



Galt Horticultural Society
Ferguson Cottage 

**Join us Monday Sept 26, 2022 @ 7:00 PM
for our next General Meeting!**

Slideshow Presentation – Mosaïcultures Quebec 2022

Liz Stacey along with several of our members went on this fabulous bus trip and will share lots of great photos from this event!



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84901140502?pwd=SDNVaUpKNGdXTediVVhzcXh4VVZxQT09>

Meeting ID: 849 0114 0502

Passcode: 386424

Zoom Tips

Please use the “Mute” option and keep yourself in Mute unless you are speaking.

You can turn off your webcam by using the “Stop Video” option.

If you find the video or sound is breaking up, use the “Stop Video” option. Your computer will use less bandwidth since it’s not projecting your video and that can help the quality.

If you wish to see only the person speaking, select the “Speaker View”.

If you wish to see only the presenter when screen share is on, select the “Active Speaker Video” option (in the tool bar where the participant windows are).

If you don't have a webcam, you can join and you'll see everything on your screen. We won't be able to see you, but we can hear you.

If you don't have a speaker, or if you don't wish to speak out loud, use the "Chat" option.

You can also connect by dialing in on telephone, so that you can listen to the meeting.

GHS Plant Exchange Is Coming Sept 25th!!

Our Fall Plant Exchange will be held on **Sun Sept 25th @ 1:00 pm** at Ferguson Cottage. We will be using the School of Architecture parking lot. The idea is for anyone who has plants to give away, put them in the trunk of your vehicle, then attendees can walk about and select plants they are interested in taking home. Everyone should adhere to social distancing and masks can be worn by those who prefer to do so. All plants are FREE...as this is a plant swap. 😊

Try to include some information about the plants you are exchanging...

- *common name
- *botanical name (if you have it)
- *does it need full sun, full shade or part
- *colour
- *soil conditions
- *drought tolerant
- *perennial
- *annual
- *biennial
- *noteworthy characteristics

Start dividing up and collecting the plants you wish to exchange and we hope to see many of our members at our Fall Plant Exchange.



And The Winner Is...GHS Aug 2022 Photo Contest!

Congratulations to Susan Wong as the winner of our August Photo Contest! Susan submitted photo #2-cart full of veggies.



All the photos submitted were wonderful! Congratulations again Susan!

Don't forget to send in your photos for our GHS September Photo Contest...'Any Photo You Wish To Submit'!

Send in a photo of anything you wish...favourite flowers, pets in your gardens, wildlife visiting your gardens, a planter or flower bed that is looking especially lovely...birds...whatever you like!

Send in with 'GHS September Photo Contest' in the subject line to lynne@galthort.com by Sept 17th @ 6pm.

The list of photos will be sent out and **voting will take place between Sept 18th - 24th** . The **winner(s) will be announced at our General Meeting that resumes on Sept 26th.**

GHS & Bee City Event

The Galt Horticultural Society is proud to be participating in **The Inaugural Cambridge Bee City Festival!**



- **When:** Saturday, October 1st rain or shine: drop in any time between 2:00 and 4:00 PM (no registration required).
- **Where:** Riverbluffs Park, 251 George Street, the AMCC Boathouse.
- **Hosted by:** The Ancient Mariners Canoe Club in partnership with the Cambridge Bee City Team.

Then walk through the Cambridge Pollinator Preserve and Education Centre just behind the boathouse, Cambridge's oldest pollinator habitat.

Come and learn:

- ? the facts about pollination ecology
- ? what field projects are underway in the City
- ? how our gardeners have embraced the pollinator challenge
- ? how you too can create pollinator habitat

...all while you listen to live acoustic instrumental folk music.

Information: Jim Dyer, jamesdyer@sympatico.ca, or, Paul Willms, willmsp@cambridge.ca

No food or drink, all activities subject to current COVID 19 restrictions.

Drop by and say hi at our GHS booth and show your support!

GHS Membership Favourite Plant Profiles

And now for something new! The GHS would like to highlight our memberships favourite, weird or unusual plants!

Send in photos of your favourite, weird or unusual plants with a bit of blurb about why you love your plant, what's so unusual about it and we will feature it in our newsletter for all our members to read and enjoy. Email your photo and info to lynne@galthort.com.

Membership Has Its Benefits!!



The Galt Horticultural Society's membership is continuing to grow!

Encourage fellow gardeners, family and friends to become a part of a historical society.

Membership gives everyone the opportunity to make new friends, learn about horticulture/gardening and remain engaged with other gardeners.

The cost is only \$15 (single) & \$25 (couple).

Please visit our website at www.galthort.com to join and like us on our FB page!

Click here to see the current list of retailers offering GHS members a discount on their purchases! <https://galthort.com/aboutmembership/>

For Your Interest...



