



Brooklin-Whitby Garden Club Celebrating 100 Years

GARDENING INSPIRATION UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

It is June of our second year of the global pandemic and we are sure the members of the Brooklin-Whitby Garden Club have been whiling away the lockdown hours in their gardens. After a day out in the garden you may be looking for some resources for inspiration and education in the gardening sphere that you can access on TV or the internet. For many of us gardening has been a creative way to manage stress and the lack of social interaction during this stay at home order. But soon, Ontario will begin to open and we will be able to move more freely, and so your newsletter team has put together some ideas for gardening inspiration until we meet again. We miss our monthly BWGC meetings and the chance to share our love of gardening. So in the meantime, whether you are looking for inspiration or a day trip where you can experience beautiful gardens in person, we hope these ideas will give you some gardening inspiration until we meet again.

Armchair Gardening

For those times where you can't get out to your garden, here are some armchair gardening activities. Those of you who have access to Amazon Prime Video on your TV, can watch a couple of seasons of the British garden show 'Gardener's World' which has surpassed its 50th year. The show has so much to offer: informing on plants; providing how-to's that run the gamut from creating compost to designing a garden, growing herbs and vegetables or splitting perennials; showcasing public gardens, private gardens, community gardens, etc. The show is very inspirational and informative and offers many ideas for gardens to visit once we can travel again.

The newsletter team also has a few internet sites and facebook pages we like to visit:

- a) If you're into floral design, check out the amazing designs on the South African Flower Union facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/saflowerunion/photos>. They showcase and promote floral art from South Africa and FB members post from all over the world. Their entries from the 35 classes in their Feb 2021 virtual show are scattered throughout the pages and many of the designs are awe-inspiring.
- b) Garden Making website, <https://gardenmaking.com/> - a Canadian site created by the people who published Garden Making Magazine. You can subscribe to their weekly newsletter which provides information on design, containers, plants and gardens to visit.
- c) In The Zone, <https://inthezonegardens.ca/> - offered jointly by Carolinian Canada and World Wildlife Fund-Canada with local partners, to provide information on using native plants to create and nurture a healthy environment for all wildlife.
- d) Garden Design, <https://www.gardendesign.com/> - this site provides information on garden design, plants, popular trends, plant and pest problems, to name a few. You can also subscribe to their weekly newsletter.
- e) Oshawa Virtual Peony festival - <https://www.oshawa.ca/things-to-do/peony-festival.asp> - check out the various videos including how to dig and divide peonies. Enter the virtual peony show or the photo contest.

Day/Garden Tripping

Great News!! As of this Friday June 11, Ontario is moving to phase 1 of its reopening plan and it allows botanical gardens to open with capacity limited to 15 per cent for ticketed areas. If you are ready for some half or full day garden outings, we have compiled a list of possibilities for your consideration. This is by no means a complete list of gardens that can be toured in Ontario, just some recommendations for you to explore. When planning your outings with family and friends, make sure you go to the destination's website to get the most up-to-date information regarding Covid-19 restrictions, hours of operation, entrance fees and directions. Have fun!

- a) Parkwood National Historic Site and Gardens, Oshawa
- b) The Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens including the Michael and Judi Denny Peony Gardens, Oshawa
- c) Christel Lake Lavender Farm, Greenbank
- d) Edward's Gardens/Toronto Botanical Gardens, Toronto
- e) Breuckner Rhododendron Gardens, Mississauga
- f) The Arboretum at The University of Guelph, Guelph
- g) Quinte Botanical Gardens, Frankfort
- h) Glenhyrst Art Gallery and Gardens, Brantford



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- i) Whistling Gardens, Wilsonville
- j) Sunnidale Park Arboretum, Barrie
- k) Tower Hill Heritage Garden, Parry Sound
- l) Plant Paradise Country Gardens, Caledon
- m) Rural Rootz Nature Reserve, Wharton
- n) Royal Botanical Gardens, Burlington

*The Newsletter Team
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