

GROWING

P.O. Box 294 Cobourg,
ON K9A 4K8



A member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

TOGETHER

Editor: Carol Evans

Spring 2010

Seed Swap Success!

Thanks to **Judy Newman Brown** for organizing our first ever seed swap. There was a considerable number of contributions and many smiling faces.

Recent Speakers Have Websites:

www.cottagegardener.com
www.burnswatergardens.ca
www.blossomhillnursery.com

No Mow. No Blow. No H2O

The RBG has set up a demonstration garden that helps gardeners to learn money-saving techniques to fight climate change. The idea of sustainable horticultural techniques means you will leave a smaller carbon footprint. - use less water, and minimize pollutants.

There are downloadable brochures and plant lists to help everyone attain beautiful gardens while being environmentally friendly.

Visit http://www.rbg.ca/pages_hort/hort_nombh2o.html to learn more about techniques that could help you to have a no mow, no blow or no H2O garden.

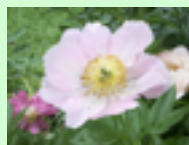
Riddle: What's a spitter?

An ornament in or by the pond which "spits" water.

Take Up the 20 Plant Challenge

Our largest fundraiser is our plant sale. Plan to give your support this spring by donating divisions from your garden, seedlings, houseplants or good quality used garden paraphernalia.

If you need assistance to divide your perennials please contact **Shirley Ross** @ 905 355 2146. Pots are also available. For tips on making divisions go to <http://www.finegardening.com/how-to/articles/dividing-perennials.aspx>



We'd like to add our further **Congratulations** to our CHS Members who recently received Cobourg Civic Awards.

Jane Lawson - Town of Cobourg Bravery Award
Dilys Robertson - Distinguished Citizen Award for Environmental Preservation.
Madeleine Thiboult-Smith - Distinguished Citizen Award for Community Service.

Novice Entries

A novice is a person who has not won a prize in any garden show.

A novice retains her/his status throughout a full year even if she/he wins a prize at the spring show.

Trees & Shrubs

White Pine
White Cedar
Serviceberry
Alt-leafed Dogwood
Eastern Redbud
Tulip Tree

will be available for purchase at the spring plant sale.

Reminders & Events

May 5 Meeting - Gardens of Parkwood
- Samantha George,
Spring Mini Flower Show

May 22 - Annual Plant Sale

June 2 Meeting- Entering a Flower show - Ann Slemming

June 19 - Artists in the Garden Tour
Oshawa, Whitby Brooklin 10 am -5 pm
Visit www.hearthplace.org

June 19,20 - Peony Weekend-Blossom Hill

June 23 - Tour to Oshawa Gardens and Parkwood Estate (Car pool)

July 10,`11 - Delphinium Weekend - Blossom Hill

July 11 - 4 Club Garden Tour
- hosted by Port Hope

Aug. 21 - CHS Flower & Vegetable Show at the Cobourg Library



Watch for:

the winner of the Cobourg Celebrity Rose Growing Contest

President: Sarah Holland

Secretary: Carol Farren

Treasurer: Judy Newman Brown

Garden Tasks Schedule

This is the second installment of your **schedule of monthly garden duties**. Thanks to The Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners for giving permission for its reproduction.

May

- harden off seedlings
- treat for slugs, aphids, and blackspot if necessary
- deadhead tulips and daffodils, leaving the foliage to nourish the bulb and to die back naturally
- take notes and photos of bulb plantings for later changes
- plant tender summer-flowering bulbs (glads, cannas and dahlias)
- check trees for tent caterpillars and other insects
- stake and tie trees, shrubs and vines as required
- cage peonies
- wait until the last week of May to transplant tender flowers (petunias, impatiens etc.) and vegetables (tomatoes, peppers, etc.)
- weed gardens and apply mulch
- top dress lawns with compost and hand dig weeds whenever possible
- seed flowering cabbage/kale outdoors

June

- plant annuals and tender perennials
- deadhead flowers after blooming
- pinch back mums, snapdragons, asters, dahlia and other late bloomers,
- prune evergreens and hedges if necessary
- mulch using grass clippings or compost to conserve moisture and control weeds
- thin out crowded vegetables and annuals
- irrigate lawns and gardens as required
- stake/cage dahlias, tomatoes, gladiolas, etc.
- seed fast growers such as calendula, cosmos, lavatera, and marigolds directly into the garden
- prepare cuttings of shrubs for propagation
- prune shrubs and trees after flowering
- weed and water as necessary
- move houseplants outdoors to a protected location.

July

- finish pruning spring-flowering shrubs and evergreens
- stake plants that tend to fall over (delphiniums, euphorbia and tall sedums) and pinch back as necessary
- fertilize vegetable, annuals and roses
- raise cutting height of mower blade
- pinch back annuals to make bushier
- cut out old raspberry canes after fruiting
- mow, weed and water as necessary
- trim back strawberry plants after fruiting
- transplant ornamental cabbage and kale
- turn compost
- deadhead and trim perennials as necessary

August.

- plant fall vegetables (spinach, lettuce, etc.)
- keep compost moist -prune climbing roses
- trim and divide irises. Treat for iris borer
- spray shrubs and perennials for powdery mildew control
- water wisely and weed as necessary
- plant fall-flowering perennials



BEWARE

the
Giant
Hogweed

Hogweed belongs to the carrot or parsley family and can grow to 6 metres tall. There are severe health risks due to the watery sap expelled by this plant. A chemical in the sap reacts with sunlight to cause **severe blistering and burning**. **Painful dermatitis can develop into blackish or purplish scars**. The skin condition can last for years. If the sap comes in contact with the eyes it can cause **blindness**. If skin comes in contact with the shrub wash the area immediately with soap and water and keep it covered from sunlight.

Hogweed was found and destroyed at Kellogg Rd. and Cty Rd. 2 west of Welcome in Port Hope and on Lakeshore Road in Alnwick/Haldimand Twp. The area will be monitored this year as each hogweed flower can produce **thousands of seeds**.

During its 3 year life span, hogweed produces seeds once. Year one a low shrub of 1 to 2 metres across appears. Year two, the shrub grows taller and flower stems start to show. Year three the shrub is fully grown and seeds are apparent.

If you think that you have discovered the plant call Ms Mia Frankl at 905-372-3329 ext 2303.

Welcome to new members:

Ann Ballard **Ian Grieve**
Sandra Love **Paul Veismanis**

Welcome back to:
Rowena Burns