



March 2026 Newsletter

It may not look like it but Spring is coming and there is lots to do



There are many walks, talks, workshops and projects for those who appreciate and protect nature and garden/create habitat with native plants. We want to share all the wonderful work that people are doing and let Project Swallowtail members know about other groups they can get involved with or just learn from. See the links at the bottom of this newsletter and our **Facebook** group.

South Parkdale Community Pollinator Gardens

<mailto:spcommunitypollinatorgardens@gmail.com> to register for events

March 4 evening, 6:30-8:30 pm at 91 Spencer Ave Co-op buzz code #1994 Seed packing. Donations welcome

March 14 Seed Packing 12 to 1 pm and Mini Seedy Saturday from 1-3 pm Community Seed Exchange & Giveaway!!! 58 Lansdowne Ave, The Public Studio

Turning Your Turf Grass into a Pollinator Paradise

In-person presentation in partnership and inspired by the tenants of 30 Springhurst Ave. March 25, 7-8:30 pm. **Registration required.**

Come learn how to convert your yard or a boulevard into a glorious habitat garden, the easy way! We'll cover the efficient no-till lasagna method, plants that can tolerate road salt, short ones that won't block the line of sight for drivers, and where to buy affordable plants in the city.



Seedy Saturdays and Sundays

To get a larger list and more detail see <https://seeds.ca/events/> and filter for Toronto.

March 3 Seed Giveaway and Eco-Programs Event

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
45 Overlea Blvd, East York Town Ctr,
Entrance #6, Thorncliffe Park
Community Hub, Toronto, ON

March 7 Evergreen Brick Works Seedy Saturday

9:00 am - 2:00 pm
550 Bayview Avenue
Toronto, ON

March 28 Downtown Toronto Seedy Saturday

10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Scadding Court Community Centre,
707 Dundas Street West, Toronto, ON
M5T 2W6 (southeast corner of
Bathurst St. and Dundas St. W)
Toronto, ON

April 1 Parkdale Seedy Sunday

4:00 am - 6:00 am
Parkdale library
Toronto Ontario , ON

Toronto Seed Tree Project
Article on the unique program behind
Toronto's effort to conserve its
biodiversity
Story by **CBC/Radio-Canada**



An Invitation to The Garden Club of Toronto's Prospective New Member Open House & Monthly Meeting

Thursday, 23 April 2026, 11:15 am to 2:30 pm
Toronto Botanical Garden, 777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto

FREE ADMISSION, Registration required

mailto:membership@thegardencluboftoronto.ca or call the office at (416) 447-5218.
thegardencluboftoronto.ca Should you have any questions prior to April 23rd, please don't hesitate to contact us.

If you've ever wondered what the Garden Club of Toronto does, or given thought to becoming a Member, please join us as our Guest at the April Prospective New Member Open House & General Monthly Meeting.

Your visit will include:

- information session
- floral demonstration
- floral design & horticulture show
- light refreshments
- **SPEAKER - Netami Stuart: Topic - Park Making on Toronto's Waterfront Island**

We hope you will enjoy the day spent in the company of others with the same passion for all things garden related!



Cornell Lab Garden for Birds

One of the greatest threats to birds is loss of habitat and we can all do something about it. Join us and we'll send you monthly emails guiding your bird-habitat-journey.

If you are a veteran gardener, who is already providing an abundance of native habitat for birds, consider joining us to share your bird sightings so we can grow our capacity to quantify how native habitat is impacting bird populations. This project aims to bring people together who are passionate about creating and sustaining native habitat for our feathered friends in our green spaces.

THE GARDEN SHIFT

Podcast

The Garden Shift (thegardenshift.com)

podcast with Tina Cesaroni ([Spotify](#)) or [@the_garden_shift](#)

A podcast about becoming a guardian of your garden with host Tina Cesaroni and friends. Informal conversations about ecological gardening and an enormous resource library

Topics include:

- Building a garden with PollinateTO
- Swallowtail Native Plants - A Local Seed Company
- Botanical Terminology with Ryan Godfrey
- A Naturalized Garden with Douglas Counter
- Pollinator Corridors with Dorte Windmuller
- Naturalizing Spaces with Lorraine Johnson
- The Power of Community with Ingrid Janssen

Tell us About Your Garden

Thank you to our members who registered for the Pollinator Partnership Certification training and who answered the question “Tell us about your garden”. These motivating anecdotes show how much we can accomplish individually and together. More stories to come in upcoming newsletters. You can add your own story in [this form](#)



10x20 in front of historic grey stone across from Clarence park. The city recently cleaned up the park with a new public patio, the row of townhouses all have garden beds, many have been neglected for years, I've been trying to spruce them up with diverse native plants.

I work with a group of gardeners at a church, Our lady of Lourdes, Sherbourne st. Toronto. We have several areas that are pollinator gardens or mixed with native plants and other plants. In 2025, we won the City of Toronto first award at the best community garden in the city.

