

# CROSS POLLINATION

Halton Master Gardeners Monthly Newsletter  
MAY 2024 | VOL. 17 ISSUE 4

## In this issue:

*Eastern Flowering Dogwood*  
Page 01

*May Garden 'To-Do' List*  
Page 03

*Lily of the Valley—Lovely or  
Lethal?*  
Page 04

*Cultivating Diversity*  
Page 07

*Question of the Month*  
*Re-cycling Old Potting Soil*  
Page 9

*Garden Inspiration*  
*Container Gardens for Native  
Plants*  
Page 10

*What's Growing On*  
Page 11



Halton Region  
Master Gardeners



## Eastern Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)

by guest writer Kevin Kavanagh, Grand Erie Master Gardener

Once widespread throughout eastern and south-central North America, the Eastern Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) with its bold white spring bloom is a much loved native tree widely celebrated in spring dogwood festivals in many communities in the eastern United States. It is recognized as the state flower of North Carolina, the state tree of Missouri and as both the state tree and flower of Virginia. Even within its restricted Canadian range it has been adopted as the floral emblem of Norfolk County, Ontario in the heart of our Carolinian forest region. This understory forest tree ranges from southern New England, New York, Ontario and Michigan, south to Florida and westward to eastern Texas and Oklahoma. There are also isolated populations known from Mexico which are described as *Cornus florida* subsp. *urbiniana*.

Eastern Flowering Dogwood is an ideal tree for the smaller garden. It only grows to a height of 6-9 metres (20-30 feet) at maturity but is often much smaller. The horizontal pattern of branching is not unlike that of candelabra with a horizontal branching pattern, one of its most distinctive features, especially in the winter landscape. The bark on older trees is blocky and rough like alligator skin. The leaves turn bright red or reddish purple for an extended period in autumn, often beginning to show some colour in late August or early September.

Images: Kevin Kavanagh

Continued on next page

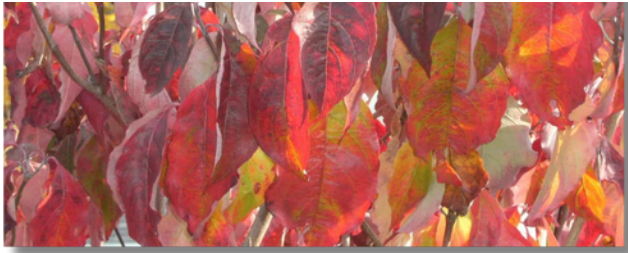
**EASTERN FLOWERING DOGWOOD (CORNUS FLORIDA) CONT'D**

Image: Eastern Flowering Dogwood Fall Colour Kevin Kavanagh

The overall impression of the tree is one of stateliness; the University of Georgia's Michael Dirr refers to it as the "aristocrat of small flowering trees." Despite its natural preference for full to partial shade in nature, the species also thrives in sunny, open locations, and these are the preferred conditions in which to locate it in a garden. Its preferred soils are typically well drained, somewhat acidic and rich in organic matter. It is the perfect small tree to plant with oak and pine as a backdrop.



Pink blooms of a Dogwood cultivar by Kevin Kavanagh

The spectacular spring show of flowers is produced just as its leaves emerge in late May. Each inflorescence consists of a crowded cluster of small, yellowish-green true flowers surrounded by four large white, or more rarely pink (*C. florida* var. *rubra*), petal like bracts; the total inflorescence or bloom measures 7 - 10 cm (three to four inches) across. Flower buds are set the prior year, so even in the depth of winter it is relatively simple to gauge how impressive the spring flowering will be.

Pink-flowering forms and cultivars are slightly less hardy than white-flowering forms. Trees grown from Ontario sourced seed are dependably hardy through USDA zone 5a/5b. Small clusters of two to 10 bright red fruit mature by early fall for each spring flower produced and are especially conspicuous in October. *Cornus florida* is a member of the dogwood family (*Cornaceae*), and like most species in that family their fruit is important for wildlife. Many birds, including American robin, northern cardinal, ruffed grouse and wild turkey are known to feed on dogwood fruit and, for many songbirds, it provides essential nourishment for the demands of their southward migration in autumn.

In some locations, twigs can be browsed in winter by deer and rabbits, and bark eaten by rodents, especially on younger trees. Sadly, Eastern



American Robin feeding on the fruit of Eastern Flowering Dogwood;  
Gregor Beck Oct 3, 2023

Flowering Dogwood is now suffering major population declines in many parts of its natural range from the introduction of the Dogwood Anthracnose Fungus (*Discula destructiva*). The impact of this fungus is most serious for trees growing in deep shade and has contributed to major population declines in forest stands within the Carolinian Region of southwestern Ontario. As a result, the species is now listed as endangered in the province.

Fortunately, trees in more open areas fare much better as the disease struggles to infect plants where sun and wind create conditions less favorable for its establishment. This is good news for gardeners with open, sunny areas in their gardens where *Cornus florida* can remain a highly desirable native tree for the home landscape.



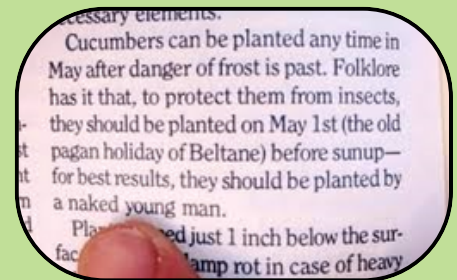


## MAY GARDEN 'TO DO' LIST

By Claudette Sims, Halton Master Gardener

- ☐ **Clean tools** – Before doing any garden work, take the time to clean your secateurs, pruners and saws. A simple wipe with rubbing alcohol between pruning plants will help to stop the transmission of disease. Learn more in [this article](#).
- ☐ **Perennials** – Divide and transplant overgrown fall blooming perennials on an overcast day before they fully emerge. Check this [extensive spreadsheet](#) of individual perennials for when and how to divide them.
- ☐ **Veggies** – Seed [cool weather crops](#) like **lettuce, peas** or **radishes** in beds or containers now. **Harden off seedlings** starting in mid-May, in a sheltered location, from 1-2 hours on day 1, and increasing each day to full sun. Plant **tomatoes** in the garden when they're about 6" high (15 cm) and all danger of frost is past. Plant deeply, right up to the bottom leaves. **Corn** – Sow corn seeds when oak leaves are the size of a squirrel's ear!
- ☐ **Tender annuals** – Wait until the temperatures are warm enough at night before planting, usually the May 24th weekend.
- ☐ **House plants** – Increase watering & feeding, preferably with a dilute organic fertilizer. If the soil is drying out quite quickly between watering, it may be time to repot, one size larger. Note: [Hoya](#) and [Nile Lily](#) (*Agapanthus*) flower when slightly pot bound, so repot these less often.
- ☐ **Roses** – Check this informative [blog](#) about caring for roses from the RBG. You can prune roses just as the new growth is showing. Here's an [introductory video](#) to show you how. Consider adding some attractive companion plants near your roses to [attract beneficial insects](#) and extend the bloom season: Butterfly Milkweed, dill, fennel, [Golden Alexanders](#), ['Fireworks' Goldenrod](#), [Calico Aster](#) and [Spotted Bee Balm](#).

