



Barrie Garden Club Newsletter

Cuttings

May & June 2023

Look for us at: www.barriegardenclub.ca



Written by Kimberly Sturge

UPCOMING BGC MEETINGS AT THE ANAF CLUB (52 MORROW RD. BARRIE)



MAY 2ND 2023 @7PM

STEPHANIE WIDEMAN

**TOPIC: PLANTING FOR POLLINATORS
CITY OF BARRIE –A BEE CITY**

Stephanie is the Parks Program Coordinator for the City of Barrie. She has an Associate Diploma in Horticulture from the University of Guelph, is an ISA arborist, and has her Red Seal as a Landscape Horticulturist. She has worked in horticulture both in the private and municipal sectors for over 20 years and continues to work on many initiatives and programs within our parks system and the community.



JUNE 6TH 2023 @7PM

CHRISTINE MARCH

TOPIC: INDOOR PLANTS

Christine is a Master Gardener that loves all things green... she considers herself a plant nerd. She will be giving us information on how to care for our indoor plants throughout the year to help them thrive and stay happy!

Upcoming Barrie Garden Club Events: Please join us!!!!

Saturday, May 20th

Barrie Farmers Market

"Let's Get Growing"

8am - noon

Saturday, May 27th

Lampman Lane Garden Party

11am -2pm

Sunday, May 28th

MTO Clean-up

1:00pm @ Hwy #26

(meet at the commuter lot at the corner of Bayfield St and Hwy 26)

Saturday June 3rd

BGC Plant Sale - more info to come!

**"The greatest gift of the
garden is the restoration
of the five senses."**

- Hanna Rion



Routinely Nomadic

2023 Convention July 21 – 23, 2023 – Ottawa



OHA 115th Convention
July 21 - 23, 2023
District 2 - Ottawa Valley

District 2 will be hosting the 2023 OHA Convention from July 21 to July 23, 2023 at the Brookstreet Hotel in Kanata, Ontario.

They are planning a great lineup of speakers, tours and entertainment for this first in-person convention in three years!

Go to:

<https://gardenontario.org/event/oha-2023-convention/>
for more information!

Have You Got Your Tickets Yet??

50% of all proceeds go towards Keeping Ontario Beautiful and supports education for youth and adults.

It also supports environmental programs, awards and grants assisting with pollinators, tree planting and community beautification as well as post secondary programs in Horticulture.

Go to:

www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha
to get your tickets!!

Saturday May 6th is Naked Gardening Day!



Garden Ontario

50/50 Draw

Early Bird Draw of \$500
On May 14th

Next Draw Date: July 21, 2023

50% of all proceeds go towards
Keeping Ontario Beautiful!

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha>

Early Bird Prize Sponsored By
Shawn LaPalm Insurance Agency, Inc.

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Dr. Raymond E. Ives Horticultural Award



Do you know a student that resides in Simcoe County pursuing Post Secondary Education in Horticulture, Environmental Studies, Forestry, Arboriculture or a related field? They may be eligible for one of up to three \$1,000 Awards per academic year!!! All they have to do is fill out the application at the bottom of this page: <https://gardenontario.org/district-listing/entry/184/> & submit supporting information as identified on the Application before September 20 of the academic year.

If you have questions, please contact ivesawardsfund@gmail.com or collingwoodgardenclub2015@gmail.com or call Barbara Collinson, Chair of the Dr. Ives Awards Committee at 416-705-7442.

In case you missed it!

Information from D16 Spring Seminar and AGM:

Molly Shannon of Canadian Succulents also spoke to us on taking care of your succulents, both indoors and out!

