



Come Grow With Us

Member of District 9 of the Ontario Horticultural Association

[www.gardenontario.org](http://www.gardenontario.org) (see St. Catharines Horticultural Society)

[www.stcatharinesblooms.com](http://www.stcatharinesblooms.com)

Email: [stcatharinesblooms@gmail.com](mailto:stcatharinesblooms@gmail.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100082148295239>

[id=100082148295239](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100082148295239)

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## June Member BBQ

Friday, June 23, 2023 at 4 pm

Carm Osborne's Home, 53 Valley Road, St. Catharines

### You're Invited

## Summer Member Pot Luck BBQ

We'll bring the burgers & dogs  
You bring your favourite summer dish  
See you there!

### What To Do

1. Bring your own dishes (for main meal, dessert, cutlery and mug) and a bag to take them home.
2. Provide a dish to share with everyone plus serving utensils.
3. What kind of dish to bring – by your last name:  
A to R— Your favourite summer salad  
S to Z — Dessert
4. Place a note on your dish if:
  - Dish contains nuts or seafood
  - Is vegetarian and/or gluten free



R.S.V.P. - Contact Carm at [carmosborne@yahoo.ca](mailto:carmosborne@yahoo.ca)



*The mission of the St. Catharines Horticultural Society is to provide leadership and assist in the promotion and education in all areas of gardening, horticulture and environmental issues, thereby beautifying and providing enjoyment for all.*

Message from the Chair

We had an excellent meeting on May 15. Cathy Kavassalis spoke on Biodiversity. Her talk was spot on and thought provoking. She reiterated exactly what our club has embraced since the startup in March 2022. Our Executive committee has been very busy outlining and implementing our move to biodiversity. Our Executive has formed committees. Last year, we established a Native/Pollinator Garden at Victoria Lawn Cemetery. Anita Millar wrote an article that was in the recent Trillium about this garden. This year it has been enlarged. Our May speaker donated her usual fee back to us as long as we used it for gardens that encouraged biodiversity. Anita has already used some of the monies to purchase materials that will go in this pollinator garden. Now, we are searching for a Boulevard Pollinator Garden to showcase our club.

We have a beautiful webpage, done by Linda Olsson along with our Facebook page. QR codes will be used to scan and link to our Social Media. When you go past Victoria Lawn Cemetery, check the sign we have on the city of St. Catharines sign at the Homer Bridge. It is neat. Memberships can be purchased at stems etc. in Port Dalhousie. We do have a link to The Brown Homestead too!! Thanks to Sandy, we took part in the market at Victorian Porch on Hartzel Rd.

At the May meeting I outlined a few things that we have done also. We have received our \$1000 OMAFRA grant money. Our BBQ is on June 23 at the home of Membership Chair Carm Osborne. We supply the burgers and Carm has a system for who brings desserts and salads. Our August meeting will take the form of a Pickling and Preserving Seminar with Susan Lusted and James Graham presenting. Samples and 12 pages of recipes will be included. More to come on topics for other meetings.

Now, all of this is just a start to an exciting journey for our garden club. However, something is missing. At the May meeting, we put out sign-up sheets for various committees. Not too many of you signed up. For our group to grow, we need volunteers. At our November AGM, you as members agreed to support our Executive in furthering and enacting the goals of our garden club. We need you as members to volunteer to be on one of our committees. It is only through our volunteers that we can continue to grow. I know that Linda will have those committees that need volunteers in this newsletter. In signing for a committee, you will provide much needed assistance.

Susan Lusted, Chair.

Find us on Facebook [Garden City Gardeners](#) | [Saint Catharines ON](#) | [Facebook](#)  
and on the web [www.stcatharinesblooms.com](http://www.stcatharinesblooms.com)

**Contact Information**

**Mailing Address**

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P.O. Box 29013 Carlton  
St. Catharines, ON  
L2R 7P9

**On the Web**

[stcatharinesblooms@gmail.com](mailto:stcatharinesblooms@gmail.com)  
[www.stcatharinesblooms.com](http://www.stcatharinesblooms.com)

**Chair**

Susan Lusted

**Past President**

Janice Harte

**Membership**

Carm Osborne  
[carmosborne@yahoo.ca](mailto:carmosborne@yahoo.ca)

**Membership Fee \$20.00**

**Executive Members 2023**

Sandy Martin, Treasurer

Chelsea O'Reilly, Secretary

**Directors**

Anita Millar

Linda Olsson, Newsletter Editor

Gwen Simpson

Diana Tracey



Articles and/or photos from members are welcome.

