



Let's Celebrate Ottawa Gardeners!

Garden Tour Schedule

Saturday June 13 1-5 pm Drop-In	The Gardens of Brian Carson Discover rare trilliums, flourishing orchids, double bloodroot, golden elders, the "marshmallow agave," and other standout plants in a vibrant cramscaping display.	Monday June 29 3:30-8 pm Drop-In	The Rock Gardens of Josie Pazdzior Explore a richly planted urban garden featuring rock beds, colourful perennials, shrubs, alpine, and thriving native plant communities woven through flagstone paths.
Saturday July 4 10 am-12 pm Drop-In	The Gardens of Candace Dressler A garden in transition, blending new native plantings with woodland, vegetable, and ornamental areas, now home to over 200 species.	Saturday July 4 10 am-12 pm Drop-In	The Gardens of Evelyn Power A mix of sun and shade beds with more than 75 native plants, Evelyn's garden is a playful, wildlife-supporting space that embraces its natural, untidy charm.
Thursday July 30 4-5 pm Self-Guided Tour	Faith Fyles: In Full Bloom An exhibition at the Ottawa Art Gallery, highlighting the intersection of art and science through the pioneering work of Faith Fyles, Canada's first female botanist in the Department of Agriculture.	Sunday August 9 1:30 pm Formal Guided Tour	The Gardens of Paula Brown Discover two contrasting garden styles: one formal and structured, the other blending seamlessly into the Greenbelt's natural beauty. This one-hour formal guided tour is limited to 25 participants; sign-up required.
Sunday August 23 1 pm - 3 pm Drop-In	Four Gardens, Four Stories CANCELLED Due to unforeseen circumstances, this tour has been cancelled. Our apologies from the OHS Summer Garden Tour Planning Committee.	Saturday September 12 10 am-12 pm Drop-In	The Gardens of Larry Chamney Discover shaded front beds, sunny backyard borders, new native plantings, and a long-standing pond and waterfall in this evolving garden.

Full details available to OHS Members. New members welcome. Join for only \$15!

www.ottawahort.org





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The Gardens of Brian Carson

Saturday June 13
1:00-5:00 pm
Drop-In/Open House

24 Sable Run Drive
Stittsville

West Ottawa



Description of the Tour

Kicking off the OHS summer garden tours, we invite you to explore Brian's remarkable space. He affectionately calls it "a sustained mess with the occasional vignette," where foxtail lilies rise like a forest, hardy orchids spread in thriving colonies, unusual trilliums cluster in drifts, and a rare double bloodroot forms a living carpet among sculptural succulents.

Biographical Description

Brian's career included farming, market gardening, underwater salvaging, masonry contracting, geophysics and mine supervision. As an enthusiastic plant hunter and obsessed gardener, he enjoys astonishing fellow gardeners with his floral treasures. Some of these discoveries have been featured in garden magazines in Canada, USA, Great Britain and Russia. In the Ottawa region he lectures frequently, leads field trips and conducts workshops. He has received the OHA D2 Service Award, the OHA Award of Merit, and recently received the OHA's highest award for horticulture for his work with Trilliums. His current passions, plant hunting and photography, have brought international recognition to the Ottawa Valley for its double Trilliums and many marvellous mutations.

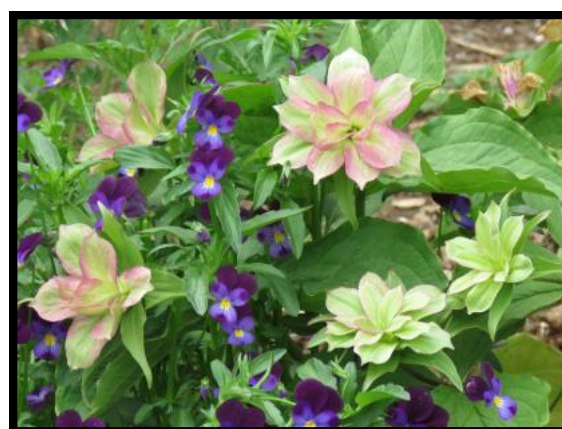
<https://stittvillecentral.ca/the-year-of-the-garden-stittvilles-brian-carson-receives-highest-award-for-horticulture-in-ontario/>

Driving/Parking Directions

Lots of street parking available.

Special Restrictions

Flat walking footwear is recommended.