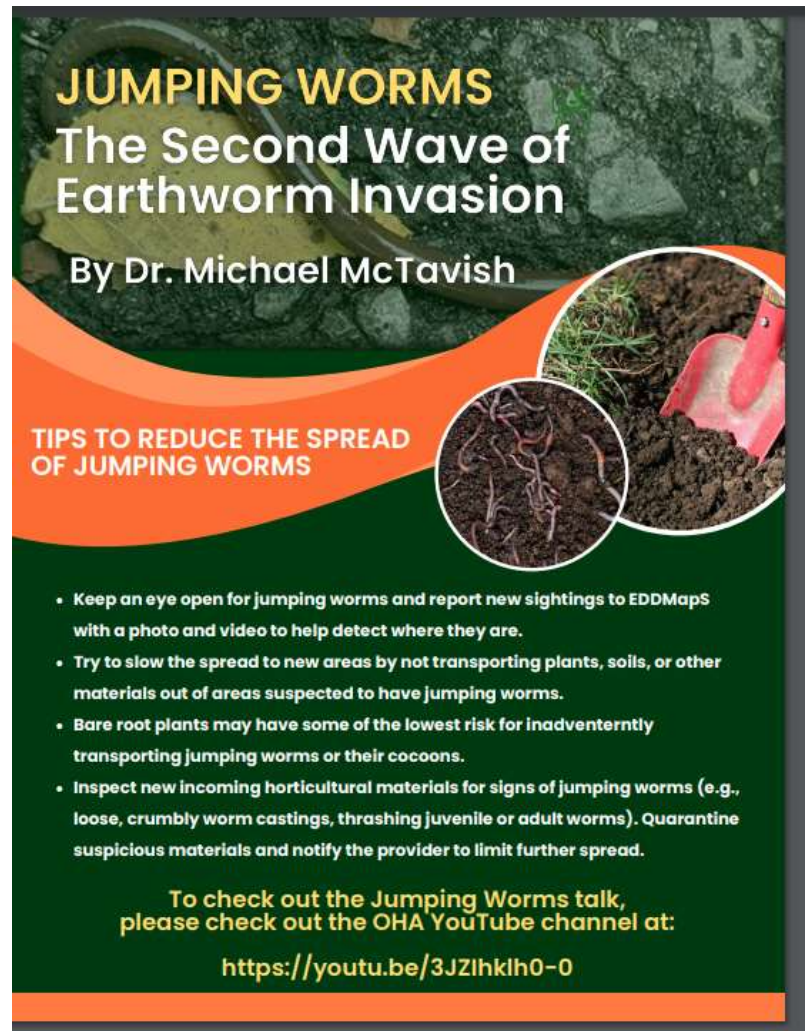
Check out her web page at

<https://www.canadiansucculents.net/>



Some tips Molly shared with us about succulents:

- Do not mist
- Don't use icecubes to water
- They don't need much fertilizer but if you do, use a 20-20-20
- You can plant these in anything as they have thin root systems - for example in wreaths, trees, cracks in rocks, baskets (even vertically), pumpkins etc.
- Indoors they have to grow in a very bright, lighted spot above 8 degrees Celsius
- Water deeply and very infrequently (in the winter every 3-4 weeks)
- Make sure they dry out completely before you water them again
- Very easy to propagate - can do it by laying a leaf on the top of the soil or by cutting their stems (let the stem scab over) then plant them in the soil
- **Outside** - succulents like sun and well drained soil (no standing water)
- Great for small spaces - can even grow on gravel and between flagstones
- Sedum and Hens and Chicks are super as they spread quickly



JUMPING WORMS
The Second Wave of Earthworm Invasion
By Dr. Michael McTavish

TIPS TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF JUMPING WORMS

- Keep an eye open for jumping worms and report new sightings to EDDMaps with a photo and video to help detect where they are.
- Try to slow the spread to new areas by not transporting plants, soils, or other materials out of areas suspected to have jumping worms.
- Bare root plants may have some of the lowest risk for inadvertently transporting jumping worms or their cocoons.
- Inspect new incoming horticultural materials for signs of jumping worms (e.g., loose, crumbly worm castings, thrashing juvenile or adult worms). Quarantine suspicious materials and notify the provider to limit further spread.