I have a potted garden on my balcony! I have various flower boxes that I'd like

to learn how to improve and incorporate native species.

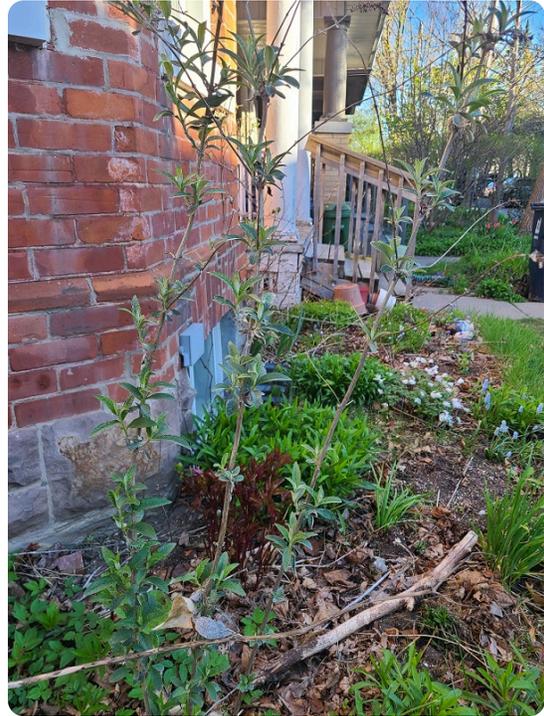
(photo above Gerbremeriam Gebremichael)

I work at Waterfront Neighborhood Centre Toronto at Community Connect pollinator friendly vegetable garden. This year (2025) the garden landscape was under reconstruction to be more accessible to people with physical difficulties and independent seniors. We are planning to establish one pollinator bed, pollinator border as well as in containers. This year I planted more than fifteen pollinator plants that included native and non-native plants in my back yard with vegetables.

Shared urban garden with pollinator plants for spring through fall...and a mix of other things as well.

(photo right Dana Buchbinder)

I have 2 beds that are 100% native plants (for one, I painstakingly ripped out all the lily of the valley the old owner had there and replaced it with all natives), In addition, I am integrating more and more natives into every other bed I have, plus I have a non-landscaped natural area that I am also adding all natives to as I fight all the invasives and remove non-natives there. I have planted a large number of native plants every year for the past three years (and bought a Project Swallowtail kit in 2023).



*My front yard is 100% native shade plants; back yard is 75% native plants (part-sun and shade) with a strip of grass (mostly non-native) down the centre. I would like to help a neighbour transform her front yard (grass, full sun) into a native plant garden.
(photo left Helena Van Nooten)*

I have frogs, geese, ducks, woodpeckers fire flies, orioles in my garden and would like to bring in the butterflies too. Cambridge has a few gardens that are volunteer based and I would like to introduce this project to the volunteers as well as Village neighbourhood association.

*I am a member of the South Parkdale Community Pollinator Gardens group and we have several gardens throughout Parkdale. I also have a back yard pollinator garden.
(photo right Pixie Logue)*



Mahe Circle is a PollinateTO-sponsored community project in Toronto's Junction neighbourhood.

Places to go, Things to do and People to meet

- **Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)** <https://trca.ca/events-calendar/>
- **Toronto Field Naturalists** <https://torontofieldnaturalists.org/walks/>
- **North American Native Plant Society (NANPS)** <https://nanps.org/>
- **David Suzuki Foundation Butterflyway Project**
<https://davidsuzuki.org/take-action/act-locally/butterflyway/>
- **Homegrown National Park** <https://homegrownnationalpark.org/>
- **Carolinian Canada** <https://caroliniancanada.ca/>
- **Seeds of Diversity** <https://seeds.ca/>
- **Plenty Canada** (Indigenous led environmental protection)
<https://www.plentycanada.com/>
- **Toronto Nature Stewards** <https://torontonaturestewards.org/>
- **Pollinator Partnership Canada** <https://pollinatorpartnership.ca/en>
- **World Wildlife Fund Canada** <https://wwf.ca/>
- **Rewilders** (Stewards of Urban Pollinator Habitats) <https://rewildersto.ca/>

City of Toronto

- **Community Stewardship Program/Green Toronto**
- **Forestry Talks and Tours**
- **Toronto Environmental Volunteers and Calendar of Events**

We'd Love to Hear From You!

We're looking for more stories, events, photos, and updates to share with the Project Swallowtail community in our newsletters!

- To share an event, please add it to the **Event Form**.
- To contribute articles or messages, use the **Newsletter Content Form**.
- Feedback on our interactive maps. (available only to map participants)
- Gardening and plant info on our **Google Drive**

- Our new [Project Swallowtail website](#) available
- Project Swallowtail [Sign-Up form](#) (for friends and family, you are signed up)



Contact Us

This email was sent to admin@projectswallowtail.ca
You've received this email because you've subscribed to our newsletter.