

Florascope

64 Years of Beautifying Ancaster

It's Spring!

Signs of spring are everywhere—and gardening season is about to begin! For Ancaster Gardeners our busy season is about to begin! There will be some changes to the Ancaster Old Town Hall as upgrades begin but, in spite of scaffolding, we will be meeting there as usual.



Signs of Spring
Photo: D. Parker

Our **Heirloom Tomato** Pre-Ordering is well underway. If you plan to order, do it soon for best selection. All the details are on the website. Our **Annual Plant Sale** is **May 17th**. Potting will begin, we hope, in mid-April. Details to follow in April News FLASH. Your contributions of perennials are vital so please look around your gardens to see what could be divided and donated. (P. 3)

Our **Fieldcote gardeners** hold their annual cleanup on **April 26th** and would love your help. (P. 5) There are lots of ways to be active with our Society. **Join us—we're a friendly group!**

Your Executive Council~Jill, Betty, Bob, Donna

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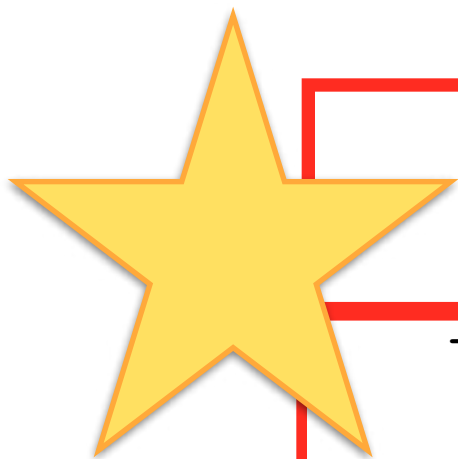
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Tomato Variety Descriptions



Welcome New Members

George Berta
Bonnie Buchko



Pre-Order now Heirloom Tomato Plants!

There are tomatoes for pots and garden plots.
There's still lots of choice but...

Don't wait!

Pre-order by April 15th for Pickup May 10th

Order at: ahsordertomatoes@gmail.com

OR

Mail to: Ancaster Horticultural Society
Box 81056, Ancaster, ON
L9G 4X1

Include: Chosen varieties & number of each
Name, Address, Phone #, E-Mail (if you have)

Tomato descriptions and all ordering details are on our website
ancasterhort.org

**Tried & True
Varieties**



'Black Krim'



'Mountain Princess'



'Sunsugar Hybrid'

**Try
Something
Different!**

**Both compact
& suitable for
Container growing**



'Caro Rich'

**Don't
Forget!**

Ancaster Horticultural Society's
Plant Sale!
Saturday May 17, 2025
Food Basics Plaza, Wilson St. Ancaster
8am—1pm

We need volunteers. Here's how you can help:

Potting Days at Whiteside Farms Start Soon

(1160 Jerseyville Rd. then down lane on left to barns)

Watch our News FLASH for start of Potting Days

Join us for some or all of the potting days.

WED. and SAT. ONLY 9:30-noon

Bring a coffee mug and join the fun!

Bring your divided or unwanted perennials.

Include PLANT NAMES with plants if possible.

**You don't have to be a
Plant Expert to help!**

**-we need lifters, diggers,
transportation, potters,
sellers. We'll show you!**

We have a lot of fun. Join us!

Your plant contributions are important for the sale!

As you do your spring clean up consider which plants would benefit from being split or shared with another garden. (Be careful with invasive plants)

Watch our April News FLASH for drop-off information.

Need help to dig up plants? Contact:

ancasterhort.socy@gmail.com OR Contact

Jeanne Robertson (905-630-1200) jeannemrobertson66@gmail.com

Bob Wilt (905-648-3369) bob.wilt47@gmail.com

2025 AHS Plant Sale

Plant donations from our members form the backbone of our sale. Here's a guide to the type of plants that help to support our sale.

Perennials Needed

(Especially named varieties)

Anemone—spring or fall varieties
 Astilbe
 Balloon Flower (Platycodon)
 Bee Balm (Monarda-esp. named varieties)
 Beard Tongue (Penstemon)
 Bear's Breeches (Acanthus)
 Bell Flower (Campanula-tall & short)
 Bergenia
 Blanket Flower (Gaillardia)
 Brunnera
 Columbine (Aquilegia)
 Cone Flowers (Echinacea-Native & named)
 Coral Bells (Heuchera)
 Coreopsis
 Cranesbill (Perennial Geranium)
 False Sunflower (Heliopsis)
 Ferns-all varieties
 Gayfeather (Liatris)
 Globe Thistle (Echinops)
 Globe Flower (Trollius)
 Goatsbeard (Aruncus)
 Grasses & Sedges (named varieties only)
 Hellebores
 Hens & Chicks (Sempervivum)
 Iris-Bearded, Miniature, Siberian, Japanese
 Jacob's Ladder (Polemonium)
 Lady's Mantle (Alchemella)
 Lavender
 Ligularia
 Lily-Asiatic, Oriental
 Lobelia
 Peonies
 Phlox-creeping & tall
 Pinks (Dianthus)
 Poppy (Papaver)
 Rose Campion (Lychnis)
 Russian Sage (Perovskia)
 Sage (Salvia)
 Sea Holly (Eryngium)
 Sedum-creeping & tall
 Sneezeweed (Helenium)
 Speedwell (Veronica)
 Spiderwort (Tradescantia)
 Spurge (Euphorbia)
 Thrift (Armeria)
 Yarrow

Native Plants Needed

Asters
 Blue False Indigo (Baptisia)
 Cardinal Flower (Lobelia)
 Foam Flower (Tiarella)
 Gentian
 Grasses & Sedges (named varieties only)
 Hyssop (Agastache)
 Jack-in-the-Pulpit
 Joe Pye Weed (Eupatorium)
 Milkweed plants (Asclepias)
 Wild Ginger (Asarum)

Limited Need

Black-Eyed Susan (Rudbeckia)
 Corn Flower (Centaurea)
 Daylilies-coloured & named varieties only
 Dahlia
 Hosta-variegated, blue, named varieties only
 Obedient Plant (Physostegia)
 Solomon's Seal

Shrubs and Trees Needed

Dogwood (Cornus)
 Flowering Shrubs -that can be divided
 e.g. Forsythia, Lilac, Hydrangeas
 Holly (Ilex)
 Japanese Maples (Acer)

Please Don't Donate These Plants!