To check out the Jumping Worms talk, please check out the OHA YouTube channel at:
<https://youtu.be/3JZlHklh0-0>



Huronian Rose Society's Annual Miniflora Rose Sale



Available now - \$12.50 each (red, white, yellow, antique pink & hot pink) contact Michelle Lynch - lynchfam@sympatico.ca

Wait to Clean – up your Garden!!!

April and May can feel full of weather contradictions. On the one hand, we see snow replaced with rain, daytime temperatures reaching double digits, birds singing, buds swelling, and a tinge of green taking over trees, shrubs, and grasses. On the other, a late Spring snowstorm is not completely out of the question. While it is tempting to start poking around the garden, waiting a bit longer is so beneficial to your little piece of paradise!! Have you heard of No Mow May??

Here are a few tips to keep in mind as you garden in mid-spring:

- *Do not clean up!* Birds use the stems and leaf litter from the last growing season to build new nests. And this so-called litter is habitat for overwintering insects, which are not yet ready to emerge. Leaf mulch also protects early budding plants against large changes in temperature.
- *Do not walk on the soggy soil.* The soil in your garden and lawns is saturated with water from melting snow and spring rains — walking on it will lead to soil compaction, disturbing the structure of the soil.



June 17th is National Garden Day!

National Garden Day is just around the corner and this year's theme is inclusion and reconciliation. It's a time to celebrate our garden culture and reflect on how this culture has contributed to the development of our country and who we are. Let us know how you celebrate that in your garden, at your business, and in your community. #NationalGardenDay

NATIONAL GARDENING DAY



Ways to Improve Seed Germination and Seedling Success

There is nothing more frustrating than planting seeds and waiting patiently for them to pop up from the soil. And waiting. And waiting. And scratching your head. And swearing and getting the packet of seeds out again.

There are some easy things you can do to **help your seeds germinate**. Soaking them overnight before you plant them is one way of boosting your germination rates. Of course, it's not necessary, but it sure makes a big difference in how many seeds sprout, so set aside the time to soak them before you plant.

By adding a little **hydrogen peroxide** to your water when you soak seeds, you are doing two things - breaking down the seed coat (chemical scarification) and oxygenating the water. Remember, oxygen was the second thing we needed for germination. Adding more oxygen to the water speeds up the germination process. The seed needs oxygen to create energy (aerobic respiration) to germinate and grow using stored nutrients. Add a $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of 1-3% hydrogen peroxide to two cups of water. Add your seeds, and soak for 30 minutes. You don't want to soak them longer than that. An ice cube tray works great for soaking seeds, but label which seeds are where. After thirty minutes, transfer them to water to continue soaking overnight.



It's also important to address "**cold stratification**" when talking about seed germination. Some plants need a cold snap to mimic winter's passage before germinating.

If you're a vegetable gardener, you're in luck, as most common vegetable seeds do not need to be cold-stratified (except garlic). However, if you start growing herbs and flowers from seed, you might run into species that need cold stratification, or they won't germinate.

A great article that addresses this can be found at:

<https://www.bloomingbackyard.com/cold-stratification-seeds/>

Here are some popular plants that need cold stratification:

Alpine strawberry (<i>Fragaria vesca</i>) Anise hyssop (<i>Agastache</i>) Astilbe (<i>Astilbe chinensis</i>) Baby's breath (<i>Gypsophila paniculata</i>) Beebalm (<i>Monarda</i>) Bergamot (<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>) Black-eyed Susan (<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i> , <i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i> and <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>) Blazing star (<i>Liatris aspera</i> , <i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> and <i>Liatris spicata</i>) Bleeding heart (<i>Dicentra</i>) Catnip (<i>Nepeta</i>) Columbine (<i>Aquilegia</i>) Comfrey (<i>Symphytum</i>) Coreopsis (<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>) Delphinium Echinacea (<i>Echinacea purpurea</i> and <i>Echinacea pallida</i>) English daisy (<i>Bellis perennis</i>) Goldenrod (<i>Solidago</i>) Larkspur (<i>Consolida</i>)	Lavender (<i>Lavandula</i>) Lemon balm (<i>Melissa officinalis</i>) Lobelia (<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> and <i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>) Lupine (<i>Lupinus perennis</i>) Milkweed (<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>) Mugwort (<i>Artemisia</i>) Mullein (<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>) Penstemon (<i>Penstemon digitalis</i> and <i>Penstemon grandiflorus</i>) Phlox Pinks (<i>Dianthus</i>) Poppy (<i>Papaver</i>) Rosemary (<i>Salvia rosmarinus</i>) Sage (<i>Salvia officinalis</i>) Sea holly (<i>Eryngium</i>) Snapdragons (<i>Antirrhinum</i>) Sweet pea (<i>Lathyrus odoratus</i>) Valerian (<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>) Verbena (<i>Verbena officinalis</i>)
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Make Your First Watering a Soapy One

Wet seed starting mix with warm soapy water (use liquid dish detergent such as Dawn; you only need a few drops) before planting the seeds. To avoid a huge mess, add starting mix to your pots, mist the top with the soapy water, then follow with a slow, deep drenching of the soil using the watering can full of soapy water. This lets the water pass through the starting mix, thoroughly wetting it and breaking the surface tension.

Mist everything with soapy water again once you've planted the seeds. The detergent in the soap serves two purposes. It will start to break down waxy seed coats (chemical scarification) and nip hydrophobic seed starting mix in the bud.

Once you have planted your seeds and watered the seed starting mix well, it's important to **keep everything moist**. This is seed starting 101, but many people still forget to do it, and the constant drying out and rewetting of soil and seeds can slow down germination. Try covering your seeds with a layer of clear cling wrap!

As soon as your seeds have germinated, remove the cover to prevent damping off. You will need to keep a close eye on new seedlings, as it does not take much for them to dry out and die.

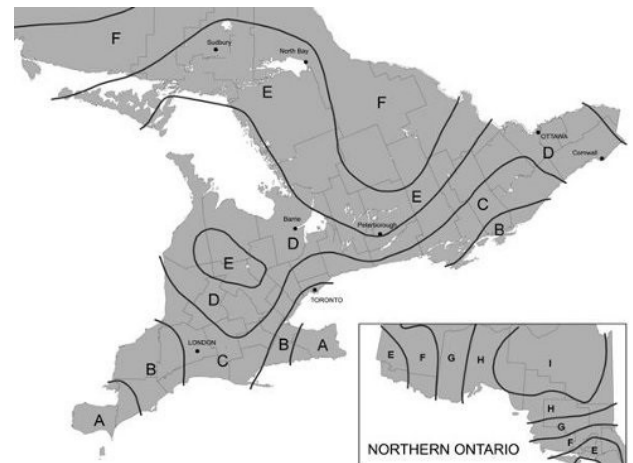
Make sure your seeds are in a warm and sunny or well-lit place. Seeds will germinate in the dark, but they need light very quickly after germination to start photosynthesis. This process starts below the soil for some seeds as light filters through the seed starting mix.

Try not to plant seedlings outside too early or too late.

Optimistic gardeners everywhere are forever sacrificing plants to quickly changing spring temperatures. Check your local ten-day forecast once you're within the time frame of your expected last frost date. (see chart) You'll have a better idea of when you can safely plant seedlings outside. It's also smart to have frost protection - like an upside down bucket or flower pot or cut off the bottoms of plastic juice or water jugs and nestle them into the soil - during those first couple weeks after planting vegetables.



