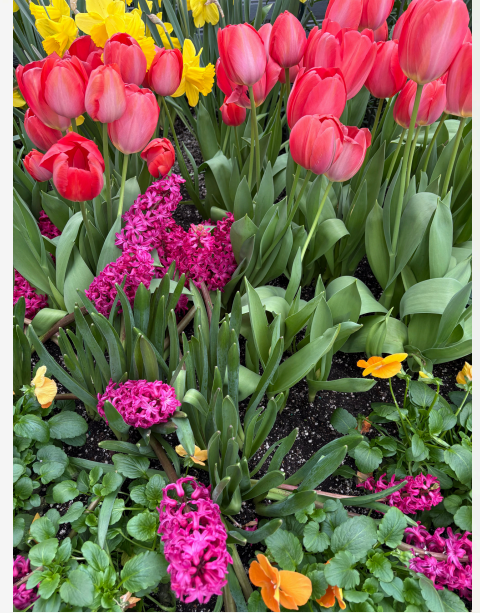


Image courtesy of Shelley Dodd



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Director's Message

Spring has arrived and our gardens are beginning to wake up, whether it be the bulbs and snowdrops poking through the earth or hellebore blooming.

Our March meeting was buzzing with activity as members signed up to help with the plant sale, purchased worm castings, perused and voted on the photo contest entries, and sampled the delicious member-provided snacks. The wide variety and vegetarian options meant there was something for everyone to enjoy!

Herbalist Susan Elliotson spoke about plants such as Feverfew, Anise Hyssop, Calendula, and Monarda which have medicinal benefits and shared her tea blends with members at the conclusion of her presentation.



This year's Communities in Bloom (CIB) theme is "Therapeutic Gardening" which is using your five senses when working in the garden to heal, relax, and enjoy. Gardeners understand this magic from the first seeds sprouting, fragrant lilacs blooming, through to harvesting delicious edibles. The Landscape Ontario article "The Therapeutic Value of Horticulture", is a great read. <https://landscapeontario.com/the-therapeutic-value-of-horticulture/>



Image from communitiesinbloom.ca

We have many activities happening this month. To commemorate Earth Day, we will be having our annual clean-up of the Leslie Log House property and Rotary and Jon Clipperton Parks. Our April meeting will feature guest speaker Kiki Alwan who will be discussing "Terrariums-Miniature Gardens Under Glass". Worm castings which have been purchased before April 7 th will be available for pick-up from the church parking lot. Digging up plants and potting up will begin for the May 23 rd plant sale.

Volunteers are desperately needed! We want to welcome Manish as our newsletter editor this month. We appreciate him taking on this important task that keeps us all informed about society activities and know that his expertise will shine through!

We are still looking for someone to take over the role of Publicity Chair, become a Director who participates in the monthly board meetings, and maintain our website. Now is a great time to try a role, as there are only 3 more meetings before the break for summer.

We are looking forward to a very busy Spring, and we encourage you to help wherever you can.

Shelley Dodd

April Speaker - Kiki Alwan

Terrariums – Miniature Gardens Under Glass

Kiki Alwan is a lifelong horticulturist, garden designer, constant explorer, and beekeeper, with an affinity for tropical plants and a keen eye for moss.

Her curiosity for the Earth and its interconnected place within our lives is what fuels her fascination for gardening. She is an active member of the Master Gardeners of Ontario and multiple horticultural societies. Kiki seeks ways to make gardening accessible and to engage people in her love of “soul-to-soil.”

She conducts workshops; teaching practical, science-based techniques in plant care, propagation, and building terrariums as a way to bring the endless forest indoors.



Image from Canva

Rotary Park and Jon Clipperton Park Clean Up

Meet at 108 Queen St. S.

Date: Thursday, APRIL 16th at 9:30 a.m.

Rain Date: Thursday, April 23rd

Hi guys my name is **Steve Fenech** I am taking over for Jon Eldridge this season as **Rotary Park and Jon Clipperton Park chair**. So we will do our annual clean up of both parks on **Thursday April 16**, in case of rain it will be **Thursday April 23**.

Please meet in the parking lot behind Rotary Park located at **108 Queen St. S** beside Streetsville Library at **9:30 a.m.**

You can bring a small leaf rake, hand garden clippers, trowel [small shovel] gloves, knee pads or cushion and a bag or bucket for clippings and leaves and good footwear.

I will bring yard bags.

If the weather is warm enough you can bring your blue volunteer shirt.

Try and label your tools for easy identification after we are done for the day. We are usually at the gardens for 2hrs on each day every second Thursday!

