Trowel Talk

August 15 2025, Vol 16, no. 08

Contents

Dappled shade
Julianne Labreche

Man - despite his artistic pretensions, his sophistication, and his many accomplishments - owes his existence to a six inch layer of topsoil and the fact that it rains.
– Unknown

Wildscaping: Wild Planting in a Strong Design

Lee Ann Smith

We hear a lot about the importance of using native plants in our garden designs, and rightfully so. Yet you may be wondering: Is there a specific method for designing a native plant garden? Do I just spread some wildflower seeds? Is a 'wildscape' the same as an English cottage garden? Is it like 'rewilding'?

Wildscaping is a specific approach to naturalistic plant design. The goal is to create a landscape that looks as if Mother Nature created it. However, there are deliberate design elements that underpin this look. For example, its key components are native grasses and perennials, rather than cultivated, non-native plants, like the delphiniums and roses in an English cottage garden. Wildscaping also differs from rewilding. Rewilding is a conservation method that re-introduces wildlife and native plants, with the goal of removing human management from an area. The wildscaping approach encourages a specific kind of human management of a landscape, starting with a deeper understanding of plants and habitat.

Introduced in the 1980s by designer and nursery-man Piet Oudolf in the Netherlands, wildscaping is now a key trend worldwide. It is a proven way to create native plant landscapes that are functional, beautiful, and also support a healthy ecology.

There are several famous, inspiring wildscapes, including the High Line in New York City and the Superbloom at the Tower of London. Both of these can be explored by searching online. Although these are large installations, wildscaping can be scaled to your yard, or included in a makeover of your existing garden.

Beauty in senescence
Courtesy of Tony Spencer

Getting to Know Your Habitat
Wildscaping starts with knowing what kind of plants grow best in your specific habitat. Most gardeners are familiar with hardiness zones, which are based on average temperature ranges for an area. When wildscaping, it's important to understand your habitat in more detail, because a plant needs more than a compatible temperature range in order to thrive.

This means analyzing your:

- **soil:** Is it sandy? Rocky? Heavy and slow to drain?
- **topography**: Is your property on a ridge top or in a valley? Is it hilly? Flat?
- **geological underpinnings**. Canadian Shield? Limestone? Glacial deposits?
- **climate:** Sunny? Windy? Snow cover? Length of growing season?

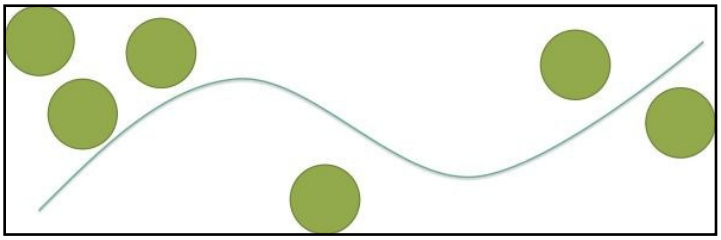
All of these factors affect your growing conditions and help you choose the right plants for your garden.

A Different Aesthetic
Gardens that typically dominate our neighbourhoods are designed in a way that has been taught for decades. We place odd-numbered groups of plants in a bed or border, along with a specimen plant front and centre. A covering of bark mulch surrounds them all. Some type of edging separates the garden from the lawn and these beds and borders are repeated as space allows.

A wildscape has a very different aesthetic. It's more like a three-dimensional jigsaw puzzle or mosaic, where plants are knit together closely. There are three layers of plants in a wildscape, placed in repeating drifts to create a rhythmic pattern. Plants in a wildscape are enjoyed as much for their foliage as their bloom, encouraging us to expand our definition of beauty. We start to appreciate plants that provide interesting textures in senescence and attractive seed heads after die-back. We enjoy four seasons, not just three.

Planting in Layers
Wildscaping uses primarily native grasses and perennials. Its mosaic style is created with three layers of plants: structural, seasonal/accent and matrix.

- Structural plants are larger grasses and perennials, or small shrubs. There are just a few of these in the design, anchoring the garden. The photo "Design Option A" shows how you can begin a wildscape design by placing structure plants along a curvy line.

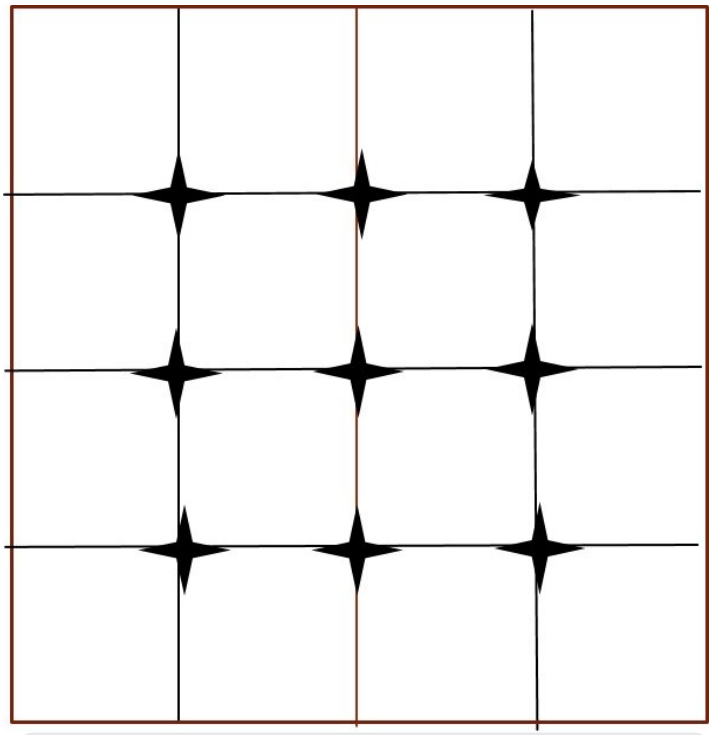


Option A-start on a curve
Lee Ann Smith

- Several different seasonal/accent plants are repeated throughout the design, grouped in drifts. This is where the colour comes in and provides change over the seasons. In "Design Option A," these plants are repeated randomly in groups around the structure plants.

- Probably the most significant plant element is the matrix layer: an underplanting that forms a living mulch through which the other layers grow. Depending on the size of the garden, there may be one or more types of matrix plants in the design. "Design Option B" shows how to begin a wildscape design with matrix plants on 30 cm (12 inch) centres. Structurals and seasonals are then added. Planting a matrix is often the first step to modifying an existing garden. Even your favourite bed of daylilies or hostas can benefit from an under-planting of a native matrix.

Plus you'll never need to buy, haul or spread bark mulch again!



Option B-start with matrix plants
Lee Ann Smith

Creating a Plant Community

With wildscaping, you create a plant community, based on how "sociable" plants are. There's actually a scientific model that defines plants in terms of how they tend to spread on a scale of 1 to 5. Plant spread is important to know when designing, as you want plants in your community that grow well together.

Level 1 and 2 plants are long-lived and tend to exist in the wild either by themselves (for example, switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*)) or as "behaved clumpers" (for example, meadow rue (*Thalictrum* spp.)) These are ideal structure plants, as are small native shrubs like New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus).*

Level 3 plants spread or re-seed, but not aggressively. They exist in larger groups in the wild, so are considered more "social." Examples include black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia* spp.) and false sunflower (*Helianthus.)* These are great seasonal/accent plants.

Level 4 plants spread more aggressively to form colonies. Foamflower (*Tiarella*) and wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*) are examples; they make perfect matrix plants.

Level 5 plants are considered the bullies of the plant world and spread aggressively. Examples include common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), Canada goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*), and Virginia waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum virginianum*). These should be used with caution, usually only to cover a large space.