	Frost-Free Zone Period (Average of Last Spring in Days)	Average Date of Last Spring Frost	Average Date of First Fall Frost
A	170-190	April 25	October 20
B	160-170	April 30	October 13
C	150-170	May 3	October 8
D	130-165	May 11	October 1
E	125-145	May 17	September 26
F	115-125	May 24	September 22
G	100-115	May 27	September 17
H	100-110	June 3	September 16
I	90-100	June 7	September 9



Check seed packets for information concerning soil temperatures.

Some seeds will not germinate if the soil is too cold, like beans. An inexpensive soil thermometer is a handy tool that takes the guesswork out of soil temps.

The other side of this coin is planting vegetables too late in the spring. Plenty of spring vegetables, if planted too late in the season, will quickly bolt as the weather warms up. Plant lettuces, spinach, and brassicas such as cabbage, broccoli, and Brussel sprouts early in the season.

Always check the long-term (usually ten days) forecast for your area and pay close attention to nighttime temperatures. You want to make sure you are planting your vegetables during a stretch with **at least 10** no freezing nighttime temperatures. Then your plants will have plenty of time to set down roots, recover from transplant shock and get established.

Tips for transplanting your seedlings outdoors:

From: <https://www.bhg.com/transplanting-seedlings-7095278>



1. Know when to harden off seedlings.

The best time to begin transitioning your seedlings from indoors to outside varies slightly with crops.

For cold season vegetables, such

as cabbage and broccoli and hardy annuals and herbs such as calendula, marigold, and pansy you can start the

hardening off process when night temperatures stay consistently over 10 degrees C.

For warm season crops (tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, etc.) and more tender herbs and flowers, wait until night temperatures are at least 15 degrees C.

2. Introduce seedlings to the outdoors gradually.

When temperatures are appropriate, take seedlings outside for a couple hours the first day and bring them in at night. The following day, increase the outdoor time by an hour or two, continuing in this manner over the course a couple weeks. Pay attention to your seedlings' appearance. If they look stressed, slow down on their outdoor exposure. Once they seem to tolerate being outdoors all day, leave them out overnight.

3. Pick a protected spot.

A spot in dappled shade helps seedlings to adjust to the more intense light from the sun. Over the course of the hardening off period, you can gradually expose them to more sun, but never move seedlings directly from indoors to full sun. This will cause leaves to scorch and may result in stunting or even death. Wind can also cause serious damage so place your seedlings in a location that is protected from blustery winds.

4. Keep seedlings watered.

Check seedlings regularly; if it's sunny and warm check them at least twice a day. Keep them moist but not saturated and be sure their pots have drainage holes. A sudden downpour can soak the seedlings and if the growing medium doesn't drain well, plants are likely to rot. And a hard rain can also break fragile stems. It's best to bring plants indoors or into a garage or covered porch if a heavy storm is in your forecast.

5. Slowly increase exposure to garden conditions.

Once your young plants are accustomed to being outdoors, they'll have developed a tougher cuticle that will provide them much greater protection from the elements. Now it's time to move them to a site with more exposure to sun and wind. A good idea is to move potted seedlings to the garden area where they will be growing and leave them a couple days to get used to the site before transplanting them into the ground or planter.



6. Transplant on a calm overcast day.

Transplanting when bright sunshine is tempered by clouds reduces stress on your young plants. Dig holes that are larger than the pot your seedling is growing in, set your seedlings into the prepared soil and tamp them firmly into place. Water well.

7. Watch the weather.

Be mindful of sudden drops in temperature or heavy downpours for the first few weeks your plants are in the ground. Inverted pots, or floating row covers will help them survive late season frosts or damaging storms.

While the transition process from indoors to the garden may seem like a bit of trouble, it's very important. Not taking time to help your seedlings become accustomed to their outdoor environment will lead to serious disappointment—your plants may become stunted or even die. You've already put so much time and energy into caring for your seedlings indoors, and gradually hardening them off is just the next phase of this process. Then you and your plants will be ready for transplanting into your garden, where they will reward you with healthy robust growth throughout the season.