Contact newsletter editor—[magdansk@yahoo.ca](mailto:magdansk@yahoo.ca)

## LATE FOR A MEETING AND THE DOOR IS LOCKED?

Ring the doorbell marked "Good Shepherd Office"

Please be patient and if necessary, ring bell a couple of times. If it is noisy in the hall, we can't always hear the bell the first time. Our meetings start at 7 p.m. For safety reasons, the church has asked us to lock the doors at 7:10 p.m. Thank you.

## Volunteer Hours Form

Please use the form found on the last page of the newsletter to start keeping track of your time.

## Lug a Mug

Please bring your own regular sized mug to all meetings - home and away.



## OHA Convention

Ontario OHA Convention » GardenOntario

### CONVENTION NEWS!

July 21-23, 2023

Hosted by District 2

The OHA 2023 Convention will be held at:

The Brookstreet Hotel in Ottawa

525 Legget Drive,

Ottawa, ON K2K 2W2

<https://www.brookstreethotel.com/>



OHA 115th Convention  
July 21 - 23, 2023  
District 2 - Ottawa Valley

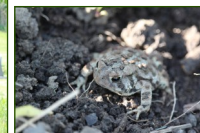
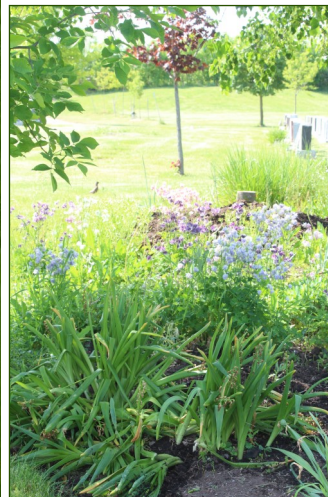


[2023-Spring-Trillium.pdf \(gardenontario.org\)](https://www.gardenontario.org/2023-Spring-Trillium.pdf)

## Garden City Gardeners - Native/Pollinator Garden Committee

Our garden at Victoria Lawn Cemetery is growing and larger than ever! This committee has been busy weeding, planting native plants and native seeds, as well as wildflower seeds. Thank you to our volunteers! The enlarged garden also has beautiful trees and shrubs. With the hot summer weather, we'll need more helpers to keep the garden watered.

Volunteer today. Contact Anita at [amillar1961@gmail.com](mailto:amillar1961@gmail.com).



While we were gardening a little friend came to visit.

## HELP WANTED

When we restarted the Horticultural Society as the Garden City Gardeners in March of 2022, we were going to operate in a different manner than had been previously done. Instead, we were going to be a volunteer organization of committees. This would mean each member would be part of a committee and see the project from beginning to the end. Our philosophy as a Society is to become an active participant in our ongoing projects that are hands on. This means a short-term commitment for each member of our Society.

Our first committee is the Native Pollinator Garden under the leadership of Anita Millar. Plans are well under way to begin planting for the second year after a successful first year of operation. Also, Diana and her volunteers are working on the Dunlop Centre gardens. The Brown Homestead on Pelham Road is our second committee. Linda Olsson and Jan Harte are the co-ordinators. We have helped them plant a Victory Garden and "Three Sisters" Garden. Future events will be posted in the newsletters. Helpers for this worthwhile cause are welcomed. A third committee has looked after the set up and Refreshments for our meetings. Thank you to Diana Tracey and the dedicated members of her committee. Thanks also to Sandy Martin and Sue Lusted for organizing the Venues and Speakers.