## “ How to plant cucumbers? ”



- ☐ **Lawn** – Early to mid-May is a great time to revive your lawn, especially if it is looking thin and weak. Over-seed, especially in bare areas and then top dress with a ½ inch (2 cm) of fine textured compost/manure. Areas with moss may indicate soil has been compacted and nutrient level is likely low. Consider [embracing the moss](#) and allowing it to grow or transition mossy areas to a garden bed with non-invasive [groundcovers](#) or plants suited to the existing conditions.
- ☐ **Spent blooms and stems** – Remove spent blooms of hydrangea, chop and drop stems or “plant” them in front of a fence or wall for birds and stem nesting insects.
- ☐ **Weeds and invasive plants** – Keep pulling lawn weeds such as dandelions and monitor your garden for seedlings of invasive [garlic mustard](#), [buckthorn](#), [multiflora rose](#). Check this [weed ID guide](#) to help identify common weeds in your garden.

The best way to make sure you are removing a weed and not a valuable plant is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily, it is a valuable plant



## Lily of the Valley—Lovely or Lethal?

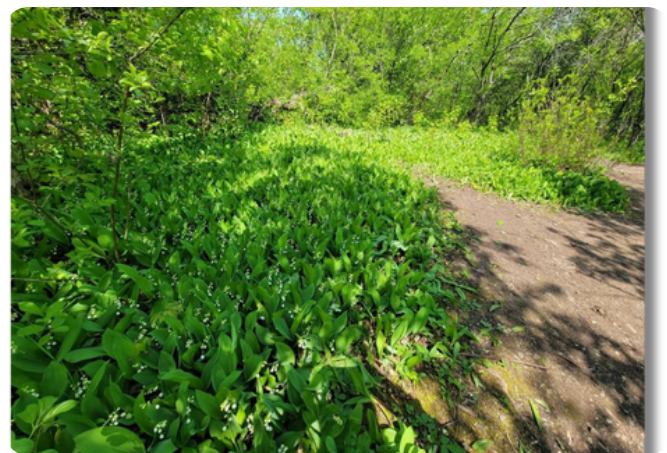
Pam McDonald, Halton Master Gardeners

Barney has been running amok in the neighbourhood again, and this time I find myself in the doghouse too—and all because of Lily of the Valley (LOTV)! I found him digging up a patch of Lily of the Valley in my neighbour's garden along with her dog Fifi. Lily of the Valley is a plant that evokes strong emotions—admiration in some and horror in others. Perhaps you fondly recall the perfume of LOTV in a wedding bouquet or as a cherished plant from a family member. However, if you have LOTV in your garden, those emotions can quickly shift to frustration as you attempt to remove it, anger toward the person who initially planted it and, sadly, guilt if it escapes your garden. Remember, while Lily of the Valley may have its allure, it's essential to consider its impact on the ecosystem and choose alternatives that harmonize with our native flora.



This invasive behaviour puts our beautiful [spring ephemerals](#) at risk. Trilliums, Anemones, Virginia Bluebells, and Spring Beauties struggle to survive when this garden bully is around. Once established in a garden or natural area, it is a tenacious plant that is difficult to eradicate.

Supporters of LOTV highlight its amazing perfume and delicate bell-shaped flowers. While it's true that LOTV is highly prized in perfume making, few mention that all parts of the plant are toxic to mammals, including humans, and contact with the plant, especially the roots, can cause skin and eye irritation. It contains poisonous cardenolides, known for inducing cardiac disturbances akin to digitalis. The roots harbour the highest concentration of cardenolides. The conspicuous red berries can attract the attention of curious young children and pets, especially dogs. Lily of the Valley is listed in the Atlas of Invasive Plants and on poison control lists in several jurisdictions in the US and Canada.



A Lily of the Valley invasion in one of Ottawa's most beloved Conservation Areas, Mud Lake. According to the website, the 60-hectare natural environment is home to 44 rare and 15 uncommon plant species. The area is also home to or visited by 269 species of birds.

Image: Charlene Addison-Dixon - Facebook, Canadian Coalition of Invasive Plant Regulation - CCIPR

Invasive and harmful to biodiversity, Lily of the Valley (*Convallaria majalis*) shares the growth and propagation characteristics of the invasive plants profiled in our [April issue](#). It has both rhizomes and fibrous roots, and birds eating the berries disperse the seeds with their droppings. It is less widespread than the 'Troublesome Trio', but LOTV can spread quickly, forming dense colonies that not only leave no room for other plants but also outcompete native species for moisture and nutrients.

Continued on next page



LILY OF THE VALLEY—LOVELY OR LETHAL (CONT'D)



*If you adore LOTV, don't despair—there are plenty of other beautiful non-invasive plants you can add to your garden.*



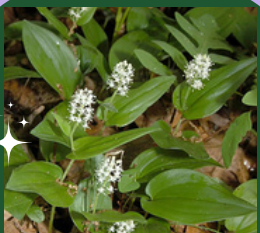
**Garden use:** Canada Mayflower can form large patches in a large variety of habitats.

**Growing conditions:** Part shade, shade, medium to moist soils; good choice for acidic soil.

**Size & shape:** 20 cm tall

**Flower & Berries:** Tiny white, fragrant flowers held in upright clusters appear in late spring. Greenish red berries appear in late summer

**Benefits:** Berries are eaten by birds and small mammals, especially ruffed grouse, mice and chipmunks.



**Canada Mayflower**  
(*Maianthemum canadense*)

**Garden use:**

Groundcover for shady woodland garden.

**Growing conditions:** Part shade/full shade with moist to dry soil. Adaptable.

**Size & shape:** 25-50 cm tall

**Flower:** Dainty white flower on single arching stem.

**Fruit:** Deep blue-black berries that go red in fall.

**Benefits:** Feeds birds, deer resistant, spreads readily in a variety of soil and light conditions.



**Starry Solomon's Seal**  
(*Maianthemum stellatum*)

**Garden use:** Lime green leaves add brightness to shaded places, good accent for other shade plants

**Growing conditions:** Part shade/full shade with moist soil, tolerates dry soil once established

**Size & shape:** 15-30 cm tall

**Flower:** Unique black bracts with fluffy stamens appear in early spring and fade by early summer.

**Benefits:** Supports pollinators as pollen sources or as larval hosts.



**Seersucker Sedge**  
(*Carex plantaginea*)

**Garden use:** Evergreen, tolerates somewhat drier soils than most ferns. A good companion for woodland wildflowers

**Growing conditions:** Part shade/full shade with well-drained, rich soil. Avoid planting in consistently moist or heavy clay soils. Mulch with fallen leaves.

**Size & shape:** 30-60 cm tall

**Benefits:** Attracts ruffed grouse, deer resistant and juglone tolerant. A clumping fern that can be divided in early spring to form a mass.



