



Streetsville Blooms



Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

Volume 32, Issue 8

www.streetsvillehort.ca

April 2025



Daffodil pictures taken by Shelley Dodd

Next Meeting

Tuesday, April 8, 2025
Streetsville United Church
In Heritage Hall
274 Queen Street South
Set Up at 6:30 p.m.
Doors open at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

Speaker: Michael Erdman
Topic: What Judges Look for in
Floral Design



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Co-Presidents' Message

April is an exciting time for gardeners as we see the bulbs we planted in the fall begin to emerge. Ephemerals like snowdrops (*Galanthus nivalis*) and pussy willows (*Salix discolor*) are signs that spring has arrived. We welcome migrating birds and their calls into our gardens, as the males sing to establish their nesting site and attract a mate.



Our society also becomes a hive of activity as we prepare for our biggest fundraiser, our May plant sale, hold 2 flower shows, distribute free plants to members, welcome guests to our April Open house, and return to community gardening at Rotary Park, Jon Clipperton Park, and the Leslie Log House.



Volunteering is a great way to meet new people, learn from others, and is part of the SHS membership expectations. This month, join us as we clean up our community gardens for Earth Day, dig up and transplant plants or solicit donations from local businesses for our plant sale. We are looking for a photo contest coordinator, publicity chairperson, and someone to manage our Facebook and Instagram online presence. Please let us know if you can assist.

This year Garden Ontario has chosen “Edible Gardens” as their theme, instead of a colour. Guest speaker Diana Westland suggested that novice gardeners begin with 3 vegetables, find a location that has 8 hours of direct sunlight, and west wind exposure. Cool season crops such as peas, spinach, carrots and onions germinate at low temperatures and can survive with below 20° C temperatures, whereas warm season crops such as beans, cucumbers, peppers, and squash don't like cold soil.

Our meeting April 8th is our “Open House”! We encourage members to bring a friend, neighbour, or colleague to listen to our guest speaker and learn about the benefits of being a horticultural society member. Guests are free for their first visit! Guests, along with the member who brings them, will receive a pair of gardening gloves. As well, we will be having a vase exchange and a draw table.

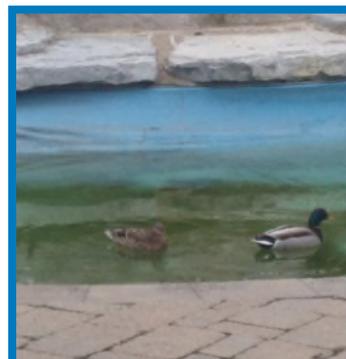
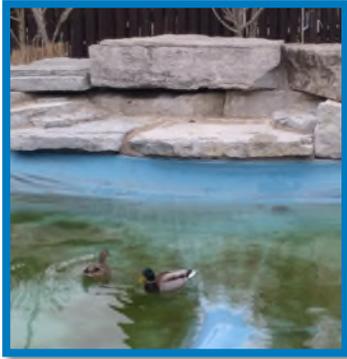
We are looking forward to a very busy spring and we encourage you to help wherever you can.

Shelley Dodd and Maureen Dodd, Co-Presidents

*Common Snowdrops picture taken by Shelley Dodd
Snow Crocus picture taken by Grace Nelham*

First Visitors to the Garden – 2025

Steve Fenech caught the first visitors to his garden (pool) on camera!



Litter Pick Up at the Leslie Log House

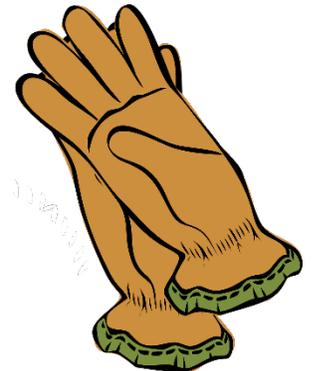
There is always garbage to be found alongside Mississauga Road where passersby toss unwanted items out of their cars. There is lots of property here for the garbage to blow into - 23 acres to be exact.

We are holding our **Annual Litter Pick Up** on **Saturday April 26th**. If you are looking for a couple of hours out in the sunshine (hopefully) with fellow SHS members, please show up at the Leslie Log House - 4415 Mississauga Road at **9:30 a.m.** on April 26th. Garbage bags will be provided.

Please remember to wear good footwear (ground may be wet in spots), gloves etc.

Rain date will be Sunday, April 27th at 9:30 a.m. Hope to see you there!

