

Florascope

65 Years of Beautifying Ancaster

It's Spring!

After this long, snowy winter we welcome this season of growing and enjoying all things gardening.

Our **Heirloom Tomato & Pepper Plant**

Sale is well underway. There are lots left but order soon for the best choice of varieties. (Page2)

Preparations for our **Plant Sale on May 16th** are also underway.

The proceeds from this sale help to support our volunteer activities and our program so we'll need lots of involvement from members. See page 3 for how you can contribute and watch our News FLASH for potting days updates.

Our Program Director has two outings planned for us. The first on June 24 with a **trip** to Purple Haven Lavender Farm & Beth Powell's garden in Canfield. The second is July 14 to Creek View Nursery in Brantford for a **tour & shopping**. (details to follow & sign up at Apr. Mtg.) AND we have a **Best Blooms Competition** at our next few meetings where you can show a bloom from your garden and be eligible to win a \$50 gift certificate from Harpers! (See p. 6)

Join us!

Your Executive Council



'Snowdrops' D. Puskas



'Hellebores' D. Parker



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Pre-Order your Tomatoes and Peppers!

There are interesting varieties available. Some are new and some are old friends and some are specially suited to container growing. We're offering peppers this year. If you haven't grown them why not give them a try. Peppers and tomatoes require similar growing conditions.

Order now for best selection.



'Mountain Princess'
Container-friendly Tomato



'Orange Picnic'
Sweet Pepper



'Humbolti'
Cherry Tomato

Worth Repeating...

Tips for Successful TOMATO GROWING

1 Pick a Sunny Spot
6-8 hrs of sun/day

2 Plant Deep!
Plant deeper than
plant grew in pot.
Remove bottom leaves.

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

4 Mulch to preserve
soil moisture &
reduce weeds
Sources: Multiple

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

6 Fertilize & Monitor
Check for pests &
remove.

Ancaster Horticultural Society's

Plant Sale!

Saturday May 16, 2026

Food Basics Plaza, Wilson St. Ancaster
8am—12pm

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

Join us for Potting Days at our NEW LOCATION:
 991 Lower Lions Club Rd. Ancaster
 Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-12 and
 Saturday afternoons 1pm-3pm
 AND —We need POTS 8" or 1 gal. pots and up
 Watch for News FLASH for starting dates at end
 of April (weather dependent)

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)
 If you are growing plants which are **NATIVE** to our growing area these would
 be especially welcome donations.. (See the list of suggestions on p. 4)

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

2026 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)

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)
 Daylilies (named varieties only)
 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)
 Hosta-(named varieties, blue)
 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

Agastache (Hyssop)
 Aquilegia canadensis (red) Columbine
 Arisaema triphyllum (Jack in the Pulpit)
 Asclepias (Milkweed)
 Asarum (Wild Ginger)
 Asters
 Baptisia (Blue False Indigo)
 Bergamot, wild (monarda fistulosa)
 Campanula americana (Bellflower)
 Cardinal Flower (Lobelia)
 Cercis canadensis (Redbud)
 Coreopsis
 Corydalis (can be invasive)
 Chelone (turtlehead)
 Dogwood (Pagoda, Red Osier, Grey)
 Echinacea purpurea
 Eupatorium (Joe Pye Weed)
 Gentian
 Grasses & Sedges (named varieties only)
 Hypericum (St. John's Wort)
 Liatrus cylindracea
 Penstemon digitalis
 Sanguinaria canadensis (Bloodroot)
 Thalictrum diocicum
 Tiarella (Foam Flower)
 Trillium
 Verbena simplex (Verbain)

Sorry but no –

(These plants do not sell well & some are invasive. We ask you not to donate them)

Hostas-Plain Green Varieties
 Lamium
 Lily of the Valley
 Lungwort-(Pulmonaria)
 Periwinkle (Vinca)
 Prickly Pear Cactus
 Shasta Daisies (Leucanthemum)

Please check the soil attached to roots and remove weeds & any insects.
 We strive to not spread invasive species.



