



# PINE RIDGE GARDEN CLUB

*"Where Gardeners Come To Bloom"*

May-June 2025 Newsletter

NESTLETON, ONTARIO

MEMBER OF DISTRICT 17 ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

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**PineRidgeGardenClub.com**



## UPCOMING MEETINGS

Nestleton Community Centre  
3967 Hwy 7A

**Tuesday, May 6**

**7:30 p.m.**

**\*\*Place your Spring Flower  
Show entries between  
6 and 6:45 p.m.\*\***

**Speaker:**

Gini Sage,

Durham Master Gardeners

**Topic:** Companion Planting

**Tuesday, June 3**

**7:30 p.m.**

**\*\*Place your June Iris Show  
entries by 7:00 p.m.\*\***

**Speaker:** Silvia Strobl,  
Peterborough Master  
Gardeners

**Topic:** "Invasive Species—  
What Can Gardeners Do?"



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring is such a busy time in the garden and for garden club. Preparation is well underway for the annual sale, plus flower shows return with our May 6 meeting. I've been eyeing my African Violets, hoping one has enough blooms to enter in the show!

I've also started garden clean up of my perennial beds. It's a fun surprise when you get into the garden to see plants you moved around last year, then promptly forgot! I have lavender and irises in new spots, hoping they thrive.

Did you know that you can access tons of gardening magazines for free with the Libby library app? If you like to read about gardening or just look at photos of gorgeous gardens, it's a great way to do it on a budget. I like to read Gardener's World from the BBC.

Looking forward to our sale on May 17. In this newsletter you'll find all the details for the sale and how to divide your perennials. We need lots of plants to sell along with your baked goods.

All the best, Libbi

## How to Divide Perennials

Many perennials benefit from being divided every few years, which is perfect timing for our upcoming plant sale! Dividing will keep plants from getting overcrowded and help them stay full. You may notice that some perennials add growth around the outside and die off in the middle – divide regularly to help avoid this.

Perennials that bloom later in the season are best for dividing in spring.

To divide a clump-forming plant, lift the whole plant by digging up as much of the root ball as possible. Gently remove enough soil from the roots so that you can see them, and pull or cut the clump apart into root pieces. Ideally you will have several growing points on each section. If you need to cut, use a sharp, clean garden knife or spade.

For plants that grow by runners or spreading roots, you can just dig up new, extra roots.

Place each plant for the sale in a pot, label it right away (before you forget) and keep it watered until delivering it. Preference is for plants to be delivered on Friday night, May 16, to Nestleton Community Centre, or at an early drop off location on May 15. This allows the plants team to get them organized for sale before Saturday morning.

## Speaker Niki Jabbour at D17 AGM

On April 26 the OHA District 17 AGM took place as a virtual business meeting followed by speaker Niki Jabbour presenting 'Growing a Productive Vegetable Garden'. Niki lives in the Halifax area and grows and harvests vegetables all year. She has 30 raised beds plus a 14' x 24' poly tunnel and is a team of one! Her talk was interesting and informative. You can follow her on Instagram at @NikiJabbour or @savvygardening.

## Upcoming Events to Enjoy!

**May 4** Ontario Rock Garden & Hardy Plant Society host a plant sale at Toronto Botanical Garden, 11 am to 3:30 pm [Visit their website](#)

**May 10 and 11** Toronto Botanical Garden plant sale. Discover plants you won't find elsewhere. 777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto, 10am to 4pm. [Toronto Botanical Garden](#) for details.

**May 24** [Building Biodiversity with Native Plants](#)—a live presentation, guided forest walk & native plant sale at Harmony Within Farm. 1:30 to 4pm. \$10

**May 24** Scugog Free Compost Giveaway. 8am to 12pm at the Community Centre, 1655 Reach Street. Bring your own shovel and containers, and donations to the food bank are encouraged.

**June 7 and 8** Oshawa Peony Festival at the Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens, 155 Arena St., Oshawa, 10am to 4pm. Visit [Oshawa.ca/Peony](#) for details.

**June 21** Uxbridge Garden Tour. 10am to 5pm. \$25 per ticket. Visit [GardensofUxbridge.org](#) for details.



## Narcissus/Daffodil

If entering specimens in the Spring Flower Show, please be sure to place your entries in the correct class.

**Large-cupped:** the cup or corona is more than 1/3 but less than equal to the length of the perianth segments (petals).

**Small-cupped:-** the cup is not more than 1/3 the size of the perianth.

For more information on all classes please refer to OJES, pages 88 and 89.



## Plant, Bake & Yard Sale— Saturday, May 17

Our largest fundraiser of the year is May 17. For it to be a success, we need everyone to provide plants, baking and good quality yard sale items (no electronics, no large items and only current books).



We particularly need more members to donate plants to ensure a great variety for the sale. The plant table at the sale is the greatest contributor to the success of this fundraiser.

This year, we are asking all members to make an extra effort to contribute plants/small shrubs from their gardens, plants started from seeds; vegetables, flowers, etc. Also, tomatoes and herbs are always popular. Perennials especially those that are not usually easy to find at garden centres like astilbe, heuchera, echinacea, rudbeckia and groundcovers are always requested by shoppers.

So please, in the next couple weeks when you are working in your gardens, especially when dividing perennials, pot up several for the sale. See page 1 for instructions on how to divide a perennial plant.

Deliver your plant donations on Friday, May 16 at 7 p.m. at Nestleton Community Centre, or May 15 to one of these locations (plants only!): 51 Suggit Dr, Nestleton – on driveway or behind garage; 33 Ottawa St, Port Perry – on the front porch. If absolutely necessary, plants can be dropped off by 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 17 before the sale starts.

**We also need volunteers to set-up and clean up afterward.** Sign up at the May 6 meeting or contact a member of the Board.

**New service for sale this year:** Vince's Mobile Sharpening will be on site to sharpen small garden tools. Limit of two tools when it's busy.

## Garden Ontario 50/50 Draw

The deadline to buy 50/50 tickets to support OHA education initiatives is July 19 and the winner will be drawn during the OHA virtual AGM meeting. (It's generated by the computer).

Tickets available online at:

[https:// www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha](https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha)