



The Ladyslipper



Perth & District Horticultural Society

www.perthhortsociety.com

Est. 1984

May 2026

President's Pen

Hi Everyone,

In my opinion the weather has been perfect recently (yes, even with some frost warnings overnight). I love the bright clear light and cool air that comes in early Spring. So much potential this time of year, I love it.

At this point, it looks as though I haven't lost any perennials of note and my baby cedar trees (which I neglected to wrap up last fall) came through unscathed, phew!

Apart from tidying up and dividing plants for our Plant Sale this Saturday, I've been busy getting everything in place for the sale at the Crystal Palace.

If you're not able to join us to volunteer, I hope that you can come by to say hello and maybe buy a plant or two. We'll be set up inside at the end closest to Gore St. The Sale is scheduled to run from 8 to noon. So if you're planning on coming, get there early for the best selection.

Happy gardening, everyone!

Robin

June 9 Meeting

Our June meeting will consist of our sweet and savoury social (please bring a dish to share), and a Standard Flower Show (see the schedule on page 3). For more information about the Flower Show, email Linda at pdhsmembers@gmail.com

Dale Odorozzi will talk to us on "Ways to Control Weeds" then we will have our social break and resume with the Q&A session with the Master Gardeners.

Bus Tour Rose Gardens

The Tour of the Governor General's Rose Gardens and grounds will be on Tuesday, June 23, 2026. This will be a joint adventure with the Carleton Place & District Horticultural Society. We will travel by bus. The cost per member for the bus is \$35.00. The bus's maximum capacity is 56. We have 50 interested so far. We will collect the funds for the tour starting at our May meeting. You can pay by cheque (payable to Perth & District Horticultural Society), cash, or by e-transfer to pdhsmembers@gmail.com. Everyone has to be a member to participate in this event.



PDHS Plant Sale, May 16

Reminder: Our plant sale is this Saturday, May 16th at the Perth Farmer's Market, Crystal Palace from 8:00 AM to Noon. This is our main fundraiser for the society and helps us maintain our community projects.

Please drop off potted plants at Robin's place, 16 George Ave., Perth by Friday evening so we can price and sort for the sale.

We will have over 50 different types of daylilies as well as many other varieties of perennials at the plant sale.

Invasive Species Alert - Spotted Lantern Fly

By Phyllis De Ruyter, Board Member

Just recently I came upon 2 articles about this invasive insect.

About a dozen dead specimen of the Spotted Lantern Fly were found on pots that had been sitting this past winter on a nursery in the Niagara Peninsula (St. Catharines to be exact). The origin of the pots: Pennsylvania, US.



Pennsylvania is one of the states in the US that has had an infestation of the Spotted Lantern Fly over a number of years now. It is a highly destructive insect, sucking juice from grapevines, fruit trees and hardwood trees, killing many. It has caused infestations so far in 19 US states.

Of course this is alarming to the owners of fruit and vineyards in Niagara and elsewhere in Ontario and everyone should be on high alert.

So far there are no established populations in Niagara and elsewhere in Canada.

But then there is climate change....

The Spotted Lantern Fly can easily survive 40 degrees Celsius and eggs have survived to -20 C in trials in Chicago.

Flying on their own for a long distance is hard for these insects but they can attach themselves to cars, trucks, RVs, firewood and that is how they have moved more and more to the northern US states. NY state is on alert for the Spotted Lantern Fly and so is Ontario right now.



"The adult Spotted Lantern Fly (*Lycorma delicatula*) is a native to Southeastern Asia.

The forewings are about 1" long and are pinkish- grey with black spots and black veins at the tips. When the forewings are open, the bright red underwings become visible."

When you visit the Niagara area this year, please do not transport firewood to our area (it is not allowed by Law) and keep an eye out for this Invasive Species.

The invasive species centre is a great website to find out about all the invasive plants and aquatic plants, fungi, insects, fish and pathogens, as well as invasive land animals and invertebrates.

Please check invasivespeciescentre.ca for more pictures and information.

Hope you will have a chance to visit this website.

PDHS June Flower Show

Here is the Schedule and Rules for the June Flower Show for 2026. We encourage everyone to participate.