Wildscaping is a design approach that allows us to introduce native plants, either into an existing landscape or when starting new gardens. It encourages us to plant in partnership with our habitat and soften our control over the garden. It can be implemented over time in any garden to achieve a landscape that is beautiful, functional and ecologically strong.

***Gardening is something you learn by doing - and by making mistakes.... Like cooking, gardening is a constant process of experimentation, repeating the successes and throwing out the failures.* - Carol Stocker—journalist**

Ask a Master Gardener

Compiled by Amanda Carrigan, Agnieszka Keough

Master Gardeners answer helpline questions.

I put some strawberry plants in this year, and after producing berries, now they are putting out runners. Should I be keeping them to develop into new plants, or cutting them off?

Whether you keep the runners or not this year depends on whether you might want to enlarge your berry patch. If you have all the plants you want right now, go ahead and cut the runners off. However, strawberry plants (and the area they're in) will want a refresh in a few years. Usually after 3 years or so of production you will see the harvests decrease, so you want a new patch ready to go at that point. (The old patch will then be available to dig up and prepare for another round or another crop, by replenishing soil fertility). So next year or the year after, let your runners root, then use them to set up the replacement patch the next spring. You could even let them root into pots to make them easier to move. In either case, don't sever the runner until the new plant is well rooted. If the plants are producing a lot of runners, though, don't keep more than one or two runners from each mother plant, so the new plants are stronger.

Your schedule would end up looking something like this:

Year	Patch 1	Patch 2
1	Harvest 1	
2	Harvest 2	
3	Harvest 3	New plants from runners planted
4	Harvest 4	Harvest 1
5		Harvest 2

I've somehow ended up with a clump of Oriental lilies stuck behind a large dogwood, so I can't see them, and I'm sure they're not getting enough light (although they had a few blooms this year). What's the best time to move them? Can I do it now?

The ideal time to move the lilies would be later in the season, after the foliage starts dying down, but before frost. September or into early October is a good choice. At that point, the bulbs will be going dormant, and you can cut the stems back before you replant, which might make the job easier.

You can transplant them in summer if you need to, just recognize that it is going to be more stressful for the plant, as it is still actively growing, and the weather is hotter than it would be in fall. That means you might lose any buds/flowers you have, and the plants will require regular deep watering to help them establish in their new location. If you can provide them with some shade for the hottest part of the day, it would be beneficial. Take good care of them and next year they should come back as good as new.

Tip: *Root washing is the practice of removing potting medium using water when planting a tree or shrub . This allows the roots to be planted in a spread out shape closer to natural root growth. The flare of the trunk which is often buried in the pot should be exposed. Deformed roots and circling roots are pruned. Although more TLC is needed initially, once planted, the roots are in direct contact with the native soil which promotes a quicker establishment. This is best done when the tree or shrub is dormant. Trees or shrubs which are fully leafed out will require extra care and the foliage may need to be cut back to reduce moisture loss.*

More than Just Pretty Native Plants in Pots

Catherine Disley

Over the past twenty years I have been increasing the number of species of indigenous plants that I tend. In doing so, I became aware of the diversity of insects that were visiting these plants.

This led to a deeper understanding of the relationships between plants and insects that was not evident when I only cultivated domesticated, horticultural varieties. Observing the insects led me to discover their lifecycles and interactions with the plants they evolved with together.

American lady caterpillars on *Antennaria neglecta*
Catherine Disley

For instance, in growing pearly everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*), a host plant for two 'ladies', I observed how caterpillars of American lady (*Vanessa virginiensis*) and painted lady (*Vanessa cardui*) butterflies utilize the plant. In late May through June, several broods completed their life cycle as they transformed from caterpillar to chrysalis to butterfly on the wooly leaves. They have an unusual habit of enclosing themselves with a silken web while feeding on the leaves. I worried the plant might not survive having its leaves ravaged but soon discovered, like many native plant-insect relationships, the plants made a full recovery, flowered and fulfilled their role in the ecosystem.