See everyone soon!

Steve



Photo courtesy of Steve Fenech

LITTER PICK UP - LESLIE LOG HOUSE

4415 Mississauga Road

Date: Saturday, April 18th at 9:30 a.m.

Rain Date: Sunday, April 19th

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 18th** at 9:30 a.m.

Bring boots (if the ground is still soggy) and gloves! Garbage bags will be provided.

See you there!

Carol Ashford, Leslie Log Chair

Celebrations

April's birth flowers are the daisy and sweet pea. Daisies are perennials, have over 20 000 different species, and are one of the oldest flowers on Earth. Shasta and Oxeye daisies are common garden additions. Sweet Peas are annuals, and these climbers are well known for their pleasant fragrance.

Both sweet peas and daisies make great cut flowers to enjoy inside, as well as outside.



Happy birthday to **Martha W., Faulene H., Trang R.,** and new member **Carolina V.,** who are all celebrating a birthday in April.



Happy anniversary to **Brett and Faulene!**

Wishing you a year ahead filled with many garden surprises and delights.



Membership Desk

What a wonderful meeting last month, learning all about immunity herbs in our gardens, from our speaker Susan Elliotson! We welcomed 3 new members, Ninu and Pramod Nair, and Roula Baker Abdin, and we had 57 members in attendance. Our next meeting is on April 14th and guests are always welcome for the fee of \$5. Please pass the word along to your friends and neighbors who may be interested. Word of mouth from current members is a great way to increase our membership.

Membership fees for April, May and June are now \$10.

Follow us on social media and visit our website (www.streetsvillehort.ca) to stay updated on the latest news and events.

If you happened to take your name tag home, please remember to bring it to the next meeting.

Thanks to our helper at the membership desk, Karen N.

Thank you for being an integral part of our community. If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Happy Easter to everyone!

Faulene Hopkins

Membership Chair

Refreshment Table

Thanks to members: **Beverly Cay, Sue Harshman, Lise Jacques, Judi Kokis, Manish Mehta** and **Martha Witney** for suppling the goodies for the refreshment table for our March 10th, 2026, 'St. Patrick' themed meeting.

A reminder to those members who signed up to bring refreshments to our **April 14th/26** 'Easter themed' meeting:

Rosemarie Bera, Judi Kokis and Ninu Nair.



Sending a special "Thank You" to **Marcia Spear** for her dedication in helping make the Refreshment Table successful. Marcia tidies up each month, arriving early and leaving late.

Remember the church is  and to bring your own



PLANT SALE 2026

Your \$20 membership fee is factored out over the 100+ members we have and it amounts to an income of approximately \$1,600. We get a grant from OMAFRA of \$1,000 provided we have enough volunteer hours to qualify. So our basic income is approximately \$2,600 for the year.

Some of our expenses include speakers (\$1,800), Meeting Room Rental (\$1,750), Premiums - given to each member in May (\$1,000), Flower Show Judges & Incidentals which include community planting, P.O. Mailbox, Supplies, Website, OHA dues etc. which amount to \$12,500 - a shortfall of \$9,900.

This is why we sell worm castings, fall bulbs, gloves, etc. AND we also have a plant sale which is our most significant source of income! We hope to make \$6,000 at the plant sale - this is doable if we have the plants!

There are many ways we expect our members to participate in the plant sale: helping pot up plants, mind plants & keep them watered, make labels for the potted plants, dig plants for those who can't, help with advertising and most of all donate plants from your own garden. Plants that have become too big and need to be divided, plants that don't work in your garden and you'd like to pass them on etc.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- You dig up plants from your garden, place them in a plastic bag with a note that tells us the name of the plant (if known) what colour it is, how tall it gets, sun or shade and you drop them off at one of the collection points.
- Your plant gets delivered to our potting up site - 34 Queen Street.
- You can come out on a Wednesday, Saturday or Sunday and help pot up the plants. All you need are gloves, a small trowel, a hat, and a bottle of water to keep hydrated.
- Or you can take some labels and vinyl sticks home and place the label on the stick and then cover it with scotch tape. These can be dropped off at the potting sites on a Wed., Sat. or Sunday.
- Or you can transport plants to a plant sitter who will water and care for them until the night before the sale.
- Or you can take some flyers and ask at your library, pub, community centre or store front if you can post them there.
- Or you can ask at the store you shop at if they would donate something to our sale (hanging basket, tray of annuals, garden tool etc.)
- Or you can collect banana boxes to be used to carry out plants and drop them at the log house the day before the sale.
- Or the night before the plant sale you can place lawn bag signs directing customers to the sale in various locations around town.
- Or the night before the sale, you can pick up plants from the sitters, take them to your house and keep them in your car, van or truck overnight and deliver them to the log house at 6:30 a.m. on May 23rd.
- Or you show up at the Log House at 6:30 a.m. to help unload plants and place them in their appropriate place on the lawn.
- Or you can deliver snacks to the Log House around 8:00 a.m. on May 23rd (sandwiches, cookies, squares, fruit, cheese, etc.) to help keep the volunteers fuelled up. Water, Coffee & Tea will be supplied by SHS.
- Or you work at the plant sale or garage sale as helpers, eg. cash, answering questions, giving advice, carrying plants to cars for customers etc.
- Or you show up at the Log House around 1:00 p.m. on May 23rd to help tidy up the log house property so we leave it as we found it.

