

Florascope

62 Years of Beautifying Ancaster

Happy Summer! As we settle into a more relaxed pace for summer our Ancaster Trillium Awards judges are preparing for the selection of the 125 of the most beautiful nominated Ancaster front gardens. This culminates in the awards presentations on Aug. 20th. Our garden crews will also be busy maintaining the gardens at Fieldcote and the Municipal areas. (see p. 3).

The Ontario Volunteer Service awards recognized the milestones of several of our members. We wish to give special mention to **Pearl Wade for 60 years!** of volunteer service. Congratulations, Pearl and thank you. (see p. 2)



Photo: D. Puskas Fieldcote '23

We have been pleased to welcome many new members so far this year. We hope you'll get involved and also let us know what interests you.

Have a great summer!

~~Your Executive Council

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Welcome New Members



Ilana Bayer

Jennifer Burns

Amanda Gould-Hammill Allison Law

Anne Marie Peirce Sophia Szoke

Scott & Laurie Shannon

Rosie Bisaro

Kathleen Cadeau

2024 Plant Sale Report

In spite of an overcast misty day, our Plant Sale was a great success. Profits were down from previous years but we have made enough to continue the funding of speakers and our community commitments. Our members contributed an outstanding number and quality of perennials from their gardens which resulted in our sale being sold out by noon.

We sold 950 perennials, 95% of the 855 Tomato plants and 82% of the herbs and vegetables.

Forty-four dedicated volunteers contributed a total of **683 volunteer hours** of planning, promoting, potting, selling, lifting and laughing!

Thank you for an outstanding Plant Sale!

by Jeanne Robertson, Co-Director

Misty Morning Start but Busy!

3 Photos: D. Puskas



Ontario Volunteer Service Awards

Each year Ontario recognizes service milestones for outstanding volunteer service.

Ancaster Horticultural Society members were awarded the following OVS Awards.

- Laurel Gallea 10 Years**
- Wendy Spangenberg 10 Years**
- Cathy Wood 10 Years**
- Don Grant 15 Years**
- Betty Howitt 15 Years**
- Pearl Wade 60 Years!**



Pearl Wade receiving her award at her home.

Photo: B. Howitt



Plant Sale Co-Directors

Present & Past—Jeanne Robertson, Sue Freshwater
Donna Parker

Photo: D. Puskas



Top: Sharon Lee, Sue Freshwater

Photos: R. Sherrard

Left: Chief Cashier—Bob Wilt



Fieldcote Garden Volunteers



Photo: Fieldcote Museum Staff



Fieldcote Peony Bloom
Photo: D.Puskas



'Ancaster Blue Ruffle' Irises
in Bloom at Fieldcote.
Photo: D. Puskas

Municipal Gardens tended
by our Volunteers



Lower Municipal Garden
Photo: D. Puskas



Municipal Entrance Garden
Photo: J. Macaulay

Did you Know? Ancaster's Little Girl on the Rock was a 1967 Centennial project fundraised by both the Hilltop Garden Club and the Garden Club of Ancaster. It's the work of sculptor, Una Mavis Ehlert and sits atop a boulder that was excavated during construction of the Municipal building. Former members of both Garden clubs are Ancaster Horticultural Society members. (Information provided by Bob Wilt from an article by Zig Misiak May 2023 in Neighbours of Ancaster.)



Millennium Peace Park Garden
Photo: B. Wilt



Brandon Park
Photo: D. Parker

Summer Gardening Tips

How to Divide Bearded Iris



For step-by-step instructions follow the link:
<https://youtu.be/Hz-JNt7FseU?>

Be Careful when Weeding!

HOW TO IDENTIFY POISON IVY

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p>"Leaves of three, let it be."</p> <p>This old rhyme refers to the grouping of three leaves that are most commonly associated with poison ivy. Though there are many other plants with three predominate leaves, this can be a good starting point for identification.</p> | | <p>"If butterflies land there, don't put your hand there."</p> <p>Some butterflies land on poison ivy, since they are not affected, which provides them protection as their predators avoid eating the plant.</p> | |
| <p>"Berries white, run in fright" & "Berries white, danger in sight."</p> <p>The berry-like fruit, a drupe, mature by August to November with a grayish-white colour. Fruits are a favorite winter food of some birds and other animals. Seeds are spread mainly by animals and remain viable after passing through the digestive tract.</p> | | <p>"Hairy vine, no friend of mine." & "Raggy rope, don't be a dope!"</p> <p>Poison ivy vines on trees have a furry "raggy" appearance. These rhymes warn tree climbers to be wary. Old, mature vines on tree trunks can be quite large and long, with the recognizable leaves obscured among the higher foliage of the tree.</p> | |
| <p>"Longer middle stem, stay away from them."</p> <p>This refers to the middle leaflet having a notably longer stem than the two side leaflets and is a key to differentiating it from the similar-looking Rhus aromatica - Fragrant sumac.</p> | | | |

Resource shared on Instagram by Haldimand Hort.

Helping Out in the Mineral Springs Community



Tonie Wilt & Ingrid Davitsky
Creating colourful planter boxes for the bridge at Mineral Springs



Ingrid Davitsky with property owner & creator of the boxes



All Done! The boxes were originally created for the 200th Anniversary of Mineral Springs

Photos: B. Wilt

Members' Page

Peonies have been Spectacular this Year!



Tree Peony—J. Macllwraith



Itoh Peony 'Julia' & Baptisia
—J. Robertson



Peony & Iris—M. Baker



Toad roe in the Held's garden pond & 'Ancaster Blue Ruffle' Iris & Weigela—L. Held



Rose & a Succulent Arrangement—J. Macaulay



'Ancaster Blue Ruffle' Iris in Municipal Gardens— Two Views
J. Macaulay



D. Puskas

Coming Events~

Meetings are held at Ancaster Old Town Hall,
 210 Wilson St. E, Ancaster, on the 3rd
 Tuesday of the month from September to June.
 Meeting format:
 7:30 Informal Chat & Refreshments
 7:45 Brief business meeting
 8:00 Speaker Presentation & Questions

June/July

June 29 -July 14

Ancaster Trillium Awards Judging

August

20 **Ancaster Trillium Awards Ceremony**
 7pm Fieldcote Park
 (rain alternative: Ancaster Old Town Hall)

September

3 **AHS Board Meeting** 7:15pm
 Fieldcote Museum

17 **AHS Monthly Meeting** 7:30pm
 We will be **touring** the new
Summit Station Dairy (details to follow)



Ancaster Community Services Annual Backpack Drive June 1-August 9

The goal is to provide 100 new backpacks filled with school supplies and snacks for various age groups. There is a special bin in lobby of the municipal building (lower level at back) to leave donations. For more information and a list of items being collected, please use the link below or call 905-648-6675

<https://ancastercommunityservices.ca/fundraisers/acs-backpack-drive/>



These eager walkers joined field botanist Paul O'Hara at the June meeting. In spite of the heat they hiked through the Dundas Valley trail. Well done everyone! Photo: B. Wilt

If you would like to get involved with volunteer gardening or with the Trillium Awards, please email us (p. 1) & we'll connect you with the group director.