In contrast, most non-native plants we see over and over in gardens simply can't host even generalist insects. Without these insects, nesting birds struggle to successfully raise their young. Even the non-native plants that appear attractive to wildlife at first, like butterfly bush (*Buddleia davidii*) generally function as ecological traps – luring wildlife in but providing little real support. While adult butterflies can feed on butterfly bush leaves, caterpillars emerging from eggs that they lay there cannot eat the leaves and will not survive. Caterpillars cannot become butterflies and moths without native plants. (There are exceptions, but they are in the minority.)

If you are short on garden space or simply want to observe pollinators close-up on your deck or balcony, native plants grown in pots can increase biodiversity one pot at a time.

In 2020, Covid restrictions altered my traditional spring plant purchasing and I opted to forgo buying plants. Instead, I transplanted from my gardens to fill the porch and deck planters. Despite being optimistic, I wasn't sure how successful this would be. Would they grow as well in pots and look good? At the end of September, the experiment proved successful. The wild columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*), pearly everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*), New England aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*) and red-twig dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) all thrived and surpassed my expectations. Even bottle gentian (*Gentiana andrewsii*) preferring moist sites, enticed bumblebees to visit and force their way into the closed flowers.

Native pot: aquilegia, penstemon, dogwood, thalictrum
Catherine Disley

If you want to try growing native plants in pots, there are a few factors to consider. Start with a container large and deep enough (at least 40 cm, 16 inches) to accommodate the roots of several plants. A container that is too small can restrict root growth, dry quickly and stress the plant. Consider the size of the plants when mature. Very tall plants may require staking and can look out of proportion to the pot size. Select containers with proper drainage holes to prevent waterlogged soil. Use pots that can withstand the freeze- thaw cycles of winter such as heavy plastic, metal or wood. Fiberglass, ceramic or terra cotta pots may crack.

Native plants grow best when their specific soil type is provided. Create a soil blend to match the soil characteristics of the natural habitat of your native plants - moisture loving or well-draining. I started with the sand-based soil typical of the area where I live. It is ideal for prairie or meadow perennials requiring well-draining soil. My blend consisted of 1/3 garden soil, 1/3 homemade compost and 1/3 leaves from last season.

For plants with high moisture requirements adding leaf mold (last season's leaves) and compost will help retain moisture. Keep in mind that a well-draining soil helps prevent root rot. Most native plants do not require high nutrient-based soils. Avoid fertilizers, manures or high nutrient compost.

When selecting plants, mix species that bloom at different times to provide nectar and pollen from spring through fall. Select host plants for caterpillars and bees. Use plants with the same growing requirements for sun, soil and moisture.

This sample design, for a sun to part-sun location, when combined, will provide continuous bloom for pollinators throughout the growing season.

- **Spring blooming**: prairie smoke (*Geum triflorum*), wild geranium (*Geranium maculatum*), wild columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*), wild strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*), golden Alexander (*Zizia aurea*)
- **Summer blooming**: nodding wild onion (*Allium cernuum*), pearly everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*), lance-leaved coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*), black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*), hoary vervain (*Verbena stricta*), early goldenrod (*Solidago juncea*)
- **Fall blooming**: white heath aster (*Symphyotrichum ericoides*), New England aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*)

Once the container is planted, it might be heavy to move so try to place it in its permanent location before adding soil and plants. Choose a location that provides the right amount of sunlight, whether full sun, partial shade, or full shade depending on the plants you have chosen.

How often to water depends on how large the pot is, its location and the quantity and size of plants in the pot. While some native plants are drought-tolerant once established, those newly planted will need regular watering until their roots take hold. Check the soil moisture by inserting your finger up to the sec-

ond joint and water based on the selected plant's requirements. For example, woodland plants need a consistent supply of water while prairie plants prefer to become dry between waterings.