We are also asking you to check out your garage, basement and shed for gently used garden ornaments (bird houses, signs, statues etc) and garden tools.

Potting up Days at 34 Queen Street are:

Wednesday, April 22	9:30
Saturday, April 25	9:30
Sunday, April 26	10:30
Wednesday, April 29	9:30
Saturday, May 2	9:30
Sunday, May 3	10:30
Wednesday, May 6	9:30
Saturday, May 9	9:30 Last potting up Day



WE NEED EVERY MEMBER TO HELP US MAKE THIS EVENT SUCCESSFUL!

Helping at this event will also enable you to meet other like-minded members of the Hort Society. Tell me..... where can you enjoy great speakers, have a coffee, enjoy or enter a flower show, enter a photo contest, take in a field trip, and perhaps win a prize all for \$20 /year???. Our plant sale enables us to keep the cost of your membership fee low.

Volunteer hours recorded for the plant sale in 2024 were 915 hours. Sign up sheets for various jobs will be available at the April meeting.

The Plant Sale Committee consists of: Amarin, Marcia, Martha, Maureen, Steve, Grace N. and Grace M., Shirley, Liz and myself. It takes many hands to make light work.

Won't you please volunteer for a job to help make our Plant Sale a success???



Collection points for dropping off your plants from your garden:

If you have plants to drop off, Carol Ashford, Liz Menard, and Grace McElhinney will be accepting donations at their house, please refer to the email blurb sent out with the newsletter to obtain their address.

Carol Ashford, Plant Sale Chair

Call for Houseplant Donations

Attention members!

If, like me, you find yourself with an abundance of houseplants, you are warmly encouraged to contribute them to our upcoming plant sale. I am currently in the process of propagating several pothos and spider plants, which I plan to pot up in a variety of fun containers, as well as standard plastic pots, for sale at the event. Succulents are another favourite, and I will be including a selection of those as well.

If you wish to donate houseplants, you have two options. You may bring cuttings or smaller plants to the horticultural meeting in April, where I can prepare and arrange them for the sale. Alternatively, you can bring fully potted plants directly to the garage sale drop-off, which will take place on **Friday, May 22nd**, between 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Please do not bring plants on the day of the sale itself, as we will need time to price and organize all donations in advance. If you know the names of your plants, kindly include this information with your donation to help us label them accurately.

Contact Information

If you have any questions or would like to coordinate your donation, please contact:

Grace McElhinney

Garage Sale Portion

The **garage sale** component of the plant sale event offers attendees the chance to browse and purchase a range of gently used items. This section is designed to complement the plant sale by providing unique treasures and practical goods, all while supporting the event's success. The garage sale is a valued addition, enhancing the appeal for the wider community and encouraging greater participation.

Donation Guidelines

Donations for the garage sale are welcome and can be brought to the Leslie Log House on Friday, 22nd, between 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. During this time, donations will be accepted and priced on site.

Please refrain from bringing items on the day of the sale itself. If you are unable to deliver your donations at the scheduled time, please contact the organizer to arrange an alternative drop-off at their home.

Suggested Donation Items

- Garden pots
- Garden tools
- Garden furniture (consider item size)
- Vases
- Garden décor
- Garden lighting
- Garden artwork
- Outdoor cooking items, plates, bbq tools, plastic serving dishes

Please ensure your items are clean before donating them to the cause.

Grace McElhinney

Important!
Please read



2026 Spring Photo Contest Winners

Our theme this year was Nature and there were two categories, Colour and Black & White. Many members participated in the contest and the diversity of pictures was impressive.