Left to right: Showy lady's slippers (*Cypripedium reginae*); Energizer Bunny trillium (*Trillium grandiflorum*); wormgrass (*Spigelia marilandica*); and foxtail lilies (*Eremurus robustus*). Photo credit: Brian Carson.





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The Gardens of Josie Pazdzior

Monday June 29

3:30 - 8:00 pm

Drop-In/Open House

**11 Tunis Avenue
Ottawa**

Central Ottawa



Description of the Tour

This urban Carlington garden features front beds framed by low rock walls and a mix of perennials, shrubs, grasses, and sedums that provide colour through the season. The backyard includes two small alpine rock gardens and dense plant communities connected by mulch and flagstone paths. Added woody plants, katsura, weeping Norway spruce, redbuds, seven son flower tree, and hydrangeas complement the original pear tree, alongside native favourites such as ironweed, goldenrods, bloodroot, and switchgrass.

Biographical Description

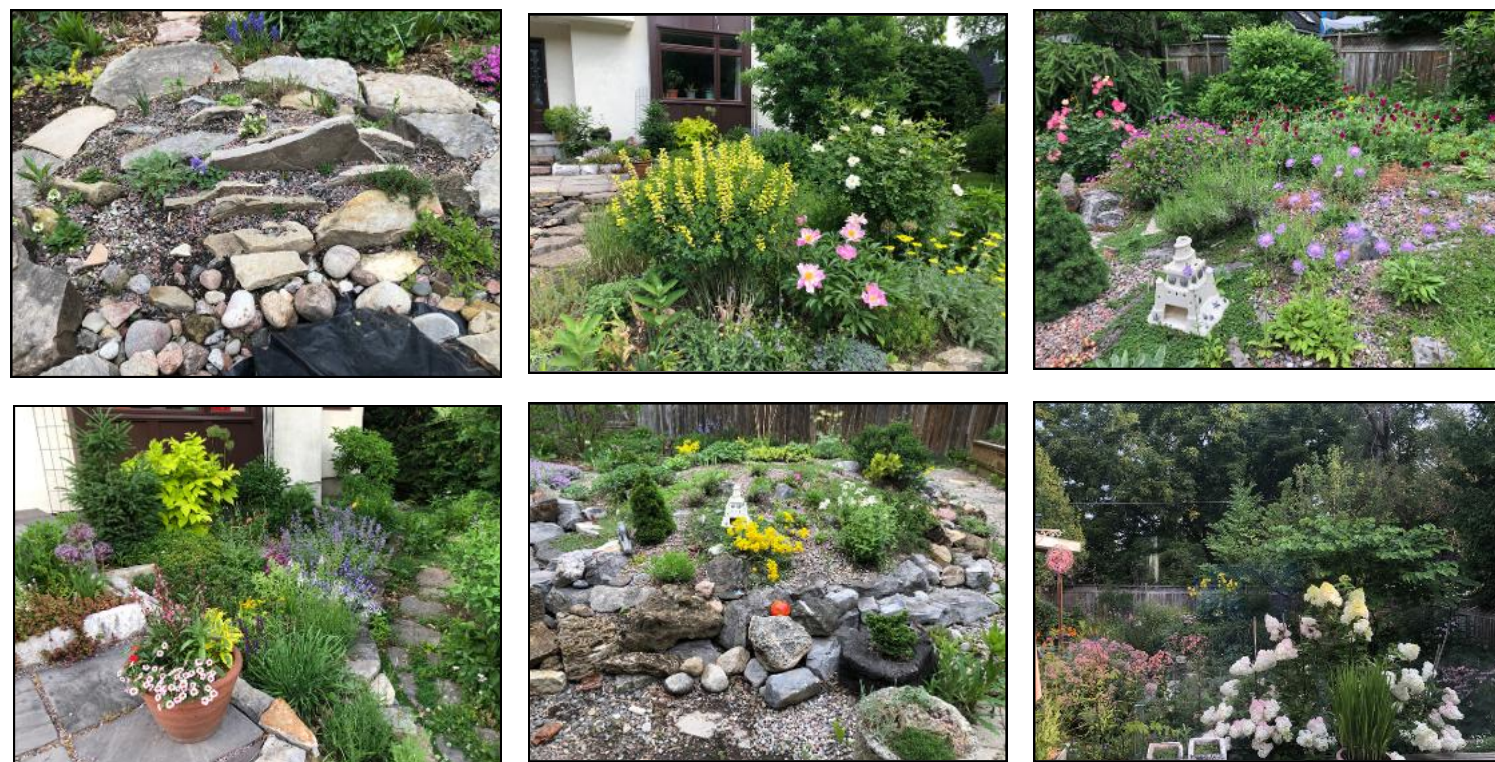
Josie has studied horticulture at Algonquin College and has long been active in local gardening groups, including the OHS. Her garden is an ongoing experiment in finding plants that thrive in dry soil, hot sun, and the challenges of black walnut roots. She especially values its rocks and alpine plants, many added through the OVRGHS program. Josie also offers limited garden consultations each season.

Driving/Parking Directions

Street parking is generally easy to find. The driveway will remain available for visitors with mobility challenges.

Special Restrictions

Children welcome but NO DOGS please. Flat walking footwear is recommended for the mulch and stone paths. Wheelchair access allows viewing from the front sidewalk and patio area at the back, quite close up, just not on paths through the garden.



Various photos of Josie's front and back gardens. Photo credit: Josie Pazdzior.





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The Gardens of Candace Dressler

Saturday July 4
10:00 am - 12 pm
Drop-In/Open House

142 Rothwell Drive
Gloucester

East Ottawa



Description of the Tour

According to Candace, she has a garden in transition. She says that she once had a beautiful garden, full of ornamental exotic plants, and lots of potentially invasive ones too. In the eyes of many visitors, it is still lovely but in a different way. Over the last six years, she has been introducing more native plants. She has also been removing many invasives, including periwinkle. There is an edge of the woods garden planted in the shade of pine, spruce and maple trees, a raised bed vegetable garden and an ornamental garden at the front of the house. She says that her garden is not perfect but hopes you will enjoy the over 200 different species of plants.

Biographical Description

Candace is a Master Gardener and former President of the Gloucester Horticultural Society. She has served as Assistant Director for OHA Districts 1 and 2, and as Director for District 1. After retiring from a career in IT in 2018, she now devotes more of her time to the garden.

Driving/Parking Directions

There is lots of street parking. Turn off Montreal Rd at Beckenham Ln and make 2 rights. Her house will be right in front of you at the intersection of Rothwell, Rothwell and Rothwell.

Special Restrictions

NO DOGS please. Flat walking footwear is recommended.





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The Gardens of Evelyne Power

Saturday July 4
10:00 am - 12 pm
Drop-In/Walk About

1963 Mulberry Cres
Gloucester

East Ottawa



Description of the Tour

Evelyne (EP to her friends) has front and back gardens that are a mix of shade to full-sun herbaceous beds and large trees. The lawns have been gradually reduced to allow for increased use of over 75 types of native plants and trees. She enjoys experimenting with ornamentals and encourages frolicking by young gardeners. Her plant selection favours anything that attracts and supports wildlife, birds and insects. Like the gardener, she says, this is not a tidy garden!

Biographical Description

Evelyne joined the Master Gardeners of Ottawa–Carleton in 2023 and loves helping people discover that gardening can be simple and joyful. She began gardening during graduate school in Harrowsmith and has since gardened in Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, and now Ottawa. Her current wildlife-friendly garden reflects years of experimentation, adaptability, and a love of rescuing “not quite dead” plants. She gardens for the process, not the goal.

Format of the Tour

If people arrive together, Evelyne would be pleased to do a walk about explaining how her garden evolved. She is available to answer questions and share stories about her garden.

Driving/Parking Directions

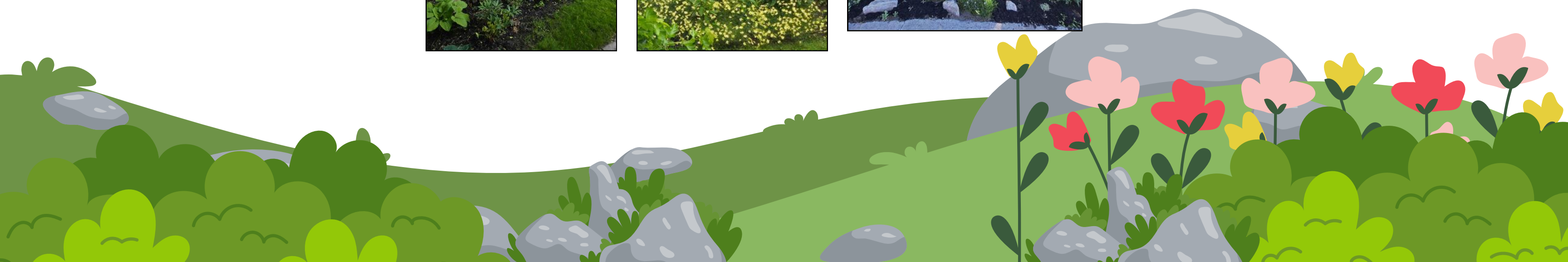
There is plenty of street parking.