**Help is urgently required!** We need a chairperson to look after the "**Boulevard Pollinator Garden**". This is mainly to look after a boulevard garden and organize a work crew. The Board will assist you in this endeavour. Garden City Gardeners subscribes to the Blooming Boulevards Newsletter from which you can get many ideas. This can be a fun and rewarding project.

Another important project is our **Plant/Shrub Auction and Plant Sale** in the fall. This committee is looking for donations from the local nurseries. Members can help by getting these donations. For those members who don't have gardens or because of mobility issues, this would be a worthwhile project to participate in this important fundraiser. More information will be forwarded at a later date.

We are a not-for-profit volunteer organization. Your assistance is needed to make this a vibrant, efficient, fun-filled and educational gardening group. Your support, no matter how small, is urgently required.

Jan Harte, Volunteer Co-ordinator

May 30, 2023



**Attention All GCG Members**

Please consider donating a native plant or native seeds to our garden.  
Contact Anita Millar at [stcatharinesblooms@gmail.com](mailto:stcatharinesblooms@gmail.com)

# Biodiversity Resources for Garden City Gardeners

From Cathy Kavassalis, March 2023

## Key lessons

Shrink your lawn.

Reduce the use of pesticides and fertilizers.

Limit your use of exterior lighting (turn them off when you are not there to enjoy them).

Add native plants to your garden.

Aim for 70% native plants.

Focus on **keystone plants**.

Plant native trees – these make the most difference because of their size.

Reject invasive plants.

Join the **Canadian Coalition for Invasive Plant Regulation** and stop the sale of invasive plants. Visit [CCIPR.ca](http://CCIPR.ca) to learn more.

## Keystone plants

St. Catharines is within the “**Eastern Temperate Forest Region**.” Visit <https://www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/About/Native-Plants/keystone-plants-by-ecoregion>

The native trees that support the most moths and butterflies (*Lepidoptera*) include these top genera with native species (I’ve listed species native to your region based on the [List of Vascular Plants of Ontario's Carolinian Zone](#) by Oldham (2017).

**oak** (*Quercus* 436): *Q. alba*, *Q. bicolor*, *Q. macrocarpa*, *Q. muehlenbergii*, *Q. palustris*, *Q. rubra*, *Q. velutina*

**cherry** (*Prunus* 340): *P. americana*, *P. nigra*, *P. pensylvanica*, *Prunus pumila* var. *pumila*, *P. serotina*, *P. virginiana*

**willow** (*Salix* 289 +14 bees): *S. bebbiana*, *S. discolor*, *S. eriocephala*, *S. humili*, *S. interior*, *S. lucida*, *S. nigra*, *S. petiolaris*, *S. serissima*

**birch** (*Betula* 284): *B. alleghaniensis*, *B. lenta*, *B. papyrifera*

**cottonwood/aspen** (*Populus* 249): *P. balsamifera*, *P. deltoides*, *P. grandidentata*, *P. tremuloides*,

**maple** (*Acer* 238): *A. rubrum*, *A. saccharum*

**hickory** (*Carya* 213): *C. cordiformis*, *C. ovata*

**pine** (*Pinus* 200): *P. strobus*

Many other native trees are excellent choices – see list...

Smaller shrubs and herbaceous perennials that support the most moths and butterflies (*Lepidoptera*) include:

**blueberry** (*Vaccinium* 217): *V. corymbosum* six others rare or uncommon in the region (requires acidic soils)

**raspberry** (*Rubus* 127): *R. allegheniensis*, *R. hispidus*, *Rubus idaeus* spp. *Strigosus*, *R. occidentalis*, *R. odoratus*, *R. pubescens* several others less common

Getting to biodiversity resources cont.