Colour Category winners:

1st – Manish Mehta

2nd Tie - Carol Ashford/Ethan Best

3rd – Janice Ward

Black and White Category winners:

1st – Grace Nelham

2nd Tie- Shelley Dodd/Carol Ashford

3rd - Ethan Best



Gardening Events – April 2026:

- [RBG Floral Showcase - Bloomland in Oz](#) ONLY A FEW DAYS LEFT to follow the road that leads to Royal Botanical Gardens' 2026 floral showcase, "Bloomland in Oz," where imagination blossoms into a spectacular adventure inspired by the pages of the original novel, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz. Royal Botanical Gardens, 680 Plains Rd. West, Burlington. Jan 31 to Apr 6 | Time-Ticketed Event. | \$16.50 to \$24.50
- [Blooming Boulevards online webinars](#) Registration is now open for their 2026 webinar presentations for individuals. Pre-registration is required.
 - Wildflower All-Stars for Sun or Shade Saturday April 11 | 10 to 11am. \$5
 - Native Plants for Tough Sites Saturday April 25 | 10 to 11am. \$5
 - Create a Native Woodland Garden Saturday May 9 | 10 to 11am. \$5
- [The Riverwood Conservancy](#) will be holding a variety of events during April. As of publication, dates have not been released but check out their website for more details.
- [University of Guelph Arboretum](#) (register in advance)
 - Woodcock Walk (in-person) Thursday April 9 OR Friday April 10 | 7:30 to 8:30 pm \$12 (hike through the woods to spot the American Woodcock)
 - Stargazing (in-person) Thursday April 23rd | 9:00 to 11:00 pm \$19
- [Toronto African Violet and Gesneriad Society Spring Show and Sale](#) For all of you African Violet lovers, check out the Annual Spring Show and Sale to be held on Sunday April 12th at the Toronto Botanical Gardens, 777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto from 9am to 4pm.

Earth Day is on Saturday April 25th ! Garden Ontario is hosting a special webinar and many communities are planning outdoor activities, especially clean-up activities!

- [Garden Ontario Earth Day 2026 Webex](#) Join the OHA for a special Earth Day celebration featuring Mark Cullen and Betty Plewes from Climate Legacy. This presentation is perfect for gardeners, nature lovers, and anyone who cares about the future of our green spaces. Friday April 24th , 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Sign in begins at 6:40 on the Webex platform. Free (limit 1000 attendees). See the poster for details.
- [Mississauga Seed Library Earth Day](#) Even though all of the free seeds have been given away, the Seed Library has organized an event at the Port Credit Library for an afternoon of Earth Day activities on Saturday April 25th.
 - Earth Day Stories & Crafts 1 to 2pm
 - How Trees Communicate: The World of Mycorrhizal Connections 3 to 4pm
 - Mississauga Master Gardener's Advice Table 2 to 4pm.
- [Mississauga Earth Day Events](#) The City of Mississauga is hosting events all month long from April 8th to June 7th! Click the link for details on Tree Planting, Repair Hub for damaged household items, even a book club!

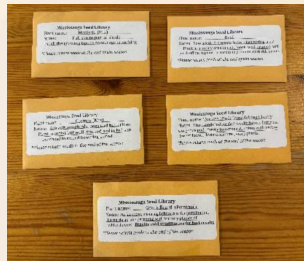
Mississauga Seed Library Launch



On Saturday, February 28th, Streetsville Horticultural Society participated in the 2026 Mississauga Seed Library Launch. Grace Nelham, Marcia Spear, and Shelley Dodd set up the SHS booth which showcased the benefits of membership, such as monthly newsletters, yearly plant sale, seed saving, educational speakers, and flower shows.

Throughout the day Grace and Marcia answered questions and provided information to the attendees. Blooming Boulevards, Ecosource, Credit Valley Conservation, Mississauga Library, Credit Valley Horticultural Society, Seeds of Diversity, Master Gardeners, The Riverwood Conservancy, Natural Areas Management, Studio 89, Plant Based Treaty, Park Services and The Worm Wrangler all participated.

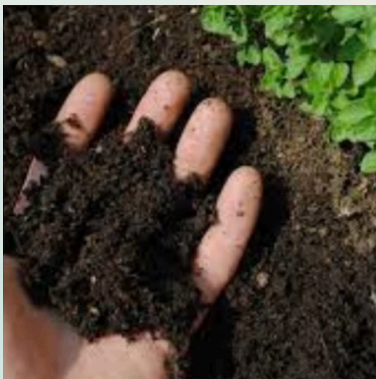
The Mississauga seed library provides FREE open-pollinated and non- GMO seeds. Seeds can be ordered by visiting <https://web.mississauga.ca/library/using-the-library/seed-libraries/>. A valid library card is required to order 5 different seed species.