Special Restrictions

No dogs, no smoking. The space is easy to access for anyone with mobility considerations.



Left to Right: Mulberry tree, back garden with shade; Mulberry - backyard; and 1963 Mulberry, front yard. Photo Credit: Evelyne Power





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Faith Fyles: In Full Bloom

Thursday July 30

4-5 pm

Self-Guided Tour*

**50 Mackenzie King
Bridge**

Downtown Ottawa



*Members please sign up by
emailing clyon9395@gmail.com.

Description of the Tour

This unique self-guided tour will take place at the Ottawa Art Gallery (OAG). The exhibition explores the intersection of art and science through the life and work of Faith Fyles (1875–1961), the first woman appointed as a botanist with Canada's Department of Agriculture. Her legacy is reinterpreted through themes of land, labour, and scientific craft in contemporary works by Stephanie Tenasco, Deborah Margo, Marie-Jeanne Musiol, Barbara Brown, and Susan Geraldine Taylor. Their pieces highlight Indigenous beadwork traditions, plant-based dye practices, new herbarium forms, the labour of women farmers, and the historic landscapes of the Central Experimental Farm.

Biographical Description

The exhibition traces Fyles' distinctive dual careers at Ottawa's Central Experimental Farm (CEF): first as a botanist and then as an artist, with both roles often merging in a single project. Fyles collected botanical specimens, researched plant diseases, and documented plants and fruits in several media and styles. She navigated a gendered bureaucracy while creating and sharing knowledge about Canadian agriculture during its rapid expansion in the early twentieth century.

Format of the Tour

Fully guided tour by William Knight, Curator of Ingenium and Barbara Brown, contributing artist and OHS member. Please sign up by emailing clyon9395@gmail.com.

Driving/Parking Directions

Enter the Gallery at 10 Daly or 50 Mackenzie King Bridge.

Paid parking is available at various downtown locations, such as the Rideau Centre, Westin Hotel and the City of Ottawa Parking Garage (Elgin Street).

Special Restrictions

No smoking. Please see the OAG website for full details: <https://oaggao.ca/>.

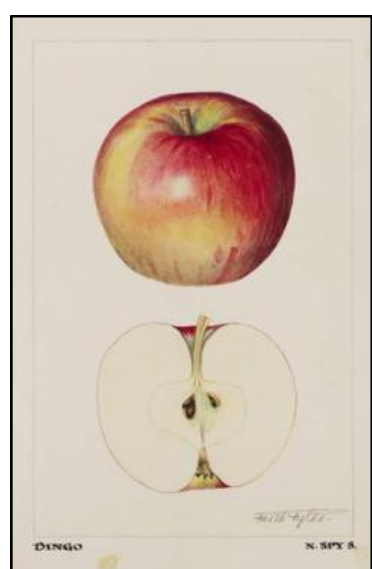


Image from: <https://oaggao.ca/whats-on/exhibitions/>





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The Gardens of Paula Brown: A Tale of Two Gardens

**Sunday August 9
1:30 pm**

Formal Guided Tour*

**1357 Caserta Place,
Orleans**

East End



***Members please sign up by
emailing tuula@ncf.ca**

Description of the Tour:

This one-hour tour showcases two distinct garden styles united by a love of plants, nature, and wildlife. The front garden features carefully designed, manicured beds with layered plantings, seasonal colour, and strong visual structure. In contrast, the backyard backs onto the Greenbelt, where the garden blends into a natural oasis rich with birds, pollinators, and native beauty. Bird feeders throughout the garden attract a variety of species that are regularly photographed, adding another dimension to the enjoyment of the space. Visitors will discover how formal gardening and naturalistic landscapes can coexist to create a beautiful, vibrant, and ecologically rich environment.

Biographical Description

Paula is passionate about gardening, wildlife, and photography. Her garden serves as both a creative outlet and a sanctuary, where she nurtures plants, observes birds and pollinators, and captures nature's beauty through her lens. Watching the garden grow and thrive year after year remains one of her greatest pleasures.

Format of the Tour

Formal guided tour only. 25 visitors max. Members please sign up by emailing tuula@ncf.ca.

Driving/Parking Directions

Street parking is available. Petrie Island is very close if you want to add this beautiful spot to your afternoon.