(They do not sell well & we can't store them)
 Daylilies -Orange & Yellow
 Hostas-Plain Green Varieties
 Lamium
 Lily of the Valley
 Lungwort-(Pulmonaria)
 Periwinkle (Vinca)
 Prickly Pear Cactus
 Shasta Daisies (Leucanthemum)



Fieldcote Clean Up Day has been scheduled for **Sat. April 26th, 2025**

9:00am to 1:00pm

at Fieldcote Park & Museum
64 Sulphur Springs Rd. Ancaster

We're scheduled to convene our volunteer gardeners on **Saturday April 26th from 9:00 until 1:00**. We'll be joined by the Ancaster Scouts as we focus on pulling garlic mustard and picking up general debris while being careful not to disturb the hibernating pollinators. Our jobs will also include spreading a truckload of woodchips over the pathways, as necessary. The City will provide the woodchips, a dumpster and a pizza lunch!

This event is the start to our weekly gardening, from April until October, on this gem of Ancaster parks.

Come join us for the cleanup and consider joining us every following Thursday morning as we maintain the gardens.

We're a fun bunch!

~Bob Wilt



Photos: B. Wilt & Archives

Members' Page

Signs of Spring!

"Daffodils about 3-4 inches
& cardinals. Hurray!"

~Babs Dawson

"Saw my first robin and it
made me smile!"

~Patti Pellerin

"My rhubarb is up. The Snowdrops
are open and fall crocus leaves
are up." ~Anne Croy

"Saw my first 'flock' of robins
last week." ~Carolyn Bondarenko

"Daffodils are popping up
in my garden."

~Donna Fraser



"Snowdrops are up!"

~Carol Howe



"I found hellebores blooming
under a huge snow pile!"

~Donna Parker

Photo: R. Parker

"2 patches of Snowdrops are blooming.
Robin in the birdbath & daffodil
shoots coming up." ~Jill Macaulay

"Saw 2 robins in my back yard."

~Cathy Wood

And "Pussywillows!"

~Anon.

Gardening Tips

Many of us are starting our garden season by **Planting Seeds Indoors**. With plenty of light, warmth and the right watering it can be a really inexpensive and satisfying way to garden. Getting the watering right is an important key to success. Here are some tips from:

savvygardening.com



Water too often and plants are deprived of oxygen and fungus can grow. Water too little and plants can wilt.

Top Watering: Works well before seedlings germinate. Use a mister to spray the surface of the soil.

Bottom Watering: Use a watering can to fill the tray at the bottom of the seedlings & allow the water to soak up through the roots. Drain excess water when soil is fully dampened.

For more information see:

<https://savvygardening.com/how-often-to-water-seedlings/>

Tips for Successful TOMATO GROWING

1 Pick a Sunny Spot

6-8 hrs of sun/day

3 Support!

Except for micro tomatoes, all tomatoes need support. Use stakes or trellises.

5 Water Carefully &

regularly. Don't splash leaves. Not too much, not too little. Check soil first.

2 Plant Deep!

Plant deeper than plant grew in pot. Remove bottom leaves.

4 Mulch to preserve soil moisture & reduce weeds

6 Fertilize & Monitor

Check for pests & remove.

Sources: Multiple

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

April

Mid- April: Potting Days Begin
Watch New FLASH for exact dates

15 AHS Monthly Meeting 7:30pm
'All Things Lavender' with
Kim Drew (Note: There will be
scaffolding at the Old Town Hall but we're
still meeting inside!)

26 Fieldcote Cleanup Day
9:00am-1:00pm -Bring gloves &
rakes & join in. Pizza lunch!

May

17 Our Annual Plant Sale!
Don't Miss It!



May

20 AHS Monthly Meeting 7:30pm
'Attracting Wild Birds to Your
Backyard Garden' with Paul
Oliver of Urban Nature Store

June

18th AHS Monthly Meeting 7:30pm
Our Famous Strawberry Social!
Stay tuned!



District 6 AGM

Sponsored by: Georgetown Horticultural Society
Event Timing: April 12, 2025, Doors Open at 10 AM Expect to wrap up by 3PM
Event Address: Hillsview Active Living Centre-Georgetown aka The Seniors
Centre, 318 Guelph Street, Unit 9 (back entrance), Georgetown, ON
Workshop after the Meeting: There will be a Hypertufa Workshop (3:30 to 5) at
the home of Director, Lianne Krane (about 20 minutes drive) to: 9520 5 Side Rd,
Milton, ON L9T 2X9 (register below)
Contact for more info about the meeting: Secretary Susan MacMillan, 905-977-
8567, tailwind42@yahoo.ca or, Treasurer, Bob Heil, 905-246-
3933, bobheil56@outlook.com



Rain Ready Hamilton

The City of Hamilton, along with
Green Venture, provides rebates!

Annually homeowners who wish to make their
properties more resilient to storms may apply for
a rebate. For details contact:

greenventure.ca