**Christmas Fern**  
(*Polystichum acrostichoides*)

**Some other alternatives to consider:**

Pennsylvania sedge (*Carex pensylvanica*), maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum pedatum*), barren strawberry (*Geum fragarioides*)



Continued on next page

**LILY OF THE VALLEY—LOVELY OR LETHAL (CONT'D)****Removal and Disposal**

- To remove the rhizome and fibrous roots: Use a spade to dig the plant out in clumps when the root zone is moistened from recent rain or due to watering.
- Wear gloves when handling the plants, especially severed roots, to avoid skin irritations.
- Monitor the area seasonally, and expect regrowth from missed pieces of the roots.
- Remove newly emerging plants and expect to repeat the process to get all of the roots out.
- It is also recommended to smother or [solarize](#) the area after removal to ensure the plants have been eradicated.
- If you are concerned about the appearance of the area, lay down a tarp and cover it with 8" of mulch. Add a few containers of colourful annuals suited to the light conditions.
- Continue to check under the perimeter of the tarp weekly.
- Dispose of the plants in sealed black garbage bags, leaving in a sunny place until the plants are 'cooked and killed'.
- Put out as garbage, NOT as garden waste.
- Replant the area with non-invasive alternatives.

**The Continuing Barney Saga**

While my neighbour was apoplectic about the damage to her plants, I was relieved the dogs weren't eating them. I suppose I should have been more sympathetic when I blurted "Good riddance! That plant is poisonous and invasive!" She replied that her mother and grandmother *loved* LOTV and had it in their gardens. (Sigh—another case of NIIMBYS (Not Invasive In My Backyard Syndrome). I grabbed Barney by the collar and made apologetic noises on my way out of her yard.



Later in the day, I ran into my neighbour returning from the vet with Fifi. This time, I was much more sympathetic and she was uncharacteristically subdued as she asked "What was that you were saying about my plants being poisonous"?

I invited her in for a coffee...

**Resources****Invasive Plant Atlas:**

- [Lily of the Valley](#)
- [Distribution Map](#)

**Removal:**

- [Ontario Parks Invasive Species \(see Sections 2.4, 2.5\)](#)

**Information and Resources in event of suspected poisoning:**

- [Ontario Poison Centre](#)
- [Colorado State University Guide to Poisonous Plants](#)



Original Image from [Harrowsmith Magazine](#)



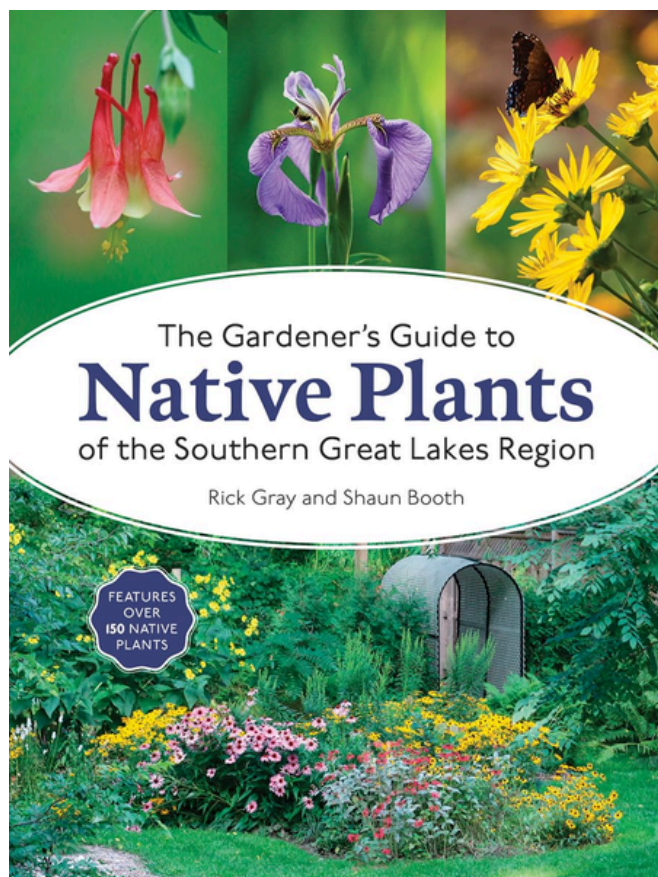
## Cultivating Diversity: Book Review of Native Plants of the Southern Great Lakes Region

by Emma Murphy, Peterborough Master Gardener

"Native Plants of the Southern Great Lakes Region" by Rick Gray and Shaun Booth is a must-have guide for Ontario gardeners. This is the native plant gardening resource I wish I had more than five years ago when I started incorporating native plants into my garden.

Focused specifically on the Southern Great Lakes Region, it's an all-in-one, easy-to-use resource for those interested in plants that not only look wonderful but also fulfill a critical role in our gardens in supporting wildlife, birds, and pollinators such as butterflies, moths, bees, and insects. It reminds me of an encyclopedia, with a full-page spread on each native plant. It's not surprising that's it's already #4 on the Globe & Mail's bestseller list.

The book's design makes it easy to see key information at a glance, using quick guide icons and colour-coded bars highlighting exposure/light and moisture requirements. There are also numerous appendices that match soil types, seed collection, preparation, propagation, and butterflies and their host plants, as well as each plant's [Ontario's Species at Risk](#) status. You'll understand what each plant needs to thrive, how big they will get, and how to make more plants to share with your friends!



There are lots of beautiful photos, detailed descriptions, easy to see symbols, information on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zones, lifespan, propagation, as well as wildlife/pollinator value.

I appreciate that in the introductory chapters the authors clearly explain:

- What is a native plant?
- Aggressive vs invasive
- Origin of the term *weed*
- Nativar vs cultivar
- Value of native plants

The authors' sense of humour is evident in pages titled – *A coneflower by any other name, Fifty shades of...shade* and my favourite *2b or not 2b* (Hardiness zones).

## CULTIVATING DIVERSITY (CONT'D)

I have to say that as a seasoned gardener I was surprised to see *Echinacea pallida* (Pale Purple Coneflower) is not in the book (not native to most of this region but often sold as a native) but *Agastache foeniculum* (Anise hyssop) is included although it is not native to southern Ontario (it's a north western Ontario (Thunder Bay) and west to the prairies plant). Oops! I have both in my garden north of Peterborough.

Was anything missing? Technically no, as the authors were clear that this was not a garden design book.

Perhaps after putting out Vol. 2 (the other 150+ plants they wanted to include), they'll consider including a section on understanding planting density, creating root competition, and good plant pairings.

This book is perfect for reading at home or taking with you to your local nursery as you search for native plants to add to your garden.

The bottom line: it's a wonderful addition to my garden library. I recommend it to anyone interested in incorporating more native plants in their Ontario gardens.



## Locate Native Plants at Native Plant Nurseries

### Native Plant Nurseries in Southern Ontario



**Native Plants Nurseries in Southern Ontario – Updated April 2024**

Many gardeners have been looking for additional plants to their gardens. There is a list of all plants listed by Halton Master Gardeners. The criteria for being included on this list was that the plants be for sale by the nursery and the nursery had been registered with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MFAR) as a nursery.

Complete list of nurseries in the Halton region and a list of nurseries in other regions in Southern Ontario. Please copy and paste the following link:

[LINK TO THE MAP](#)

**Nurseries Listed on the Map**

- Green Stars – nurseries that sell and carry native plants
- Blue Location Pins – other independent nurseries

Please email haltonmastergardeners@gmail.com if you have any other nurseries to include, remove or update. We'll be happy to help.

