



Cross Pollination

June 2012 Newsletter

If a June night could talk, it would probably boast that it invented romance." Bern Williams

Notes and Reminders...

We have confirmation that the weekend of May 27 we continue to be at the lilac dell. The weekend of June 3 is confirmed at Laking Gardens (iris and peony). Please note that Claudette has updated this information on our website, so when in doubt please check our web page. Claudette will also begin posting our volunteer schedules for RBG and Ottawa St Market on the members log in page, maps are also online.

<http://www.ottawastreetfarmers.com/index.php>

Our next meeting is Wednesday June 6th at 7:15 pm rooms 3 and 4 at the RBG. Those who will have attended the Rose training session on June 4 will be training the rest of the group on this evening. We may go outdoors to the rose gardens! Thanks to Karen and Jane who will be providing the refreshments.

Claudette provides the following information about an interesting website which is trying to conserve, restore or create quality grassland habitats in Ontario. They sell seed packets of native plants for grasslands and post information on grasslands and pollinators. <http://www.tallgrassontario.org/index.html>

Also, if you like garden viewing, here's an interesting opportunities for you to consider; Blooms for Africa "Blooms in the Night Garden Tour" Friday July 27 and Saturday July 28th, will tour 11 gardens in Ancaster and west Hamilton \$20 Poster and info

<http://www.stephenlewisfoundation.org/assets/files/Events/Blooms%20for%20Africa%2011x17%20BITN.pdf>

Carnegie Gallery's Secret Gardens Tour

The Carnegie Gallery is a member-run, registered charity which has been operating in Dundas since 1980. Its mandate is to promote regional arts and crafts and the arts in general. It organizes exhibitions, lectures, concerts, panel discussions, workshops and author events as well as operating a shop and an exhibition gallery. It has recently purchased the designated former Carnegie Library building at the corner of King and Ogilvie from the City of Hamilton after a concerted fundraising effort which is still on-going.

The Secret Gardens Tour is an annual fundraising event that is now in its 19th year and the funds raised from this are put towards operating costs. This year's tour on Sunday June 24th from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm will feature wonderful gardens, large and small in both Dundas and Waterdown. Tickets for this self-directed tour will soon be available at the Carnegie Gallery or Bryan Prince Bookseller in Westdale.

And for those who wanted more information following our last meeting about "How Does MY Garden Grow: The Education of a Gardener" runs 30 April-14 September. Information can be found at

<http://fisher.library.utoronto.ca/events-exhibits/current-exhibition>

The Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library is located at the north-west corner of St. George and Harbord Streets, immediately to the South of the main University Library, Robarts. The mailing address is:

Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, 120 St. George Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 1A5

[June's Feature Article](#)

Thanks to Patty for the following Pest Alert: Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug is an invasive pest, migrating north from the US. It has the potential to destroy many commercial food crops in addition to a large variety of ornamentals. It may become a significant indoor pest as temperatures cool in autumn. It is resistant to many chemical insecticides.

It is currently found in 26 states. The first suspected sighting in Ontario occurred recently in the Hamilton area. Home gardeners generally see new pests before they become apparent to commercial growers. This is why reporting is important.

If possible, trap a specimen and take a close-up photo. Note the date, which plant(s) it was on, and any plant damage. In the garden, hand-pick and drown in soapy water.

Why worry about the BMSB? This insect has a very large host range that includes over 100 plant species, such as stone and pome fruit, berries, grapes, vegetables (corn, tomatoes, and peppers), soybeans and edible beans, hardwood and ornamental trees, and woody shrubs. Extensive damage has been reported in commercial tree fruit in areas where this pest has reached high population levels. In apples, damage by stink bugs is easily confused with bitter pit.

Brown marmorated stink bug adults overwinter in sheltered areas that may include homes and other heated structures. As they can aggregate in large numbers, the BMSB has become a considerable nuisance pest for home owners where established. While the bugs do not bite humans, they will release a foul smell when handled or otherwise disturbed. Aggregation in artificial structures is not common among stink bugs, and is a behaviour that may provide an early warning that BMSB has established in Ontario.