Carol Ashford, Leslie Log House Chair



Rotary Park



I'm happy to announce the date for cleanup of Rotary Park for **Thursday 17th April** starting at **9:30 a.m.**, with a rain date of the April 24th. There shouldn't be a huge amount to do; pick up the garbage, rake up the leaves that weren't mulched and discuss plans for the parks in 2025. If we have enough people we can do Jon Clipperton Park as well, that should be quite easy.

I'm looking forward to working there again, we have 3 of our members undergoing medical procedures before then so I wish you well and a speedy recovery.

Jon Eldridge, Rotary Park Chair

Celebrations



April's birth flowers are daisy and sweet pea. Daisies are perennials and common varieties include ox eye, Shasta, and gerbera. Sweet Peas (*Lathyrus odoratus*) are related to beans and legumes, but unlike the garden variety, they are toxic to humans and animals.



Happy birthday to Martha W., Faulene H., and new member Trang, who are all celebrating a birthday in April.

Happy 40th Anniversary to Brett and Faulene! Gladioli is the flower chosen for this milestone because it represents strength and integrity.

Wishing you a year ahead filled with many garden surprises and delights.

Membership Desk

What a wonderful meeting last month, learning all about urban gardening from our speaker Arlene. We welcomed a new member, Trang R., and we had 47 members in attendance.

The next meeting on April 8 will be our open house, guests are welcome! Please pass the word along to your friends and neighbors who may be interested. Word of mouth from current members is a great way to increase our membership.

Did you know membership comes with an array of benefits? From exclusive access to events and workshops, to learning from talented and entertaining speakers, we're dedicated to enriching your journey with us.

If you happened to take your nametag home, please remember to bring it to the next meeting. Thanks to our helper at the membership desk, Karen N. I will be away for the next meeting, but I am leaving the Membership desk in the capable hands of Karen N, and Marg A.

Thank you for being an integral part of our community. If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Faulene Hopkins, Membership Chair



Faulene Hopkins & Karen Nish

Refreshment Table

Thank you to members: Marg Allen, Judi Kokis, Liz Menard, Monika Schouten and Martha Witney for donating to our March (St. Patrick's) Refreshment table.

Please remember to sign the sheet if you contribute and I will record the amount of time that you used to prepare, etc. as volunteer hours, with Amarin Tsujimura.

Members who have signed up for the April "Spring, Easter and Earth Day" themed Refreshment Table on April 8th are: Jean Deelstra, Judi Kokis and Ursula Evanoff.

Just a reminder the church is a nut-free facility and remember to bring your mug.

Martha Witney, Refreshment Table Co-Ordinator

2025 Spring Photo Contest Winners

And the winners are.....



Nature Colour Category:

First: Brent Hopkins, Shirley Boyes (Tied)

Second: Liz Menard

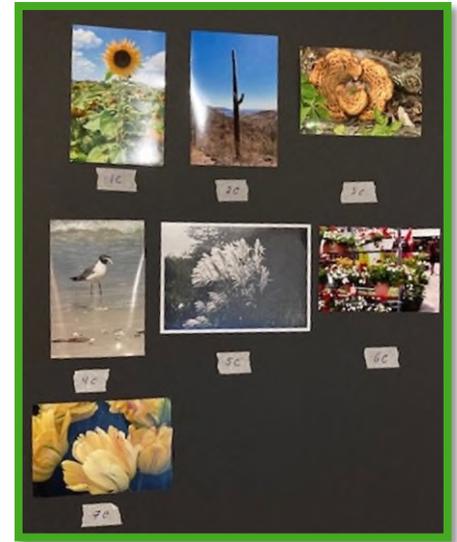
Third: Maryann Brown, Suzanne Palummieri (Tied)

Nature Black & White Category:

First: Maryann Brown, Suzanne Palummieri (Tied)

Second: Don Pitson

Third: No third place awarded



Congratulations to all the winners and a big thank you to all who participated.

Christina Anonychuk, Photo Contest Coordinator

Hydrilla

Submitted by Joyce Schlegel, District 10 Director



Hydrilla is a hardy invasive aquatic plant that grows in freshwater lakes or rivers. It can be found on every continent across the globe, except Antarctica; and is believed to have originated from Asia.

Hydrilla was initially brought to North America as an aquarium plant in the 1950's, but its rapid growth made it undesirable. Aquariums were emptied out in waterways where the plants thrived and grew at an alarming rate, reaching the water's surface even from depths of 40 feet. Once at the surface, deep mats of vegetation form that block sunlight and deplete nutrients, wreaking havoc on native plants and aquatic life.