**Halton Master Gardeners**

**PLANTING NOTE:** Contact the nursery in advance. Many have limited hours or are open by appointment only.

NAME	LOCATION/CONTACT	WEBSITE	COMMENTS
Green Stars Nurseries	2000 King Rd. West, Unit 10, Unit 11, Unit 12, Unit 13, Unit 14, Unit 15, Unit 16, Unit 17, Unit 18, Unit 19, Unit 20, Unit 21, Unit 22, Unit 23, Unit 24, Unit 25, Unit 26, Unit 27, Unit 28, Unit 29, Unit 30, Unit 31, Unit 32, Unit 33, Unit 34, Unit 35, Unit 36, Unit 37, Unit 38, Unit 39, Unit 40, Unit 41, Unit 42, Unit 43, Unit 44, Unit 45, Unit 46, Unit 47, Unit 48, Unit 49, Unit 50, Unit 51, Unit 52, Unit 53, Unit 54, Unit 55, Unit 56, Unit 57, Unit 58, Unit 59, Unit 60, Unit 61, Unit 62, Unit 63, Unit 64, Unit 65, Unit 66, Unit 67, Unit 68, Unit 69, Unit 70, Unit 71, Unit 72, Unit 73, Unit 74, Unit 75, Unit 76, Unit 77, Unit 78, Unit 79, Unit 80, Unit 81, Unit 82, Unit 83, Unit 84, Unit 85, Unit 86, Unit 87, Unit 88, Unit 89, Unit 90, Unit 91, Unit 92, Unit 93, Unit 94, Unit 95, Unit 96, Unit 97, Unit 98, Unit 99, Unit 100, Unit 101, Unit 102, Unit 103, Unit 104, Unit 105, Unit 106, Unit 107, Unit 108, Unit 109, Unit 110, Unit 111, Unit 112, Unit 113, Unit 114, Unit 115, Unit 116, Unit 117, Unit 118, Unit 119, Unit 120, Unit 121, Unit 122, Unit 123, Unit 124, Unit 125, Unit 126, Unit 127, Unit 128, Unit 129, Unit 130, Unit 131, Unit 132, Unit 133, Unit 134, Unit 135, Unit 136, Unit 137, Unit 138, Unit 139, Unit 140, Unit 141, Unit 142, Unit 143, Unit 144, Unit 145, Unit 146, Unit 147, Unit 148, Unit 149, Unit 150, Unit 151, Unit 152, Unit 153, Unit 154, Unit 155, Unit 156, Unit 157, Unit 158, Unit 159, Unit 160, Unit 161, Unit 162, Unit 163, Unit 164, Unit 165, Unit 166, Unit 167, Unit 168, Unit 169, Unit 170, Unit 171, Unit 172, Unit 173, Unit 174, Unit 175, Unit 176, Unit 177, Unit 178, Unit 179, Unit 180, Unit 181, Unit 182, Unit 183, Unit 184, Unit 185, Unit 186, Unit 187, Unit 188, Unit 189, Unit 190, Unit 191, Unit 192, Unit 193, Unit 194, Unit 195, Unit 196, Unit 197, Unit 198, Unit 199, Unit 200, Unit 201, Unit 202, Unit 203, Unit 204, Unit 205, Unit 206, Unit 207, Unit 208, Unit 209, Unit 210, Unit 211, Unit 212, Unit 213, Unit 214, Unit 215, Unit 216, Unit 217, Unit 218, Unit 219, Unit 220, Unit 221, Unit 222, Unit 223, Unit 224, Unit 225, Unit 226, Unit 227, Unit 228, Unit 229, Unit 230, Unit 231, Unit 232, Unit 233, Unit 234, Unit 235, Unit 236, Unit 237, Unit 238, Unit 239, Unit 240, Unit 241, Unit 242, Unit 243, Unit 244, Unit 245, Unit 246, Unit 247, Unit 248, Unit 249, Unit 250, Unit 251, Unit 252, Unit 253, Unit 254, Unit 255, Unit 256, Unit 257, Unit 258, Unit 259, Unit 260, Unit 261, Unit 262, Unit 263, Unit 264, Unit 265, Unit 266, Unit 267, Unit 268, Unit 269, Unit 270, Unit 271, Unit 272, Unit 273, Unit 274, Unit 275, Unit 276, Unit 277, Unit 278, Unit 279, Unit 280, Unit 281, Unit 282, Unit 283, Unit 284, Unit 285, Unit 286, Unit 287, Unit 288, Unit 289, Unit 290, Unit 291, Unit 292, Unit 293, Unit 294, Unit 295, Unit 296, Unit 297, Unit 298, Unit 299, Unit 300, Unit 301, Unit 302, Unit 303, Unit 304, Unit 305, Unit 306, Unit 307, Unit 308, Unit 309, Unit 310, Unit 311, Unit 312, Unit 313, Unit 314, Unit 315, Unit 316, Unit 317, Unit 318, Unit 319, Unit 320, Unit 321, Unit 322, Unit 323, Unit 324, Unit 325, Unit 326, Unit 327, Unit 328, Unit 329, Unit 330, Unit 331, Unit 332, Unit 333, Unit 334, Unit 335, Unit 336, Unit 337, Unit 338, Unit 339, Unit 340, Unit 341, Unit 342, Unit 343, Unit 344, Unit 345, Unit 346, Unit 347, Unit 348, Unit 349, Unit 350, Unit 351, Unit 352, Unit 353, Unit 354, Unit 355, Unit 356, Unit 357, Unit 358, Unit 359, Unit 360, Unit 361, Unit 362, Unit 363, Unit 364, Unit 365, Unit 366, Unit 367, Unit 368, Unit 369, Unit 370, Unit 371, Unit 372, Unit 373, Unit 374, Unit 375, Unit 376, Unit 377, Unit 378, Unit 379, Unit 380, Unit 381, Unit 382, Unit 383, Unit 384, Unit 385, Unit 386, Unit 387, Unit 388, Unit 389, Unit 390, Unit 391, Unit 392, Unit 393, Unit 394, Unit 395, Unit 396, Unit 397, Unit 398, Unit 399, Unit 400, Unit 401, Unit 402, Unit 403, Unit 404, Unit 405, Unit 406, Unit 407, Unit 408, Unit 409, Unit 410, Unit 411, Unit 412, Unit 413, Unit 414, Unit 415, Unit 416, Unit 417, Unit 418, Unit 419, Unit 420, Unit 421, Unit 422, Unit 423, Unit 424, Unit 425, Unit 426, Unit 427, Unit 428, Unit 429, Unit 430, Unit 431, Unit 432, Unit 433, Unit 434, Unit 435, Unit 436, Unit 437, Unit 438, Unit 439, Unit 440, Unit 441, Unit 442, Unit 443, Unit 444, Unit 445, Unit 446, Unit 447, Unit 448, Unit 449, Unit 450, Unit 451, Unit 452, Unit 453, Unit 454, Unit 455, Unit 456, Unit 457, Unit 458, Unit 459, Unit 