**goldenrod** (*Solidago* 104): *S. altissima*, *S. caesia*, *S. canadensis* var. *canadensis*, *S. flexicaulis*, *S. gigantea*, *S. juncea*, *S. nemoralis*, *S. rugosa*, plus several less common species

**rose** (*Rosa* 102): *Rosa blanda*, *R. carolina* (*R. acicularis* rare)

**aster** (*Symphyotrichum* 100): *S. cordifolium*, *S. ericoides*, *S. laeve*, *S. lanceolatum*, *S. lateriflorum*, *S. novae-angliae*, *S. pilosum* var. *pilosum* plus other less common species

**strawberry** (*Fragaria* 81): *F. vesca*, *F. virginiana*

**grape** (*Vitis* 79): *Vitis aestivalis*, *V. riparia*

**sunflower** (*Helianthus* 66): *H. decapetalus*, *H. divaricatus*, *H. giganteus* (uncommon, rare and the latter only known historically)

One third of our native bees require particular plants to reproduce. Some keystone species of plants support more specialist bees than others. Plants that support the greatest number of specialist bees belong to the following genera: **sunflower** (*Helianthus* 50), **goldenrod** (*Solidago* 42), **aster** (*Symphyotrichum* 33), **willow** (*Salix* 14), **blueberry** (*Vaccinium*) already mentioned, as well as:

**black eyed susan** (*Rudbeckia* 29): *R. hirta*, *R. laciniata*

**beggartick** (*Bidens* 15): *B. cernua*, *B. frondosa* and a few others

**fleabane** (*Erigeron* 12): *E. annuus*, *E. canadensis*, *E. philadelphicus*

**goldentop** (*Euthamia* 12): *E. graminifolia*

**false sunflower** (*Heliopsis* 5): *H. helianthoides* (rare in St. Catharines)

The **Native Plant Finder** – created by the National Wildlife Association – is a great way to find plants for your garden. Choose a zip code for Lewiston NY (e.g., 14092) to generate a list suitable for St. Catharines. Here are some species from the list it generated for me (I've added Carolinian species that occur in ecodestrict 7E): **goldenrod** (*Solidago*), **strawberry** (*Fragaria*), **sunflower** (*Helianthus*), **joe-pye weed** (*Eutrochium maculatum*), **willowherb** (*Epilobium ciliatum*, *E. coloratum*, *E. leptophyllum*), **violet** (e.g., *Viola pubescens*, *V. sororia*), **geranium** (*Geranium maculatum*), **panic grass** (*Panicum capillare*, *P. virgatum*), **St. John's wort** (*Hypericum punctatum*), **woodland flax** (*Linum virginianum*), **dogbane** (*Apocynum androsaemifolium*, *A. cannabinum* var. *cannabinum*), **evening primrose** (*Oenothera biennis*, *O. parviflora*, *O. perennis*) **brome** (*Bromus ciliatus*, *B. kalmii*), **vetch** (*Vicia americana*, *V. caroliniana*), **cinquefoil** (*Potentilla anserina*, *P. norvegica*, *P. simplex* *Dasiphora fruticosa*) **meadow rue** (*Thalictrum dioicum*, *T. pubescens*, *T. thalictroides*), **milkvetch** (*Astragalus canadensis*) **bluestem** (*Andropogon gerardii*, *A. virginicus*), **iris** (*Iris versicolor*), **touch me not** (*Impatiens capensis*, *I. pallida*), **bulrush** (*Scirpus atrovirens*, *S. cyperinus*), **aster**, **bee balm** (*M. didyma*, *M. fistulosa*), **columbine** (*Aquilegia canadensis*), **groundcherry** (*Physalis heterophylla*, *P. virginiana*), managrass (*Glyceria grandis*, *G. striata*) **milkweed** (*Asclepias exaltata*, *A. incarnata*, *A. syriaca*, *A. tuberosa*, *A. verticillata*), **vervain** (*Verbena hastata*, *V. urticifolia*).

Click here [www.stcatharinesblooms.com](http://www.stcatharinesblooms.com) and select "Resource Links"

for the full article from Cathy Kavassalis (5 pages).

## Welcome to our new members, April – June 2023



Sam Bixler Bennison  
Philippa Cunningham  
Natalie Omay  
Betsy Foster  
Vera Clay

Thank you also to our many members  
who have renewed their membership for 2023.  
We appreciate you!

### Mark the Date

Friday, June 23 at 4 pm

Summer BBQ

Bring a chair, salad or dessert and enjoy  
the day!