JOURNEY SOUTH

by Claudette Sims, Halton Master Gardener

A magical event is about to take place—monarch butterflies begin their migration south in September! While each adult monarch butterfly lives for two to six weeks in summer, the migrating generation lives up to seven months in order to travel 4,000 km to Mexico and survive through the fall and winter. How can gardeners support these charismatic creatures?

Grow More Caterpillars

Because the caterpillars of the monarch butterfly feed exclusively on milkweed species, planting milkweed will increase numbers of monarchs born here in Ontario. Common milkweed ([Asclepias syriaca](#)) is likely the best known and is actually growing in popularity amongst gardeners. It has gorgeous and fragrant pink flowers, but it can spread aggressively via rhizomes. It is well suited to a large garden that can accommodate its spread. To control it, simply remove seed heads and dig up any unwanted plants.

Butterfly milkweed ([Asclepias tuberosa](#)) boasts flashy orange flowers and will rebloom in fall, giving it a long bloom time. The long tap root of butterfly milkweed means it does not spread aggressively, but you need to consider its needs (full sun) before planting as it is difficult to transplant. Swamp milkweed ([Asclepias incarnata](#)) prefers a moist soil but once established it can tolerate drier conditions. Individual plants maintain a clumping form. Poke milkweed ([Asclepias exaltata](#)) is unique because it actually prefers shade, even tolerating dry shade if the soil has lots of organic matter.



Close up of common milkweed flowers.
Image: Cathy Kavassalis

Fall Nectar Sources

Monarchs can't make the journey south without eating. They depend on a supply of sugars to give them the energy to fly. Asters, goldenrods and native sunflowers are some of the best plants to provide the rich nectar supplies needed. How many of these late blooming plants do you have in your garden?

- Native sunflowers (*Helianthus* spp., e.g. woodland sunflower ([Helianthus divaricatus](#)))
- Asters (New England aster ([Symphyotrichum novae-angliae](#)))
- Goldenrods (*Solidago* spp., e.g., Canada goldenrod ([Solidago canadensis](#)))

Overcoming Environmental Problems

Migrating monarchs face increasingly difficult problems. Climate change means that more frequent storms and weather conditions can stop them before they arrive. Habitat loss and fragmentation, industrial agriculture and illegal logging in Mexico continue to decrease their overwintering range. Gardeners can advocate for this iconic creature by supporting organizations that advocate for real change, e.g., World Wildlife Federation, Canadian Wildlife Federation.

Find out More!

- [Journey North](#)
- [Native Milkweeds for Ontario Gardens](#)
- [Native Sunflowers for Ontario Gardens](#)
- [Native Asters for Ontario Gardens](#)
- [About Monarch Butterflies](#) (World Wildlife Federation)



SEPTEMBER 'TO-DO' LIST

by Claudette Sims, Halton Master Gardener

- ☐ **Perennials** – Divide or transplant spring & summer flowering perennials, e.g., iris, peony, phlox, wood poppy, native anemone as the weather cools. Water the new divisions well. Fill gaps in borders with asters, ornamental cabbage & mums to extend the colour to the end of the season. Leave some goldenrod flowers for pollinators!
- ☐ **Feed the Soil** – Add [compost or manure](#) to garden beds & lawn. Plant [cover crops](#) such as [red clover](#) & [winter rye](#) on bare soil in veggie gardens.
- ☐ **Veggies** – Harvest green tomatoes & ripen indoors, freeze or use in recipes. Sow seeds to grow your salad garden, e.g., lettuce, spinach, arugula and radishes.
- ☐ **Trees** – Plant new trees and shrubs now to allow them at least six weeks before frost to form roots. Water transplanted trees until freeze up.
- ☐ **Houseplants** – Prune back tropicals such as hibiscus & move them into some shade to help transition indoors for the winter, where the light levels are lower. Spray plants with commercial insecticidal soap as needed & move houseplants indoors gradually as nights get cool. **Orchids** need a drop in temperature of 5 degrees (17/18C at night and 23C in the day) for 2 to 4 weeks to trigger reblooming.
- ☐ **Lawn & Weeds** – Choose a rainy day to overseed lawn, then cover seeds with a [top dressing](#) of fine compost or manure. Half the height of the blades of grass should still be visible. Fall feeding increases root growth for an early spring green up. Tired of your patchy brown lawn? Consider an alternative like ecolawn which requires less water, mowing and feeding. Info including how to convert a traditional lawn [here](#). Pull, rake or cut off weeds at ground level. Keep pulling & cutting bindweed to reduce the seed bank in soil.
- ☐ **Leaves** – Attach a grass catcher bag to the mower and collect a ready supply of chopped leaves to layer into the compost pile or use as mulch on your veggie or flower garden.
- ☐ **Bulbs** – Plant spring flowering bulbs such as crocus, tulip, hyacinth now, until before freeze up of soil. Water bulbs after planting. Avoid invasive bulbs like [scilla](#).
- ☐ **Collect seeds** for winter sowing and herbs for drying.