460, Unit 461, Unit 462, Unit 463, Unit 464, Unit 465, Unit 466, Unit 467, Unit 468, Unit 469, Unit 470, Unit 471, Unit 472, Unit 473, Unit 474, Unit 475, Unit 476, Unit 477, Unit 478, Unit 479, Unit 480, Unit 481, Unit 482, Unit 483, Unit 484, Unit 485, Unit 486, Unit 487, Unit 488, Unit 489, Unit 490, Unit 491, Unit 492, Unit 493, Unit 494, Unit 495, Unit 496, Unit 497, Unit 498, Unit 499, Unit 500, Unit 501, Unit 502, Unit 503, Unit 504, Unit 505, Unit 506, Unit 507, Unit 508, Unit 509, Unit 510, Unit 511, Unit 512, Unit 513, Unit 514, Unit 515, Unit 516, Unit 517, Unit 518, Unit 519, Unit 520, Unit 521, Unit 522, Unit 523, Unit 524, Unit 525, Unit 526, Unit 527, Unit 528, Unit 529, Unit 530, Unit 531, Unit 532, Unit 533, Unit 534, Unit 535, Unit 536, Unit 537, Unit 538, Unit 539, Unit 540, Unit 541, Unit 542, Unit 543, Unit 544, Unit 545, Unit 546, Unit 547, Unit 548, Unit 549, Unit 550, Unit 551, Unit 552, Unit 553, Unit 554, Unit 555, Unit 556, Unit 557, Unit 558, Unit 559, Unit 560, Unit 561, Unit 562, Unit 563, Unit 564, Unit 565, Unit 566, Unit 567, Unit 568, Unit 569, Unit 570, Unit 571, Unit 572, Unit 573, Unit 574, Unit 575, Unit 576, Unit 577, Unit 578, Unit 579, Unit 580, Unit 581, Unit 582, Unit 583, Unit 584, Unit 585, Unit 586, Unit 587, Unit 588, Unit 589, Unit 590, Unit 591, Unit 592, Unit 593, Unit 594, Unit 595, Unit 596, Unit 597, Unit 598, Unit 599, Unit 600, Unit 601, Unit 602, Unit 603, Unit 604, Unit 605, Unit 606, Unit 607, Unit 608, Unit 609, Unit 610, Unit 611, Unit 612, Unit 613, Unit 614, Unit 615, Unit 616, Unit 617, Unit 618, Unit 619, Unit 620, Unit 621, Unit 622, Unit 623, Unit 624, Unit 625, Unit 626, Unit 627, Unit 628, Unit 629, Unit 630, Unit 631, Unit 632, Unit 633, Unit 634, Unit 635, Unit 636, Unit 637, Unit 638, Unit 639, Unit 640, Unit 641, Unit 642, Unit 643, Unit 644, Unit 645, Unit 646, Unit 647, Unit 648, Unit 649, Unit 650, Unit 651, Unit 652, Unit 653, Unit 654, Unit 655, Unit 656, Unit 657, Unit 658, Unit 659, Unit 660, Unit 661, Unit 662, Unit 663, Unit 664, Unit 665, Unit 666, Unit 667, Unit 668, Unit 669, Unit 670, Unit 671, Unit 672, Unit 673, Unit 674, Unit 675, Unit 676, Unit 677, Unit 678, Unit 679, Unit 680, Unit 681, Unit 682, Unit 683, Unit 684, Unit 685, Unit 686, Unit 687, Unit 688, Unit 689, Unit 690, Unit 691, Unit 692, Unit 693, Unit 694, Unit 695, Unit 696, Unit 697, Unit 698, Unit 699, Unit 700, Unit 701, Unit 702, Unit 703, Unit 704, Unit 705, Unit 706, Unit 707, Unit 708, Unit 709, Unit 710, Unit 711, Unit 712, Unit 713, Unit 714, Unit 715, Unit 716, Unit 717, Unit 718, Unit 719, Unit 720, Unit 721, Unit 722, Unit 723, Unit 724, Unit 725, Unit 726, Unit 727, Unit 728, Unit 729, Unit 730, Unit 731, Unit 732, Unit 733, Unit 734, Unit 735, Unit 736, Unit 737, Unit 738, Unit 739, Unit 740, Unit 741, Unit 742, Unit 743, Unit 744, Unit 745, Unit 746, Unit 747, Unit 748, Unit 749, Unit 750, Unit 751, Unit 752, Unit 753, Unit 754, Unit 755, Unit 756, Unit 757, Unit 758, Unit 759, Unit 760, Unit 761, Unit 762, Unit 763, Unit 764, Unit 765, Unit 766, Unit 767, Unit 768, Unit 769, Unit 770, Unit 771, Unit 772, Unit 773, Unit 774, Unit 775, Unit 776, Unit 777, Unit 778, Unit 779, Unit 780, Unit 781, Unit 782, Unit 783, Unit 784, Unit 785, Unit 786, Unit 787, Unit 788, Unit 789, Unit 790, Unit 791, Unit 792, Unit 793, Unit 794, Unit 795, Unit 796, Unit 797, Unit 798, Unit 799, Unit 800, Unit 801, Unit 802, Unit 803, Unit 804, Unit 805, Unit 806, Unit 807, Unit 808, Unit 809, Unit 810, Unit 811, Unit 812, Unit 813, Unit 814, Unit 815, Unit 816, Unit 817, Unit 818, Unit 819, Unit 820, Unit 821, Unit 822, Unit 823, Unit 824, Unit 825, Unit 826, Unit 827, Unit 828, Unit 829, Unit 830, Unit 831, Unit 832, Unit 833, Unit 834, Unit 835, Unit 836, Unit 837, Unit 838, Unit 839, Unit 840, Unit 841, Unit 842, Unit 843, Unit 844, Unit 845, Unit 846, Unit 847, Unit 848, Unit 849, Unit 850, Unit 851, Unit 852, Unit 853, Unit 854, Unit 855, Unit 856, Unit 857, Unit 858, Unit 859, Unit 860, Unit 861, Unit 862, Unit 863, Unit 864, Unit 865, Unit 866, Unit 867, Unit 868, Unit 869, Unit 870, Unit 871, Unit 872, Unit 873, Unit 874, Unit 875, Unit 876, Unit 877, Unit 878, Unit 879, Unit 880, Unit 881, Unit 882, Unit 883, Unit 884, Unit 885, Unit 886, Unit 887, Unit 888, Unit 889, Unit 890, Unit 891, Unit 892, Unit 893, Unit 894, Unit 895, Unit 896, Unit 897, Unit 898, Unit 899, Unit 900, Unit 901, Unit 902, Unit 903, Unit 904, Unit 905, Unit 906, Unit 907, Unit 908, Unit 909, Unit 910, Unit 911, Unit 912, Unit 913, Unit 914, Unit 915, Unit 916, Unit 917, Unit 918, Unit 919, Unit 920, Unit 921, Unit 922, Unit 