In late 2023, Hydrilla was found for the first time in Canada, in the areas around Peterborough and Leamington, Ontario. These areas are closed to all recreational activities for the cleanup of this highly invasive aquatic species. The rapid spread can be attributed to fragments attaching to recreational boats, vehicles, humans, or animals and being inadvertently carried from one area to another. Even the smallest fragment can establish a new colony elsewhere.

To eradicate Hydrilla, it is both time-consuming and expensive, by water drawdown, physical removal, chemical treatment or biological control with "grass-eating" carp. The plants must be disposed of properly as they can remain viable for several years and can re-establish colonies should it be submerged in water.

In Ontario, Hydrilla is listed as a prohibited invasive species under Ontario's Invasive Species Act, 2015.

Think you have seen an invasive species? **Report it!**

Invading Species Hotline: 1-800-563-7711

<https://www.eddmaps.org/>



OHA Trillium - Winter 2024-25

My Amaryllis

Even though I potted up my 4 Amaryllis bulbs all at the same time, I had varying results! The double flower never produced anything, one bloomed and I came downstairs one morning to find it toppled over on the floor and broken, one only produced leaves and one sprouted up about 2 inches and sat there.

I was going to ditch all of them when I noticed the two inch one was getting a wee bit taller. It took it forever to shoot up a stem with a bulb on the end. Today (March 22) three months after it was planted it bloomed. It has 4 flowers, two of which have opened. It was worth the wait.

Carol Ashford



Sarah Grey Pick Farm & The Watering Can Excursion

The tickets have been purchased, and we are anxiously awaiting our SHS excursion to Sarah Grey Tulip Farm in Pelham, the previous site of TASC, on Tuesday, May 6th. If you are unable to attend this day with the SHS group, you can go any weekday (Mon. – Fri.) on your own.

The cost of the tickets was \$18, so members who paid \$25 will be refunded \$7, and the others who paid \$16 will be asked to pay the additional \$2. The pre-purchased tickets, which includes entrance into the farm and the picking of 10 tulip stems, will be available for pick up at the April meeting.

At the meeting I will be polling people to see if they are attending with the group, are interested in eating lunch at the Watering Can so reservations can be made, and whether they are driving and have extra seats for passengers. It is suggested that passengers contribute \$10 to the driver for gas.

On May 6th at 9:30 a.m. we will meet at the Northeast corner of the Streetsville GO station, close to Thomas Street, to carpool. We will tour the farm (1415 Balfour St, Pelham) and pick tulips until around 12:30 pm., then depart for the Watering Can (3725 King St. Vineland) to have lunch.

Remember this is a field and the ground is uneven, so please wear appropriate shoes and clothing. I recommend that the driver has a cooler or bucket that can hold water so that the tulips can be in water for the ride home.

Please have all your questions ready for me at the April meeting. I look forward to another member outing as they have been so enjoyable in the past. Please feel free to check out the lunch menu at The Watering can [www://thewateringcan.ca](http://thewateringcan.ca).

Cheers, Grace McElhinney

Everything you need to know about the Plant Sale

The Streetsville Horticultural Society plant sale is held yearly on the last Saturday in May at the Leslie Log House property on Mississauga Rd. It provides a significant amount of income and lets us run most of the Society's events without worrying too much about the cost. It means that the membership cost stays low enough that everyone can afford to join.

It pays for supplies for Rotary Park, the Leslie Log House, and to donate money to local groups such as Riverwood and the marvelous programs they offer. Part of our mission is to support gardening related activities including community gardens and garden maintenance on public lands.

The Streetsville Horticultural Society Plant Sale is the biggest event of our year. It is the biggest team building experience of the year. It is also an opportunity to get to know many members of Streetsville Hort.

It is a chance to learn: About many types of plants, perhaps most important what their names are! How to identify them, how to divide them, how to grow them and where to plant them.

Working at the plant sale is also an opportunity to meet people in the local community and answer questions about plants and gardens, and Streetsville Hort.

What we need, first and most importantly, we need plants, if you have perennials in your garden that have outgrown their allotted space and can be split, or just have not met your expectations, please donate them to the plant sale.

Almost all perennials you have in your gardens will be accepted with thanks.