July 21—23

OHA Convention, Ottawa

August

Preserving & Pickling by Sue Lusted

### GCG Website Update

We've added a list of resources to our website.  
Visit us at [www.stcatharinesblooms.com](http://www.stcatharinesblooms.com) and click  
on "Resource Links".

Here you'll see Cathy Kavassalis' link "Biodiversity  
Resources for Garden Gardeners". You'll find more  
links to Master Gardeners, Garden Ontario  
(OHA), Rice Road Greenhouses and more.



### Memberships for Sale

Garden City Gardeners has memberships  
available for sale at **stems etc.** Drop in to see  
owner James Sawatsky at this unique shop.

Location: 101 Lakeport Rd., Unit 3,  
St. Catharines, ON

#### Business Hours

Tuesday to Friday, 9 am—6 pm

Saturday, 8 am—4 pm

Closed on Sunday and Monday

[Welcome \(stemsetc.ca\)](http://Welcome(stemsetc.ca))



### Blooming Boulevards

*Connecting neighbourhoods to nature*

GCG is a member. Learn  
about them on their website  
and on Facebook.

[Blooming Boulevards | Mississauga |  
pollinator gardens](#)

[Blooming Boulevards | Mississauga  
ON | Facebook](#)



## News from The Brown Homestead

At the opening ceremony on May 27, 2023, Indigenous knowledge helper Marie Louise helped The Brown Homestead establish a “three sisters” garden (corn, bean, squash) on their property. Jan, Chelsea and Linda from GCG attended this amazing event and they planted corn in the “three sisters” garden as well as vegetables in the Victory Garden.

### Upcoming Presentations at The Brown Homestead

June 10—Erin Riseing/  
United Way, The Role of  
Community Gardens in the  
Niagara Region

June 17—Randan Redekop, A  
brief Introduction to Soils

July 8—Marie Louise, Straw-  
berry Moon & Indigenous  
Planting Ceremonies

July 22—Lyndsey Wilker-  
son/Bruce Trail Conservancy,  
Native Seed Gardens & Bio-  
diversity

July 29—Randan Redekop,  
Fertilizing and Feeding your  
Garden

[The Brown Homestead](#)



Victory Garden  
Planting and  
Watering



“Three Sisters”  
Garden  
with Marie  
Louise



## DID YOU KNOW?

On June 29, 2004 a city garden at the corner of Church Street and Niagara Street was dedicated to the Society to honour the 147 years that the Horticultural Society has worked with the city helping to make it truly the Garden City. The garden was a partnership with the St. Catharines Green Committee, Recreation and Engineering Services and the Horticultural Society. In 1971, the Society had sponsored plantings on this same spot. Pictured here is a photo of the garden in the fall of 2006. This garden and sign is still at this location today.



To celebrate our 150th Anniversary, hybridizer, Jack Kent of the Potting Shed Garden Centre in Dunnville, bred this daylily for us. It was named “Garden City” to reflect both the city of St. Catharines and the history of the Society. Only a limited number were produced and were exclusive to the Society.







## Garden City Gardeners

### Membership Form

2023

*\*Print clearly in block letters*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check: Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_

Interested in Leadership Role \_\_\_\_\_



*We as a Society do not share this information. It is for use of the Society only.*

St. Catharines Horticultural Society

*For GCG use only. Check here when paid.*

*Membership Fee \$20.00 per person, payable to St. Catharines Horticultural Society.*

*Mailing Address: St. Catharines Horticultural Society,  
P.O. Box 29013 Carlton, St. Catharines, ON. L2R 7P9*

*Payable by cheque or cash*

# Garden City Gardeners - Volunteer Hours 2022/2023

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Revised: Nov.2022	Executive Meetings	Executive Duties	Planning Plant Sale, Garden Tour	Victoria Lawn Native-Garden	Special Events	Newsletter, Website & Social Media	Kitchen & Baking	Garden Tour	Plant Sale	Other
November/22										
December/22										
January										
February										
March										
April										
May										
June										
July										
August										
September										
October										
<b>Total Hours</b>										