Special Restrictions

No pets allowed. Good walking shoes are recommended. The property is not wheelchair accessible due to a slope.

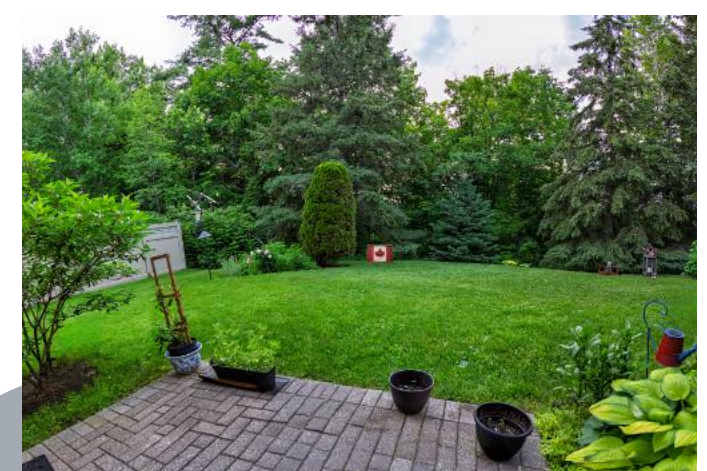


Photo Credit: Paula Brown.



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CANCELLED

Four Gardens, Four Stories: Willow's Flowers

Sunday August 23

1-3* pm

*(formerly 1-4)

Drop-In/Open House

Beet Box

Cooperative

**230 Davidson's
Side Rd.**

West End



Description of the Tour

Willow Sharp is a flower farmer-florist based in Ottawa's west end, growing seasonal blooms on NCC farmland in the Greenbelt. She harvests fresh, to-order flowers throughout the season, including edible blooms, bouquets, table arrangements, and florals for large-scale events.

Biographical Description

After more than six years of farming, Willow launched Willow's Flowers in 2025, bringing together her love of growing with her artistic vision for natural, garden-inspired design.

<https://www.willowsflowers.ca>

Format of the Tour

Drop-In / Open House.

Driving/Parking Directions

There is parking on site around the barns and along Davidson Side Road.

Special Restrictions

No dogs allowed, sturdy walking shoes are recommended as the ground is a field with lots of ruts and obstacles, NOT wheelchair accessible, children welcome.



Willow Sharp, of Willow's Flowers; Willow's Flowers logo. Source: willowsflowers.ca





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CANCELLED

Four Gardens, Four Stories: Growing Together Community Farm with Alan Viau

Sunday August 23

1-3* pm

*(formerly 1-4)

Drop-In/Open House

Beet Box Cooperative Farm

230 Davidson's Side Rd.

West End

Description of the Tour

Growing Together Community Farm (GTCF), where Alan contributes, cultivates two acres of organic vegetables, herbs, and flowers, starting over 200,000 seedlings each spring in its greenhouse. Part of the Beetbox Cooperative Farm, GTCF is a 100-member community founded in 2020 during the pandemic as a place to reconnect with the land, a spirit of shared work, sustainability, and resilience that continues today.

Biographical Description

Alan's farming journey began with operating a 100-acre farm near Almonte from 1999 to 2005, an experience that grounded him in the rhythms of agriculture and sparked a lasting appreciation for growing food with care and intention. With a background in analytical chemistry, he is drawn to the science behind what we grow and eat, viewing food production as both a scientific and deeply human process rooted in soil, ecosystems, and sustainability.

Please access this link for more information: <https://beetbox.ca/>

Format of the Tour

Drop-In / Open House.

Driving/Parking Directions

There is parking on site around the barns and along Davidson Side Road.

Special Restrictions

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CANCELLED

Four Gardens, Four Stories: Good Care Farm with Maggie and Tess

Sunday August 23

1-3* pm

*(formerly 1-4)

Drop-In/Open House

Beet Box Cooperative Farm

<https://beetbox.ca/>

230 Davidson's Side Rd.

West End

More Information about Good Care Farm

Please visit: <https://www.goodcarefarm.ca/about>

Biographical Description

Tess and Maggie met while farming organically, learning orchard care and beekeeping together under a skilled mentor. Their shared love of nature and ecological farming quickly made them close friends. The values behind Good Care Farm felt like a natural fit for both of them, and they are excited to share that vision with others.

Format of the Tour

Drop-In / Open House.

Driving/Parking Directions

There is parking on site around the barns and along Davidson Side Road.