Worm Castings

It's not too late to place your worm castings order! The deadline for orders is Tuesday, April 7th. Send an email with WORM CASTINGS in the subject line to streetsvillehort@gmail.com stating your name and number of bags you wish to purchase. You can pay **cash** at the April meeting or **e-transfer** the amount to streetsvilleblooms@gmail.com (NOTE DIFFERENT BANKING EMAIL).

Pick up will be at the Streetsville United Church Parking lot April 14th from 5 pm – 7 pm.



SPRING SALE Black Gold
Fundraiser: Organic 100%
Worm Castings PICK UP only



Streetsville Horticultural Society Survey

In our Constitution it states that the object of the Society is to encourage interest and improvement in horticulture in the following ways by:

1. Holding meetings respecting the theory and practice of horticulture
2. Encouraging the planting of trees, shrubs and flowers on public and private grounds
3. Promoting outdoor art, public beautification and gardening on balconies and plots
4. Ongoing field trips, contests, competitions and exhibitions relating to horticulture and awarding prizes
5. Distributing seeds, plants, bulbs, flowers, trees and shrubs
6. Promoting the protection of the environment
7. Promoting the circulation of horticultural information through any media
8. Promoting the benefits of therapeutic horticulture and
9. Stimulating an interest in the study of horticulture.

To determine how well the SHS is achieving these objectives, the Board of Directors are asking you to complete a very short survey (field-tested at less than 5 minutes). It is confidential. No email addresses will be collected. The survey link will be sent to you in the email with the April newsletter. Additionally, there will be paper copies at the April meeting if you are not able/comfortable with the online environment. The survey tool being used is GOGGLE Forms.

We are interested in how to improve, to consider different ways of doing things and to hear completely new ideas. The Board will be asking you to participate in reviewing the results in small group discussion later in June.

Streetsville Horticultural Society Newsletter Content Deadlines

Issue	Deadline Date	Issue	Deadline Date
May '26	Apr 24 th , 2026	Dec '26	Nov 20 th , '26
Jun '26	May 22 nd , 2026	Jan '27	Dec 22 nd , '26
Sept '26	Aug 20 th , 2026	Feb '27	Jan 22 nd , '27
Oct '26	Sep 19 th , 2026	Mar '27	Feb 19 th , '27
Nov '26	Oct 23 rd , 2026	Apr '27	Feb 19 th , '27

Do you have any Society news, an interesting article of a horticultural nature, or a tasty recipe to share with our members? Please send it in. Articles should be in Word or Google Docs format, with or without photos. If a photo is included, it should indicate where it was taken and by whom.

Our mailing address

**Streetsville Horticultural Society
PO Box 57034 RPO Brittany Glen
Mississauga ON L5M 0M5**



CELEBRATE EARTH DAY

Presented by



Featuring Special Guest Speaker

Mark Cullen

and a Special Talk by



*Let's Talk Climate:
What are the risks,
and what can you do?*
by Betty Plewes



Celebrate Earth Day with us as renowned horticulturalist and author Mark Cullen shares his passion for the natural world.

Through reflections on two inspiring books —*The Light Eaters* and *Our Green Heart*— Mark will explore the beauty, resilience, and wonder of the landscapes that sustain us.

An engaging presentation for gardeners, nature lovers, and anyone who cares about our green future.

SAVE THE DATE!

April 24, 2026

7:00 - 8:30 pm via WebEx

No Registration Required





Garden Ontario®

Climate Legacy



WebEx Login Details

Friday, April 24, 2026

7:00 PM | (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Sign In at: 6:40 pm

No Registration Required - This event will be first-come, first-serve and open to the first 1000 individuals logged on to the WebEx Account

Join from the meeting link

<https://gardenontario.webex.com/gardenontario/j.php?MTID=m02933c0ef105affa2b052e5fc461151> MTID=m02933c0ef105affa2b052e5fc46115

Join by meeting number

Meeting number (access code): 2864 762 1710

Meeting password: GJamcBPJ282

Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)

1-844-426-4405,,28647621710## Canada Toll Free

1-833-311-4101,,28647621710## Canada Toll Free

Join by phone

1-844-426-4405 Canada Toll Free

1-833-311-4101 Canada Toll Free

Global call-in numbers | Toll-free calling restrictions

Join from a video system or application

Dial 28647621710@gardenontario.webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.



*We are pleased to offer this session at no cost.
If it inspired you, please consider a donation to help
us keep our programs growing.*

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