923, Unit 924, Unit 925, Unit 926, Unit 927, Unit 928, Unit 929, Unit 930, Unit 931, Unit 932, Unit 933, Unit 934, Unit 935, Unit 936, Unit 937, Unit 938, Unit 939, Unit 940, Unit 941, Unit 942, Unit 943, Unit 944, Unit 945, Unit 946, Unit 947, Unit 948, Unit 949, Unit 950, Unit 951, Unit 952, Unit 953, Unit 954, Unit 955, Unit 956, Unit 957, Unit 958, Unit 959, Unit 960, Unit 961, Unit 962, Unit 963, Unit 964, Unit 965, Unit 966, Unit 967, Unit 968, Unit 969, Unit 970, Unit 971, Unit 972, Unit 973, Unit 974, Unit 975, Unit 976, Unit 977, Unit 978, Unit 979, Unit 980, Unit 981, Unit 982, Unit 983, Unit 984, Unit 985, Unit 986, Unit 987, Unit 988, Unit 989, Unit 990, Unit 991, Unit 992, Unit 993, Unit 994, Unit 995, Unit 996, Unit 997, Unit 998, Unit 999, Unit 1000, Unit 1001, Unit 1002, Unit 1003, Unit 1004, Unit 1005, Unit 1006, Unit 1007, Unit 1008, Unit 1009, Unit 1010, Unit 1011, Unit 1012, Unit 1013, Unit 1014, Unit 1015, Unit 1016, Unit 1017, Unit 1018, Unit 1019, Unit 1020, Unit 1021, Unit 1022, Unit 1023, Unit 1024, Unit 1025, Unit 1026, Unit 1027, Unit 1028, Unit 1029, Unit 1030, Unit 1031, Unit 1032, Unit 1033, Unit 1034, Unit 1035, Unit 1036, Unit 1037, Unit 1038, Unit 1039, Unit 1040, Unit 1041, Unit 1042, Unit 1043, Unit 1044, Unit 1045, Unit 1046, Unit 1047, Unit 1048, Unit 1049, Unit 1050, Unit 1051, Unit 1052, Unit 1053, Unit 1054, Unit 1055, Unit 1056, Unit 1057, Unit 1058, Unit 1059, Unit 1060, Unit 1061, Unit 1062, Unit 1063, Unit 1064, Unit 1065, Unit 1066, Unit 1067, Unit 1068, Unit 1069, Unit 1070, Unit 1071, Unit 1072, Unit 1073, Unit 1074, Unit 1075, Unit 1076, Unit 1077, Unit 1078, Unit 1079, Unit 1080, Unit 1081, Unit 1082, Unit 1083, Unit 1084, Unit 1085, Unit 1086, Unit 1087, Unit 1088, Unit 1089, Unit 1090, Unit 1091, Unit 1092, Unit 1093, Unit 1094, Unit 1095, Unit 1096, Unit 1097, Unit 1098, Unit 1099, Unit 1100, Unit 1101, Unit 1102, Unit 1103, Unit 1104, Unit 1105, Unit 1106, Unit 1107, Unit 1108, Unit 1109, Unit 1110, Unit 1111, Unit 1112, Unit 1113, Unit 1114, Unit 1115, Unit 1116, Unit 1117, Unit 1118, Unit 1119, Unit 1120, Unit 1121, Unit 1122, Unit 1123, Unit 1124, Unit 1125, Unit 1126, Unit 1127, Unit 1128, Unit 1129, Unit 1130, Unit 1131, Unit 1132, Unit 1133, Unit 1134, Unit 1135, Unit 1136, Unit 1137, Unit 1138, Unit 1139, Unit 1140, Unit 1141, Unit 1142, Unit 1143, Unit 1144, Unit 1145, Unit 1146, Unit 1147, Unit 1148, Unit 1149, Unit 1150, Unit 1151, Unit 1152, Unit 1153, Unit 1154, Unit 1155, Unit 1156, Unit 1157, Unit 1158, Unit 1159, Unit 1160, Unit 1161, Unit 1162, Unit 1163, Unit 1164, Unit 1165, Unit 1166, Unit 1167, Unit 1168, Unit 1169, Unit 1170, Unit 1171, Unit 1172, Unit 1173, Unit 1174, Unit 1175, Unit 1176, Unit 1177, Unit 1178, Unit 1179, Unit 1180, Unit 1181, Unit 1182, Unit 1183, Unit 1184, Unit 1185, Unit 1186, Unit 1187, Unit 1188, Unit 1189, Unit 1190, Unit 1191, Unit 1192, Unit 1193, Unit 1194, Unit 1195, Unit 1196, Unit 1197, Unit 1198, Unit 1199, Unit 1200, Unit 1201, Unit 1202, Unit 1203, Unit 1204, Unit 1205, Unit 1206, Unit 1207, Unit 1208, Unit 1209, Unit 1210, Unit 1211, Unit 1212, Unit 1213, Unit 1214, Unit 1215, Unit 1216, Unit 1217, Unit 1218, Unit 1219, Unit 1220, Unit 1221, Unit 1222, Unit 1223, Unit 1224, Unit 1225, Unit 1226, Unit 1227, Unit 1228, Unit 1229, Unit 1230, Unit 1231, Unit 1232, Unit 1233, Unit 1234, Unit 1235, Unit 1236, Unit 1237, Unit 1238, Unit 1239, Unit 1240, Unit 1241, Unit 1242, Unit 1243, Unit 1244, Unit 1245, Unit 1246, Unit 1247, Unit 1248, Unit 1249, Unit 1250, Unit 1251, Unit 1252, Unit 1253, Unit 1254, Unit 1255, Unit 1256, Unit 1257, Unit 1258, Unit 1259, Unit 1260, Unit 1261, Unit 1262, Unit 1263, Unit 1264, Unit 1265, Unit 1266, Unit 1267, Unit 1268, Unit 1269, Unit 1270, Unit 1271, Unit 1272, Unit 1273, Unit 1274, Unit 1275, Unit 1276, Unit 1277, Unit 1278, Unit 1279, Unit 1280, Unit 1281, Unit 1282, Unit 1283, Unit 1284, Unit 1285, Unit 1286, Unit 1287, Unit 1288, Unit 1289, Unit 1290, Unit 1291, Unit 1292, Unit 1293, Unit 1294, Unit 1295, Unit 1296, Unit 1297, Unit 1298, Unit 1299, Unit 1300, Unit 1301, Unit 1302, Unit 1303, Unit 1304, Unit 1305, Unit 1306, Unit 1307, Unit 1308, Unit 1309, Unit 1310, Unit 1311, Unit 1312, Unit 1313, Unit 1314, Unit 1315, Unit 1316, Unit 1317, Unit 1318, Unit 1319, Unit 1320, Unit 1321, Unit 1322, Unit 1323, Unit 1324, Unit 1325, Unit 1326, Unit 1327, Unit 1328, Unit 1329, Unit 1330, Unit 1331, Unit 1332, Unit 1333, Unit 1334, Unit 1335, Unit 1336, Unit 1337, Unit 1338, Unit 1339, Unit 1340, Unit 1341, Unit 1342, Unit 1343, Unit 1344, Unit 1345, Unit 1346, Unit 1347, Unit 1348, Unit 1349, Unit 1350, Unit 