**Fieldcote Clean Up Day has been scheduled for Sat. April 25th, 2026
9:00am to 12 noon
at Fieldcote Park & Museum
64 Sulphur Springs Rd. Ancaster**

Sat. April 25th is the annual spring cleanup of the grounds at Fieldcote Memorial Park and Museum. All are welcome to volunteer as we pick up winter dead fall, spread woodchips and hunt out early signs of invasive plants. If you have a rake or spade, bring it along.
Join us! Meet new people AND there are always refreshments!
by Sharon Lee

Help us to Continue to BEAUTIFY ANCASTER!



Join the Municipal Gardening Volunteers!

by Donna Fraser

Volunteer gardeners maintain the Municipal Gardens from May to October. We Beautify the Old Town Hall/Library, the Millenium beds and Brandon Park gardens. This usually involves 1 hour/week. Weekly can even become a bi-weekly commitment depending on volunteer participation. All levels of gardening knowledge are welcome. Come out and enjoy some social time too!
(Sign up on the clipboard at the April meeting or email to:)

ancasterhort.socy@gmail.com

Members' Page



Proud Trillium Winners!
Joe & Lisa
Photo: Bob Wilt



A Daily Visitor to the Feeder
Red-Bellied Woodpecker
Photo: Bob Parker



Winter Travels in Portugal
Photo: Marilyn Burjan

Best Bloom Competition

At our monthly meetings from April to October we'll have a "Best Bloom" competition. All meeting attendees get a chance to cast 1 vote. The prize is a \$50 gift certificate for Harpers Nursery.

To Enter:

- Bring a single branch or stem from your garden in a vase or jar. (stem approx. 12" long)
- One entry each
- Voting will occur 15 minutes prior to the meeting
- Participation is unlimited but a member is limited to 1 prize/year.

Bring a spring flower or a blooming branch to the April Meeting



From the Archives—Do You Remember?
Rainy Plant Sale 2010



Fieldcote in the Fall
Photo: David Puskas



This 'n That

Did you know that—
 Membership fees can be paid by e-transfer from your bank. Transfer to: ancasterhort.socy@gmail.com

Could you help out—
 —by bringing refreshments to a meeting?
 —by helping our social director to Plan our November Potluck Dinner?
Consider sharing the tasks with another member

 Contact Wendy at 905-648-4112

In Memorium Lillian 'Lil' Hurst



Lil was in her 100th year and lived a full and active life. She was a teacher who will be remembered by many Ancaster students. Joining our Society in 1992 Lil volunteered in all aspects of the group notably as director of the Flower & Vegetable Show and the Plant Sale and remained involved into her later years. Lil had a range of interests, volunteering and donating to many charities, AND, she had a flair for wearing hats!

Photo: from her Obituary Lil was also an accomplished baker and cook. I have happy memories of the Christmas Eves that we received one of the many Tortieres that Lil made for neighbours and friends. Our condolences are extended to her family.

Contributed by Donna Parker

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

- 21 AHS Monthly Meeting 7:30pm
 'Wild Edibles' with Melissa North,
 Certified Holistic Practitioner
 (7:15 Best Blooms Competition)
- 25 Fieldcote Cleanup Day
 9:00am-1:00pm -Bring gloves &
 rakes & join in. Refreshmen!ts



District 6 **ANNUAL SPRING MEETING**
 and Flower Show. Saturday April 25,
 2026. Hosted by Paris Horticultural
 Society Celebrating its 40th Anniversary

Where: Paris Fairground, 139 Silver St., Paris Ontario

May

- 9 Paris Hort's Plant Sale
 Syl Apps Centre 8am-10:30 am

May

- 16 AHS Annual PLANT SALE
 8am-12noon Food Basic Plaza
- 19 AHS Monthly Meeting 7:30pm
 'Gardens that Give Back' with
 Kirsten McCarthy, Master
 Gardener
 'Nurturing Biodiversity with
 Native Plants'

June

- 16 AHS Monthly Meeting 7:30pm
 'From Garden to Farm—Scaling Up
 the Love of Flowers' with
 Colin Phillips & Mandey Moote,
 Sycamore Hill Flower Farms
- 24 Road Trip to Purple Haven
 Lavender Farm & a Tour of
 Beth Powell's Garden,
 Canfield, ON 10am to 2pm
 No Charge for Members
 (Car pooling encouraged)

Enjoy the optimism of April.



Source: @peteplants