Section I: Horticultural Specimen

Class 1: Allium – 1 stem

Class 2: Bearded Iris – 1 spike

Class 3: Delphinium – 1 stem

Class 4: Hosta, small-leaved up to 10cm (4”) leaf base to tip, same cultivar – 3 leaves

Class 5: Hosta, large-leaved over 10cm (4”) leaf base to tip, same cultivar – 3 leaves

Class 6: Peony (any kind) – 1 stem

Class 7: Rose (any kind) – 1 stem or spray

Class 8: Siberian Iris – 1 spike

Class 9: Any other perennial – named – 3 stems

Class 10: Any annual named – 3 stems

Class 11: Collection of Herbs – minimum 3 – named

Class 12: Collection of Hosta, any size, one leaf each of 5 different cultivars, in one container

Class 13: Collection of Peonies – at least 3 stems

Class 14: Rhubarb -3 stalks – displayed on a plate

Section II: Design

Class 15A: “Pinky” – a miniature design

Class 15B: “Pinky” – a miniature design (NOVICE CLASS)

Class 16: “So Easy Being Green” – a foliage design

Class 17: “Purple Rain” – a design

Class 18: “Connected” – a satellite design

Class 19: “Welcome Summer” - a bouquet in a vase

SHOW RULES

- ▶ Exhibitors must be members of the Perth & District Horticultural Society.
- ▶ Entries are to be placed prior to 7:00 p.m. when judging takes place.
- ▶ Once placed, entries may only be moved by the Show Steward.
- ▶ Only one entry per exhibitor for each Design Class.
- ▶ Maximum of two entries per exhibitor for each Horticultural Class providing specimens are of different cultivars.
- ▶ All entries in Horticultural classes must have been grown or have been in the possession of the exhibitor for three months.
- ▶ Entry tag must be completed and remain with the entry.
- ▶ The decision of the judge is final.
- ▶ No exhibit will receive a prize, even though it is the only one in the class, unless judged to have sufficient merit.
- ▶ No exhibit may be moved before the specified closing time.
- ▶ All shows will take place during regular meetings.

For definitions and tips, please visit <https://www.perthhortsociety.com/show.htm>. Please refer to the Ontario Judging & Exhibiting Standards – Second Edition, OJES 2019 for more definitions and information.

Push Bloom Production on Roses and Peonies to the Max!

By Dale Odorizzi, Lanark County Master Gardeners

Two of the most beautiful plants in ornamental gardens are Roses and Peonies. We all want our beautiful flowers to produce as much as possible. For both beauties, sunlight is non-negotiable. They need 6-8 hours of direct sunlight to reach maximum bloom production. Morning sun is very beneficial as it dries the dew quickly and reduces disease pressure.

Roses are high performers all season long and respond to consistent, steady, predictable nutrition. In the early spring, use a balanced granular fertilizer such as 10-10-10 or 12-6-12, then switch to a bloom-forward fertilizer, 10-52-10, every four to six weeks until the first of August. Finally, add compost or well-rotted manure around the base each spring for slow, stable nutrient release. Keep the compost away from the plant.



The next important step for your roses is pruning to create shape for airflow and new growth. Prune in the early spring when the buds start to swell.

Remove any dead or crossing canes, thin weak stems or any inward-growing branches. You want to shape your plant like a bowl to maximize airflow and reduce disease.

After the first and subsequent flushes of roses, employ the bloom multiplier—Deadheading. Cut each spent bloom back to the first outward-facing 5-leaflet leaf. This signals the plant to push new flowering stems.

Roses need water, deep and predictable at the root level. Water deeply once to twice per week, depending on the heat. Always water at the base. Wet foliage leads to disease. Mulch 5-8 cm deep to stabilize soil moisture and temperature.

After early August, stop pruning and feeding your roses. These two actions stimulate growth, and new growth going into the fall can make your plant more susceptible to frost.

Stop deadheading your roses in September so hips can form. This helps with winter hardiness. Continue to water your roses deeply until the ground is frozen. Clean up fallen rose leaves to reduce disease carryover. Mound the soil or mulch around the base of the roses for winter protection

Peonies do not rebloom, so your goal is to maximize the single annual flush. Peonies need at least 6 hours of direct sunlight. If they are in too much shade, they produce fewer buds and floppy stems.

The number one cause of poor blooming is planting the peony eyes too deep. If they are planted too deeply, you will have lush foliage and almost no flowers. If yours are underperforming, check the planting depth. They should be no deeper than 2-5 to 5 cm below ground.



Apply a balanced fertilizer (10-10-10) in early spring, as shoots emerge. Avoid high-nitrogen (first number of three) fertilizers, as they produce leaves. Top dress with compost in the spring, ensuring you do not cover your peony eyes too deeply.

One big complaint about peonies is that as soon as they start to bloom, we get a rain or windstorm that flattens the plants. To avoid this, use a peony ring or 3-4 garden stakes with twine around them to hold the plants up. Peony flowers are quite heavy and need help. To hide the stakes, pull a few branches through so your plant stays beautiful.

If you want larger blooms, disbud. Keep the central bud and remove the two side buds. This will provide the central bud with all the nutrients that would normally go to the three. For more blooms, keep all buds.

Water deeply once per week during the spring. Mulch lightly, but do not put any on the crown.

In the fall, cut the foliage to the ground after frost. Remove all the debris to prevent botrytis and fungal carryover.