1351, Unit 1352, Unit 1353, Unit 1354, Unit 1355, Unit 1356, Unit 1357, Unit 1358, Unit 1359, Unit 1360, Unit 1361, Unit 1362, Unit 1363, Unit 1364, Unit 1365, Unit 1366, Unit 1367, Unit 1368, Unit 1369, Unit 1370, Unit 1371, Unit 1372, Unit 1373, Unit 1374, Unit 1375, Unit 1376, Unit 1377, Unit 1378, Unit 1379, Unit 1380, Unit 1381, Unit 1382, Unit 1383, Unit 1384, Unit 1385, Unit 1386, Unit 1387, Unit 1388, Unit 1389, Unit 1390, Unit 1391, Unit 1392, Unit 1393, Unit 1394, Unit 1395, Unit 1396, Unit 1397, Unit 1398, Unit 1399, Unit 1400, Unit 1401, Unit 1402, Unit 1403, Unit 1404, Unit 1405, Unit 1406, Unit 1407, Unit 1408, Unit 1409, Unit 1410, Unit 1411, Unit 1412, Unit 1413, Unit 1414, Unit 1415, Unit 1416, Unit 1417, Unit 1418, Unit 1419, Unit 1420, Unit 1421, Unit 1422, Unit 1423, Unit 1424, Unit 1425, Unit 1426, Unit 1427, Unit 1428, Unit 1429, Unit 1430, Unit 1431, Unit 1432, Unit 1433, Unit 1434, Unit 1435, Unit 1436, Unit 1437, Unit 1438, Unit 1439, Unit 1440, Unit 1441, Unit 1442, Unit 1443, Unit 1444, Unit 1445, Unit 1446, Unit 1447, Unit 1448, Unit 1449, Unit 1450, Unit 1451, Unit 1452, Unit 1453, Unit 1454, Unit 1455, Unit 1456, Unit 1457, Unit 1458, Unit 1459, Unit 1460, Unit 1461, Unit 1462, Unit 1463, Unit 1464, Unit 1465, Unit 1466, Unit 1467, Unit 1468, Unit 1469, Unit 1470, Unit 1471, Unit 1472, Unit 1473, Unit 1474, Unit 1475, Unit 1476, Unit 1477, Unit 1478, Unit 1479, Unit 1480, Unit 1481, Unit 1482, Unit 1483, Unit 1484, Unit 1485, Unit 1486, Unit 1487, Unit 1488, Unit 1489, Unit 1490, Unit 1491, Unit 1492, Unit 1493, Unit 1494, Unit 1495, Unit 1496, Unit 1497, Unit 1498, Unit 1499, Unit 1500, Unit 1501, Unit 1502, Unit 1503, Unit 1504, Unit 1505, Unit 1506, Unit 1507, Unit 1508, Unit 1509, Unit 1510, Unit 1511, Unit 1512, Unit 1513, Unit 1514, Unit 1515, Unit 1516, Unit 1517, Unit 1518, Unit 1519, Unit 1520, Unit 1521, Unit 1522, Unit 1523, Unit 1524, Unit 1525, Unit 1526, Unit 1527, Unit 1528, Unit 1529, Unit 1530, Unit 1531, Unit 1532, Unit 1533, Unit 1534, Unit 1535, Unit 1536, Unit 1537, Unit 1538, Unit 1539, Unit 1540, Unit 1541, Unit 1542, Unit 1543, Unit 1544, Unit 1545, Unit 1546, Unit 1547, Unit 1548, Unit 1549, Unit 1550, Unit 1551, Unit 1552, Unit 1553, Unit 1554, Unit 1555, Unit 1556, Unit 1557, Unit 1558, Unit 1559, Unit 1560, Unit 1561, Unit 1562, Unit 1563, Unit 1564, Unit 1565, Unit 1566, Unit 1567, Unit 1568, Unit 1569, Unit 1570, Unit 1571, Unit 1572, Unit 1573, Unit 1574, Unit 1575, Unit 1576, Unit 1577, Unit 1578, Unit 1579, Unit 1580, Unit 1581, Unit 1582, Unit 1583, Unit 1584, Unit 1585, Unit 1586, Unit 1587, Unit 1588, Unit 1589, Unit 1590, Unit 1591, Unit 1592, Unit 1593, Unit 1594, Unit 1595, Unit 1596, Unit 1597, Unit 1598, Unit 1599, Unit 1600, Unit 1601, Unit 1602, Unit 1603, Unit 1604, Unit 1605, Unit 1606, Unit 1607, Unit 1608, Unit 1609, Unit 1610, Unit 1611, Unit 1612, Unit 1613, Unit 1614, Unit 1615, Unit 1616, Unit 1617, Unit 1618, Unit 1619, Unit 1620, Unit 1621, Unit 1622, Unit 1623, Unit 1624, Unit 1625, Unit 1626, Unit 1627, Unit 1628, Unit 1629, Unit 1630, Unit 1631, Unit 1632, Unit 1633, Unit 1634, Unit 1635, Unit 1636, Unit 1637, Unit 1638, Unit 1639, Unit 1640, Unit 1641, Unit 1642, Unit 1643, Unit 1644, Unit 1645, Unit 1646, Unit 1647, Unit 1648, Unit 1649, Unit 1650, Unit 1651, Unit 1652, Unit 1653, Unit 1654, Unit 1655, Unit 1656, Unit 1657, Unit 1658, Unit 1659, Unit 1660, Unit 1661, Unit 1662, Unit 1663, Unit 1664, Unit 1665, Unit 1666, Unit 1667, Unit 1668, Unit 1669, Unit 1670, Unit 1671, Unit 1672, Unit 1673, Unit 1674, Unit 1675, Unit 1676, Unit 1677, Unit 1678, Unit 1679, Unit 1680, Unit 1681, Unit 1682, Unit 1683, Unit 1684, Unit 1685, Unit 1686, Unit 1687, Unit 1688, Unit 1689, Unit 1690, Unit 1691, Unit 1692, Unit 1693, Unit 1694, Unit 1695, Unit 1696, Unit 1697, Unit 1698, Unit 1699, Unit 1700, Unit 1701, Unit 1702, Unit 1703, Unit 1704, Unit 1705, Unit 1706, Unit 1707, Unit 1708, Unit 1709, Unit 1710, Unit 1711, Unit 1712, Unit 1713, Unit 1714, Unit 1715, Unit 1716, Unit 1717, Unit 1718, Unit 1719, Unit 1720, Unit 1721, Unit 1722, Unit 1723, Unit 1724, Unit 1725, Unit 1726, Unit 1727, Unit 1728, Unit 1729, Unit 1730, Unit 1731, Unit 1732, Unit 1733, Unit 1734, Unit 1735, Unit 1736, Unit 1737, Unit 1738, Unit 1739, Unit 1740, Unit 1741, Unit 1742, Unit 1743, Unit 1744, Unit 1745, Unit 1746, Unit 1747, Unit 1748, Unit 1749, Unit 1750, Unit 1751, Unit 1752, Unit 1753, Unit 1754, Unit 1755, Unit 1756, Unit 1757, Unit 1758, Unit 1759, Unit 1760, Unit 1761, Unit 1762, Unit 1763, Unit 1764, Unit 1765, Unit 1766, Unit 1767, Unit 1768, Unit 1769, Unit 1770, Unit 1771, Unit		