PLUS: Shrubs, saplings, fruit bearing shrubs such as black currants, raspberries, strawberries

BUT: We need donated plants that are identified by both species and colour; the species is the easy part. Is this a monarda or a geranium etc.? The colour is something we cannot know unless the plant is in bloom. Our customers want to know the flower colour of the plant they are buying.

Dig up your plants, wrap them in newspaper or put them in a cardboard box, a paper bag or a suitable size plastic bag. For each plant, attach a label, handwritten with pen or marker on paper is fine. Include the name of the plant, colour and size of the plant, bloom time.

Donations will not be accepted after May 14.

Some plants have recently become very unpopular, these include bearded iris and daylilies. We will accept donations of these plants; however, they must be identified by colour and size.

Please do not donate invasive plants of many varieties, these plants include ribbon grass, goutweed, lily of the valley, or outhouse plant, false Spirea also called Sorbaria Sorbifolia, Ornithogalum Nutans also called Star of Bethlehem.

Do not donate plants that are poisonous such as Ricinus communis- Castor Bean plant.

Some plants have a very poor sales history at our plant sale, these plants include Persicaria Virginiana also called Virginia knotweed or woodland knotweed, Rumex sanguineus also called Bloody Dock, Ajuga also called Bugleweed, Leucanthemum vulgare also called Oxeye Daisy.

There are many tasks that need to be done before, during and after the sale.

Just FYI the address of the potting location will be provided to plant sale volunteers. It will not be posted on our website or included in the newsletter for privacy reasons.

Before the sale

1. We store pots at the Leslie Log House after the plant sale, the pots need to be moved from the log house to the potting location (Kate's House) in Meadowvale before potting starts. This is a one day event; we need several people with cars to do this. The date will be between April 22 and 25.
2. We need volunteers to offer their homes as locations where members can drop off plant donations that will then be taken to Kate's House. You don't need to do anything other than notify Monica that plants have been dropped off. If the people, whose homes are drop off locations can deliver the donations to Kate's house on potting days that is a big benefit.
3. Potting plants that are donated are split into smaller sections and potted. Potting will take place at Kate's House in Meadowvale located off Montevideo Rd north of Battleford and south of Derry Rd.
4. Potting sessions are on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from the end of April to the third week of May. Start times are 9.30 am all days. You can sign up for specific dates or come on any day when it is convenient for you. We may need additional potting dates if so, they will be on Tuesdays or Thursdays.
5. You will be notified if a potting date is cancelled due to weather or other reasons.
6. Bring a trowel, clippers, gloves, a hat, a bottle of water and lots of energy. If the weather is very cold or raining heavily, we can pot under cover. Wear suitable clothing and footwear for the weather.
7. After plants are potted, they need looking after until the day before the sale. This is called plant sitting, all that is needed is a level space in a back yard, or side yard, and a daily check of the plants for watering as needed.
8. The potted plants have to be transported to the plant sitting locations, if the plant sitter can pick up the plants at Kate's House and take them to their homes, that is great, if this is not possible, we will need people who can transport the potted plants to the plant sitting locations.
9. We need volunteers to dig up plants from members gardens if the member is unable to do so.
10. All our plants have labeled plant markers. We need several people to put the labels on the plant markers. This involves sticking adhesive labels on the plant markers and covering the labels with clear packing tape. The labels, packing tape and plant markers will be delivered to the labelers. It can be done sitting at home, while watching TV, having a coffee or chatting with family members. It is time sensitive, as the potted plants must have markers before the plants can be moved to plant sitter locations. We use old unwanted or broken Venetian blinds for our plant labels, if you have any please contact me, if you see some on the side of the road that's okay, it doesn't matter if they are plastic or metal, or what colour they are.
11. We need people to solicit donations from local businesses, such as nurseries, Home Depot, Canadian Tire and other places that carry gardening or horticulture related items.
12. If you are crafty you can help out by collecting and decorating unwanted planters, baskets, and other items.
13. We need people to collect shallow cardboard boxes from local grocery stores- these boxes are used by customers to carry their



plants. Produce boxes such those used for bananas or other fruit and vegetables are perfect. We need many boxes, at least 200, they can be stored at the Log House before the plant sale.

14. Distributing flyers to local businesses, libraries and community centres.
15. We need people who can transport plants from the plant sitter locations to the Leslie Log House. Plants will be picked up from plant sitting locations on Friday 23 May, some can be delivered to the Log House on the Friday evening, most will be delivered early on the Saturday morning. Having a huge vehicle is not necessary, as standard sedan can fit 12 or more flats of pots. Plants can be left in a vehicle overnight and delivered to the log house in the morning.
16. Putting out plant sale signs on roadside locations after 4pm on Friday 23 May, a list of locations will be provided.