Special Restrictions

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CANCELLED

Four Gardens, Four Stories: "Sowing the Future"- When Food becomes Connection with Barbara Brown

Sunday August 23

1-3* pm

***(formerly 1-4)**

Drop-In/Open House

**Beet Box Cooperative
230 Davidson's Side
Rd.**

West End



Description of the Tour

Sowing the Future: When Food Becomes Connection is an ongoing, multi-year arts-based project that explores relationships between people, land, and food by centering women and equity-deserving farmers in the Ottawa-Outaouais region. Through collaboration between artists and farmers, the project challenges dominant images of agriculture while fostering community, storytelling, and connection to the earth. By engaging in seed saving and growing heritage maize, Sowing the Future reimagines agriculture as both a cultural practice and artistic medium.

Biographical Description

Barbara Brown Barbara Brown is a multi-disciplinary artist whose photographs bring visibility to the labour that sustains the land today. In Sowing the Future, she has highlighted women and gender-diverse farmers across the Ottawa and Outaouais regions engaged in regenerative, collaborative practices. Through images of seeding, weeding, and harvesting, Brown foregrounds the repetitive, essential gestures of care that underpin sustainable agriculture. Her work challenges dominant narratives of farming and imagines more inclusive, resilient futures. Her work highlighting migrant farm workers led to a fascination with the mystery of corn leading her to getting her hands into the soil growing heritage corn.

Format of the Tour

Drop-In / Open House.

Driving/Parking Directions

There is parking on site around the barns and along Davidson Side Road.

Special Restrictions

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The Gardens of Larry Chamney

**Saturday
September 12**

**10 am - 12 pm
Drop-In/Open House**

**1260 Plante Street
Ottawa**

South Ottawa



Description of the Tour

Come meet our OHS President: Larry Chamney's Hunt Club Garden. Larry's front garden beds sit mostly in the shade of three large oak trees, where he continues to establish shade- and drought-tolerant shrubs and perennials. Narrow side gardens lead to a backyard with a small lawn surrounded by perennial beds and shrubs. For many years, the garden evolved without a specific design plan, but more recently Larry has been introducing native plants to both a shady woodland corner and a sunny area.

Unfortunately, rabbits caused significant damage to several roses and evergreens this past winter, so some renewal work is planned for the coming season. The garden also features a waterfall and pond that Larry built about fifteen years ago, adding movement and tranquility to this welcoming space.

Biographical Description

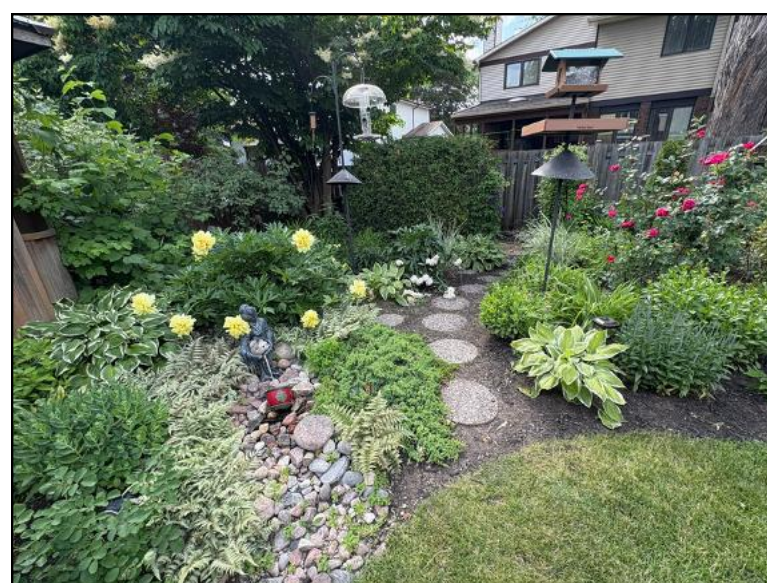
Larry describes himself as an amateur gardener and currently serves as President of the Ottawa Horticultural Society. He is also active in several other local horticultural and nature organizations, where he volunteers his time and talents. He welcomes visitors to stop by, say hello, and enjoy a tour of his garden—though guests are advised to step carefully, as the space is home to many chipmunks.

Driving/Parking Directions

Parking is available in front of house and across the street in a bay. Please enter the backyard along the path on the left side of the house.

Special Restrictions

None.



Left to Right: East path leading to back gardens; West corner. Photo Credit: Larry Chamney.