By Hariette Henry, Halton Master Gardener

In this era of rising costs, you might be thinking of ways to economize in the garden, perhaps re-using and/or re-vitalizing essential items such as potting soil. This is particularly important if you have large containers or you garden exclusively in containers.

The term potting soil is a misnomer. Potting mixes, also called soilless mixes, usually contain a combination of peat moss, bark chips, coir fiber, perlite or vermiculite and composted matter. [These mixes, intended for plants in containers](#), retain moisture, provide air space for roots, and are free from weed seeds, insects and diseases. They do not, however, last forever. Plants use up the nutrients as they grow, and the mix can become compacted and can lose its capacity to hold water as it ages. Sometimes pests, diseases and weeds emerge, popping back up when you replant something new into the same mix.

It is usually fine to re-use potting soil if your plants did well last year and weren't showing any signs of disease or pest problems. If you did notice pests or disease, it's possible to destroy these pathogens through [pasteurization](#). There are a couple of techniques for sterilizing soil such as solarizing: placing the soil in black plastic bags in direct sun for 4 to 6 weeks, or baking the soil in a 180F-degrees oven for 30 minutes. Both techniques have down sides—bad smells as well as killing desirable organic material that may have been left in the soil—and you may decide that its not worth the risk or the effort.

“Is it a good idea to re-use potting soil?”



Image: Savvy Gardening

Once the used potting soil is deemed safe and you are ready to proceed with it, you'll need to re-condition it. This can be accomplished as follows:

- Dump used potting soil in a wheelbarrow and sift through to remove old roots, dead stems, and other debris.
- Break up compacted chunks.
- For every two buckets of old soil add one bucket of new organic matter such as compost, worm castings, aged manure, or leaf mold.
- Replenish minerals and nutrients with the addition of a slow-release organic fertilizer.
- Blend everything together and as you stir, spray in water until the soil has the moisture level of a wrung-out sponge, then refill your containers

Once these steps are taken you should be ready to move forward with next year's plantings. If re-conditioning pre-used soil is not in the cards for you there are other ways to re-use old potting soil:

- as a topdressing to promote the germination of slow-sprouting seeds
- to fill up holes in your yard caused by moles and other animals
- as additional soil in the compost pile
- and finally, to add soil to the bottom of large containers

For a [how-to on re-vitalizing potting soil](#), see the attached video from our colleagues at Toronto Master Gardeners.



# Garden Inspiration!

## Container Gardens for Native Plants

### Know Your Space

- Light conditions—how much sun or shade your garden will receive during the day per season. This will inform your plant species choices.
- The amount of wind plants will be exposed to will also affect plant choice.
- Freezing—You'll need to choose containers that can withstand freezing so they can stay outside year-round wherever you are in Canada.

Can you find ten pollinators in this balcony garden?

- Choose pots that are as big as you can manage.
- Depth is important.
- Make sure there's room for potting soil, solid fertilizer (worm castings, compost, or fish emulsion) and PLANTS!

[Learn More](#)

Image: World Wildlife Fund - [Ryan Godfrey's Balcony Garden](#)

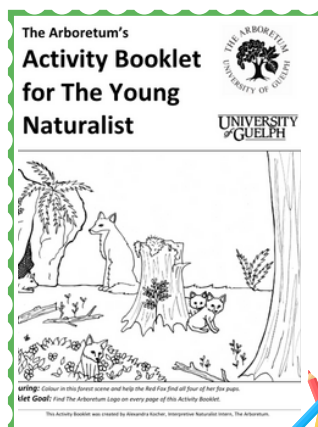


# What's Growing On?

By Trish Moraghan, Halton Master Gardener



[Spring Blooms Workshop](#)



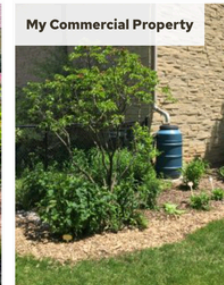
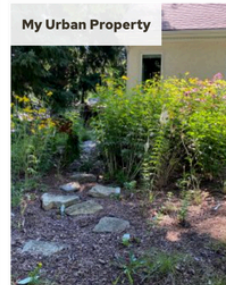
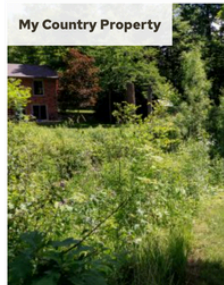
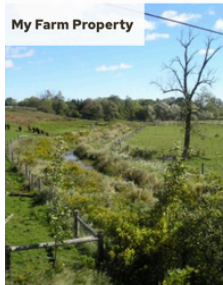
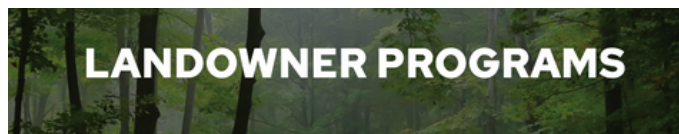
[Activity Booklet](#)



[Drawn to Nature Hike](#)



[Learn more here](#)



[Learn more here](#)



[Learn more here](#)

## 5 Benefits of Steel Garden Beds



[Learn more here](#)



[Learn more here](#)

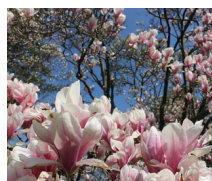
# What's Growing On?



Royal  
Botanical  
Gardens



[Ravishing Redbuds](#)



[Magnolias](#)



[Bleeding Heart](#)



[Lilacs](#)



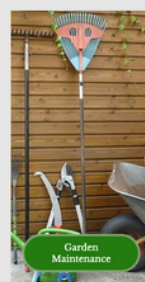
Halton Region Master Gardeners

*Come Grow with Us*

## Fact Sheets and Articles



Food Gardening



Garden Maintenance



Invasive Species

[Learn more here](#)

Page 12

MAY

2024

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Check our [calendar](#) for events



Halton Region Master Gardeners

*Come Grow with Us*

[Home](#) [About](#) [News](#) [Cross Pollination](#) [Learn](#) [JOIN](#) [Request](#) [Members](#) [Growing Gardeners](#) [Contact](#)

## Request

[Request Help from a Master Gardener](#)

### Speakers:

Master Gardeners are available to make presentations to your group on a wide variety of horticultural topics. In the past 12 months our members have presented to horticultural groups, community organizations (ie., Green Venture, Halton Food), private sector lunch & learn events as well as initiated our own 'Fresh Look at Gardening' series which was open to the public (virtual).

[CLICK HERE TO CONTACT US TO SHARE THE DETAILS OF YOUR GROUP AND TOPIC PREFERENCES](#)

[Learn more here](#)

### About Our Newsletter

Cross Pollination is published monthly from February to December and is written and prepared by our dedicated volunteers. Halton Master Gardeners are experienced gardeners who have studied horticulture extensively and continue to upgrade their skills through technical training. We strive to provide science-based, sustainable gardening information to the general public. The information in our newsletter has been verified by our volunteers to the best of our abilities, but given the scope of horticulture and science some concepts may not reflect current knowledge. The content displayed in our newsletter is the intellectual property of Halton Region Master Gardeners and their authors. It can be shared in its entirety, but specific content should not be reused, republished or reprinted without the author's consent.

Copy Editor: Isabel Belanger

Your [donations](#) support our work!