Common stink bugs and other similar looking insects are easily confused with the BMSB, including species of brown stink bugs, rough stink bugs (common in orchards), western conifer seed bugs (which also end up in homes), and squash bugs. All of these bugs have obvious alternating light and dark pattern geometric described as being "checkered", a feature which may confuse the untrained eye. The BMSB is a relatively large stink bug (up to 17 mm), with smooth / untoothed "shoulders" (edges of the thorax), and with two white bands on each antenna that are not found on other common stink bugs; this feature is obvious on adults and on nymphs.

Reminder: Burlington Green Needs Speakers...

Thanks to Karen for her ongoing support of this eager group who are learning to love the garden!

Monthly Gardener's Gathering dates:

At Central Arena Auditorium unless otherwise noted

- Sun. June 10th, 11am *Port Nelson room*
Seniors Centre
- Sat. July 14th, 11am
- Sat. Aug. 11th, 11am
- Sat. Sept. 15th, 11am

Spring Harvest Picnic

Sunday, June 10th, Noon, in the garden

A chance to come together to share and eat our success.

Food swap format: Details to come

Sunday, August 26th, World Kitchen Garden Day

Sunday, September 23rd

The RBG in our own 'backyard'

I have been an RBG member for quite some time, and yet I often forget to check the website to learn about all the amazing programs offered. I thought there a probably a few more folks like me in the group, so have made the following list of upcoming programs for your consideration.

<p>Grass Identification Workshop Thursday and Friday, July 12 and 13; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; RBG Centre Members: \$250, Non-members: \$275, Students: \$200, call 905-527-1158 ext. 270 to verify student status and receive student pricing. Lunch not included. Registration deadline: June 29</p>	<p>Ferns and Allies Identification Workshop Thursday and Friday, July 26 and 27; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; RBG Centre Members: \$250, Non-members: \$275, Students: \$200, call 905-527-1158 ext. 270 to verify student status and receive student pricing. Lunch not included. Registration deadline: July 6</p>	<p>Beekeeping Thursday, June 7; 7 to 9 p.m. at RBG Centre. Fee: \$30 (Members 10% off) MAXIMUM 20. PRE-REGISTER BY MAY 29.</p>
<p>Caring for the Garden Thursday, July 12; 7 to 9 p.m. at RBG Centre. Fee: \$25 (Members 10% off) MAXIMUM 15. PRE-REGISTER BY JULY 5.</p>	<p>On the Wild Side: Inspiration for Design Friday, September 14: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at RBG Centre Fee: \$235, lunch included MAXIMUM 25. PRE-REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER</p>	<p>A Taste of Acrylic Painting Sunday, July 15; 1 to 4 p.m. at RBG Centre Members: \$60; Non-members: \$65 MAXIMUM 15. PRE-REGISTER BY JULY 5.</p>
<p>Five-Day Landscape Watercolour Workshop Monday to Friday, August 20 to 24; 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at RBG Centre Fee: \$190 (Members 10% off) MAXIMUM 20. PRE-REGISTER BY AUGUST 10.</p>	<p>Yoga at the Gardens Summer SUMMER SESSION: Tuesdays, July 3, to August 28, September 11 Each session - 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. at RBG Centre. Each session - Fee: \$110 (Members 10% off) Drop-in for one class or bring a friend. Try it out for \$15 (includes HST) MAXIMUM 20. PRE-REGISTER BY JUNE 25.</p>	<p>Spring Paddling in Paradise Fee: \$30/tour Tuesday, June 5; 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Nature Centre Tuesday, June 26; 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Nature Centre Tuesday, July 10; 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Nature Centre Tuesday, July 24; 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Nature Centre</p>
<p>Introduction to Canoeing Saturday, June 9; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Nature Centre. Fee: \$55 (Members 10% off) MAXIMUM 12. PRE-REGISTER BY MAY 31.</p>	<p>History on the Heights Thursday, June 21; 7 to 9 p.m. at Rock Garden kiosk Fee: \$10 (members 10% off) MAXIMUM 20. PRE-REGISTER BY JUNE 11.</p>	<p>Stargazing and Meteor Spotting Sunday, August 12; 8 to 11 p.m. at the Nature Centre Fee: \$12 or Family rate \$30 (Members 10% off) MAXIMUM 25. PRE-REGISTER BY AUGUST 2.</p>

I've put this on a separate page in case you'd like to pin it to a bulletin board or calendar.

“Spring being a tough act to follow, God created June.”