Citrus-Oil-Marinated Spring Vegetables

BY RACHEL GURJAR

Active Time 50 minutes **Total Time** 1 hour 30 minutes **6-8 servings**

The fleeting vibrance of spring vegetables is captured in this citrus-and-garlic-infused marinade, turning delicate produce into a versatile condiment. Spoon over toast slathered with ricotta or enjoy as an accompaniment on a cheese plate. Use the infused oil to dress salad greens or drizzle it over baked fish to add a boost of flavor.

Ingredients:

1 cup shelled fava beans (from about 1½ lb. pods)
8 oz. asparagus, woody ends trimmed, cut on a diagonal into 1" pieces
5 oz. frozen shelled edamame or 10 oz. edamame pods, shelled (about 1 cup)
4 oz. French green beans, trimmed, cut into 1" pieces
2 lemons
1 orange
2 cups extra-virgin olive oil
5 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
4 sprigs thyme
2 sprigs rosemary
1 Tbsp. kosher salt
1 Tbsp. fennel seeds, lightly crushed
1 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes
1 tsp. sugar



Directions:

1. Cook fava beans in a large pot of generously salted boiling water until pale green and tender and skins look swollen, about 5 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, transfer beans to a large bowl of ice water. Let cool completely, about 2 minutes. Remove from ice bath with slotted spoon and peel outer layer from fava beans; set aside.
2. Combine asparagus, edamame, and green beans in the same pot of boiling water and cook until bright green and slightly tender, about 3 minutes. Using slotted spoon, transfer to ice bath and let sit until cold, about 10 minutes.
3. Using a vegetable peeler, remove zest from lemons, leaving as much white pith behind as possible. Cut lemons in half and squeeze juice through your hand or fine-mesh sieve into a small bowl. Remove peel from orange with peeler; set fruit aside for another use (or eat!)
4. Heat oil in a medium saucepan over medium until shimmering, about 5 minutes, then remove from heat. Add garlic and let sizzle until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Stir in lemon and orange zest, thyme sprigs, rosemary sprigs, salt, fennel seeds, red pepper flakes, and sugar. Let cool completely, about 30 minutes.
5. Drain vegetables, discarding any remaining ice cubes, and add to infused room-temperature oil along with lemon juice; stir to combine. Transfer vegetables and oil to a 1½-qt. glass jar; cover and chill at least 4 hours before serving.

Do ahead: Vegetables can be marinated up to 6 days ahead. Keep chilled.

Strawberry Pretzel Salad

From: <https://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/strawberry-pretzel-dessert/>

Total Time : Prep: 20 min. Bake: 10 min. + chilling 16 servings

Ingredients:

2 cups crushed salted pretzels
3/4 cup butter, melted
3 tablespoons sugar

filling:

2 cups whipped topping
1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
1 cup sugar

topping:

2 packages of strawberry jello
2 cups boiling water
2 packages (16 ounces each) frozen sweetened sliced strawberries, thawed or 4 cups of fresh sliced strawberries sprinkled with sugar

Directions:

1. In a bowl, combine the pretzels, butter and sugar. Press into an ungreased 13x9-in. baking dish. Bake at 350° for 10 minutes. Cool on a wire rack.
2. For filling, in a small bowl, beat whipped topping, cream cheese and sugar until smooth. Spread over pretzel crust. Refrigerate until chilled.
3. For topping, dissolve gelatin in boiling water in a large bowl. Stir in sweetened strawberries; chill until partially set. Carefully spoon over filling. Chill until firm, 4-6 hours. Cut into squares; if desired, serve with additional whipped topping and pretzels.



June Bug Beverage

From: <https://cocktailpartyapp.com/drinks/june-bug/>

Ingredients:

1 part Melon liqueur
1/2 part Coconut rum
1/2 part Banana liqueur
2 parts Pineapple juice
1 part Lemon juice

Directions:

1. Shake with ice and strain into a tall glass. Garnish with a slice of pineapple, maybe a cherry.