Keystone plants are critical to maintain complex food webs that support butterflies, native bees, and birds. 96% of our terrestrial birds rely on insects supported by keystone plants.

**Perennial "Keystone Plants" That Bloom in September**[Showy Goldenrod](#)[Heart Leaved Aster](#)[Blue Stem Goldenrod](#)[New England Aster](#)[Woodland Sunflower](#)



Brantford Master Gardeners Tips From The Watering Can

Join our Brantford Master Gardeners. We are experienced gardeners who started out as Master Gardeners in Training and had the opportunity to study horticulture through Guelph University courses and once we received our MG status continued to upgrade our skills through technical training. Our ongoing mandate is to provide horticultural advice to the general public through garden tours, community events, on-line and talks. We would love to have you join our group. Contact Lynne Goulet-Smith, Coordinator – lgs.granderie.mg@rogers.com

My Favourite Gardening Tool

by Marilyn Park

Have you ever not known just how badly you wanted something, you didn't have, until you saw it? It really could be anything: your partner, a vehicle, a fancy outfit? Really, it's a simple case of you don't know what you don't know, or you really don't miss what you never had. Or even: ignorance is bliss.

And then you see him or her, or the car or the boots... and they turn out to be what was always missing and fit like a glove.

Well, without being too melodramatic, that's just how I felt when I saw my first Hori Hori.

Until that moment, I lived in ignorant bliss of just what an important gardening tool I was missing. I saw it lying in its sheath on the side of my fibre-artist friend's garden. Even though I didn't know what it was, I knew I wanted one. I asked her about it and she gave me a brief history of it.

I was sold. I went home, looked sadly at my tools, did some research, and ordered one within an hour.



It's a very interesting tool, with a very long history. I LOVE mine. It does absolutely everything I need it to, and then some. It cuts with its serrated side, slices, chops, digs, transplants, plants, and measures like a ruler. All of this with precision. I don't leave my deck without it, and it travels with me, back and forth from my home in Brantford to my cottages on Manitoulin Island. I bought one for my brother (who has the best of everything- but no Hori Hori) for his 70th birthday. I didn't forget to include a loony because our mother instilled in us that you don't give scissors or knives, without giving some money. Not sure if it was just her superstition, or a law, but make no mistake, the Hori Hori is very knife/weapon-like. A girlfriend of mine stepped backwards when I removed it from its sheath.

The Hori Hori is an ancient Japanese gardening tool. Hori means "to dig" in Japanese, and the sound of Hori Hori is onomatopoeia in Japanese for the sound of digging.

The following information is from: barebonesliving.com

1. The first Japanese blade is likely a Katana- a large blade used primarily in combat during the Samurai era.
2. They were used by the Ashiguru, the Japanese position of warrior- farmer in the mid 1500's.
3. History has it that these warriors were not paid but were permitted to confiscate any possession they desired from their victims.

Written by Marilyn Park, MGIT, September 2022 on behalf of the Grand Erie Master Gardeners ©
Master Gardeners of Ontario | for more information contact: info@germagners.org | GrandErieMG@rogers.com

4. This created a situation where there were armed mercenaries.
5. Emperor Toyotomi Hideyoshi implemented a new rule called Katanagari, defined literally as "sword hunt", aimed at confiscating weapons owned by the Ashiguru.
6. Gardening tools such as the Hori Hori were exempt from this.
7. The making of Katanas was outlawed in 1876 and this is when talents were diversified to make better kitchen and gardening tools.

I know my gardening friends have seen mine, and rather than coveting it have just gone and gotten their own. I hear it also has many uses in camping as well. Well, I'll never look back. It's a tool that looks scary and has drawn blood (my own) more than once, but I treat it with respect, and I value it. It doesn't ever stay out in the rain, as some of my other gardening tools have.

If you have one, I bet you love it. If you don't, why not give it a try?

Hort Humour!!!

Me when someone
compliments my plants



When you were a crazy plant
person before it was cool 🌱



Wear Your Galt Horticultural Society Logo Wear With Pride!



GHS Logo Wear

Get your own Galt Horticultural Society T-Shirt and/or Hoodie.
This is a sample of the embroidered crest included on the item.

T-shirts: \$20.50 + tax.

Unisex Hoodies: \$36.00 + tax.

For more information or to place an order, follow this link:

GHS Logo Wear: **GHS Website:** <https://galthort.com/>



Find us on
Facebook

Year of the Garden

Année du jardin