Other-providing refreshments for the volunteers working at the plant sale, remember that the volunteers will have been at work since early morning, both sweet and savoury food is needed, so not all brownies and sweets, protein based sandwiches such as cheese or ham, are needed. Refreshments can be dropped off at the log house after 8am on Plant Sale Day.

We also want what you don't want! If you have old garden ornaments you no longer want in your garden such as planters, signs, lanterns, statues, birdhouses, feeders, etc. We will have an area at the sale, set aside for these items.

We want the leftover pots and trays, you have cluttering up your sheds and garages. Clean pots no smaller than 6" in diameter Please bring them to the April or May meeting. Or drop them off at the potting location.

We do not need hanging plant pots, please do not donate them.



Sale day

Working at the sale, arrival at 6.30 AM, then putting plants in their designated areas, directing customer car traffic.

Sale starts at 8.30 am, during the sale helping customers, answering questions, helping customers carry their purchases to their vehicles, watering plants if needed.

Cashiers-need to be comfortable counting cash and making change.

Cash helpers fill out purchase forms before customers go to the cash desk.

After the sale

Clean up the site after the sale. Includes picking up any garbage, moving leftover plants to the on site storage area.

Picking up the plant sale signs from roadside locations.

Monica Ross, Plant Sale Chair

Green Pea and Feta Dip Recipe

(Recipe adapted from Delish and submitted by Judi Kokis)

Ingredients

2 – 2 1/2 cups petite green peas
½ lemon rind and juice
1 clove garlic grated
¼ cup chopped mint leaves
¼ cup chopped basil leaves
1 chopped spring onion
100 grams feta cheese
Salt & Pepper



Put first 6 ingredients into the blender and pulse until creamy. Add 75 grams feta cheese and continue pulsing until incorporated. Add salt and pepper to taste. Empty into serving dish. Crumble remaining feta cheese on top as a garnish. Serve with sturdy crackers or crostini.

April Speaker – Michael Erdman



Michael has received many awards for horticulture, garden design and floral design. His Beach garden is often featured in the Beach Garden Society’s summer garden tours, and has been featured in numerous magazines, newspapers and TV programmes. He tends hundreds of houseplants, including camellias and orchids. Michael co-authored books on hardy perennials and houseplants, and was president of the Beach Garden Society for several years. Recently, he became a founding member of and currently heads up the new Greater Toronto Bulb Society, and is President of Milne House Garden Club. He is also a member of the Garden Club of Toronto. Always looking for challenges, he completed the Garden Clubs of Ontario judging certification courses in both horticulture and floral arts/design. He regularly enters floral designs in major juried flower shows such as Canada Blooms, the CNE, and Garden Clubs of Ontario Triennial Shows.



OHA Hosts Earth Day Event

The OHA will be hosting a virtual Earth Day celebration using WebEx. It will held on April 25, 2025 starting at 7:00 pm. Emily Posteraro from the Invasive Species Centre will be our featured speaker for Earth Day 2025. Please mark this important date on your calendar. A link to the Webex will be sent out closer to the date or simply check the “News” page of the GardenOntario site using [this link](#)

Good Info: - Like Zoom, WebEx allows you to participate using your computer, tablet, or smartphone.

- Earth Day is a global event that takes place every year on April 22 to raise awareness of environmental issues and encourage people to take action.

Gardening Events – April 2025:

- [Blooming Boulevards Spring workshops](#): 4 different workshops will be offered this month: **Wildflower All-Stars for Sun or Shade, Indigenous Insights – Insects as Teachers, Native Plants for Tough Sites, and Pollinator ID & Wildflower Host Plants**. All online on Saturday mornings at 10:00 -11:00 a.m. \$5 donation.
- [City of Mississauga Seed Library](#): Is now accepting orders for free vegetable, herb, and flower seeds. Use your library card. FREE
- [City of Mississauga Spirit Seeds Exhibit](#): Immerse yourself in the intricate and beautiful world of Indigenous beadwork at **Spirit Seeds** at Bradley Museum April to early August Thursday to Sunday (except for Good Friday) at Bradley Museum | noon – 4:00 p.m. FREE
- [Credit Valley Conservation](#): There is still time to celebrate Maple Syrup days on April 5th & 6th. See the website for details. Or attend the **Top Trees for Your Yard Workshop** on Tuesday April 15th at Inglewood Community Centre | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. FREE
- [The Riverwood Conservancy](#): Enjoy watching spring unfold at the following events:
Astronomy Night at Chappel House Lawn Tuesday April 8 | 8:30 – 10:00 pm. \$10
Spring Ephemerals at Riverwood Friday April 11 | 10 – 11:30 a.m. \$10
Birding with the Expert at J.C. Saddington Park on Saturday April 12 and again on Wednesday April 23 | 8:30 - 10:00 am. \$5.
Spring Birding at Riverwood on Monday April 14 | 9 – 10:30 a.m. \$10
Spring Birding at Rattray Marsh at Jack Darling Memorial Park on Friday April 18 | 9 – 11:00 a.m. \$10
Forest Bathing at Riverwood Thursday April 24 | 11:30 – 1:00 p.m. FREE
- [The Riverwood Conservancy Native Plant Sale](#): Save the date! Checkout the inaugural **Native Plant Sale** inside the MacEwan Barn on Saturday May 3 | 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. FREE
- [University of Guelph Arboretum](#): continues with its virtual and in-person workshops:
Woodcock Walk in-person Thursday April 3 or Friday April 4 | 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. \$12 +HST per person.

Streetsville Horticultural Society Newsletter Content Deadlines

Issue	Deadline Date	Issue	Deadline Date	Issue	Deadline Date
Dec '24	Nov 22/24	Jan '25	Dec 20/24	Feb '25	Jan 24/25
March '25	Feb 21/25	April '25	March 21/25	May '25	April 18/25
June '25	May 23/25				

Do you have any Society news, an interesting article of a horticultural nature, or a tasty recipe to share with our members. Please send it in. Articles should be in Word format with or without photos. If a photo is included, it should indicate where taken and by whom.

OHA MEMBER OR FAMILY MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

MISSION STATEMENT The Ontario Horticultural Association is a volunteer charitable organization that provides leadership, education and promotes interest in gardening and related environmental issues with affiliated Horticultural Societies/Garden Clubs and like-minded organizations.

Purpose: The Ontario Horticultural Association is committed to assisting its Affiliated Society/Club members and their children and grandchildren in their pursuit of post-secondary education in a Horticulture related field.

The Ontario Horticultural Association may offer up to one (1) one thousand dollar (\$1,000.00) Scholarship each year.

Criteria:

- Applicant must be a member or a child, stepchild, grandchild, or step-grandchild of a Horticultural Society member in good standing within the OHA.
- Applicant must be attending a post secondary educational institution in Ontario.
- Applicant may be any age and must be accepted into a post secondary educational institute in the Province of Ontario.
- The program must be a minimum of 2 years, but the applicant is eligible in either year one or any following year of the program.
- Applicant must provide the following with their application:
 1. A transcript of their marks unless returning as a mature student.
 2. A letter to the Scholarship committee detailing their role in horticulture and community involvement and outlining why they deserve this scholarship.
 3. A letter from an organization or company outlining their volunteer contribution to the organization or the company with which they have volunteered.
 4. A copy of their acceptance letter into their program or confirmation of continuing in their program.
- Applicant must be willing to attend a Society/Club meeting or a District or OHA meeting within 1 year of receiving the award to speak about the award or another topic of interest within their horticultural learning.
- Applicant must be willing to have their photo taken and allow it to be published, along with their Thank You letter in the Trillium magazine and in any other GardenOntario Publication and on the GardenOntario Webpage and/or Face Book page. They will be required to sign a waiver regarding publication at the time of the award being issued.
- The home society will be made aware of the scholarship winner so they can arrange for the speaking engagement to follow.
- Applications will be submitted to the Awards Coordinator as noted on the application.
awards@gardenontario.org

Please Print

Date: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov.: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Name of College/University (you will be or are attending): _____

Name of program accepted into: _____

1. Are you currently a member of a Horticultural Society/Club affiliated with the OHA?

YES ____ NO ____

Affiliated Society/Club Name: _____

2. If no to question #1, who in your family is a current member and which OHA affiliated Society/Club are they a member?

Member's name: _____

Society/Club name: _____

APPLICATIONS will be accepted from March 1st to June 30th of every year.

Applications should be sent to: Ontario Horticultural Association Awards Coordinator,

Email: awards@gardenontario.org