Native pot full sun: *Penstemon hirsutus* (hairy beardtongue), *Agastache Foeniculum* (anise hyssop), *Anemone canadensis* (Canada anemone), *Geum triflorum* (prairie smoke), *Oenothera fruticose* (sundrops), *Coreopsis verticillate* (threadleaf coreopsis). Circled in blue: white admiral *Limen arthemis arthemis*
Catherine Disley

Native plants typically don't need fertilization. Excess nutrients cause plants to grow rapidly, producing an abundance of weak foliage prone to flopping and producing foliage at the expense of flowers. Over fertilized plants may also be more prone to insects such as aphids feeding on the tender new shoots.

As the seasons change, care for the containers may include deadheading, staking and pruning. At the end of the season allow stems to remain standing, providing shelter for over wintering insects. Let leaves accumulate on the soil protecting roots from temperature fluctuations and to serve as moisture conserving mulch in spring.

Over time, native plants may outgrow their containers. Repotting or dividing plants every few years can help them stay healthy and prevent them from becoming root bound.

In my experience, many plants do fine without winter protection. The growing zone in Ottawa is zone 5. Choose plants rated two or three zones lower. If you decide to protect your plants, you can either bring containers into a garage or place them in a sheltered spot away from harsh winds. Cluster pots together, ensure the soil is moist and covered with a layer of leaf mulch. Keeping pots covered with snow will provide insulation and reduce freeze thaw damage.

If you plant it, they will come. By choosing the right plants and providing them with the appropriate care, gardeners can create sustainable container gardens that support local pollinators and reduce environmental impact, while enhancing the beauty of their outdoor spaces.

Spidey Sensing in the Garden!

Nancy McDonald

This month, our series on garden insects discusses spiders. Although they belong to the class Arachnida and are not insects, understanding the spider's role as predator in gardens is important.

Spiders differ from insects in several ways: spiders have two body parts, eight simple eyes, no antennae or wings, an unsegmented abdomen, and four pairs of legs. Insects have three body parts, two compound eyes, a segmented abdomen, and three pairs of legs, and most insects have antennae and wings. All spiders produce silk and most produce venom. There are billions of spiders on Earth, and

they are found in every possible habitat except Antarctica and the oceans. The World Spider Catalog currently has 52,957 accepted species. Scientists believe there are many more species to be identified. Close relatives of spiders are harvestmen (commonly called daddy-long-legs), scorpions, mites and ticks.

The presence of myths and folklore surrounding spiders has contributed to a general fear of arachnids. However, observing spiders can serve as a lesson of perseverance and patience.

Most spiders just ignore us. In Canada, there are two types of venomous black widow spiders: the western black widow, *Latrodectus hesperus*, which is found from Manitoba to British Columbia, and the northern black widow, *Latrodectus variolus*, which is rare and located in southern Ontario. According to Ontario Nature magazine, "*more than 800 species representing 35 families have been found in our province and these numbers continue to grow as new spiders are reported*."

Does Spiderman's Spidey-sense relate to spiders? Spiders are highly attuned to their environment. Their bodies and legs have sensitive hairs that detect touch, vibrations, smell, temperature, and humidity. Despite many having poor vision, these adaptations help them hunt and stay safe. They need these Spidey-senses as they have no protective body armour and lack the ability to fly away from their predators.

Spiders are a group of beneficials I am starting to both look for and appreciate in my garden. For simplicity, I will divide them into curatorial (hunting) or web forming. The web forming spiders detect their prey both by visual cues and vibrations.

The goldenrod crab spider (*Misumena vatia*) is quite common in our Ottawa gardens and one I have found often. This patient spider is an ambush hunter waiting to find prey on flowers. It can change colour to blend in with the flower it is sitting on. I found a white one on a daisy and a yellow one on goldenrod.

Goldenrod crab spider on daisy
Nancy McDonald

Goldenrod crab spider
Catherine Disley

I learned it takes about six days for the spider to change from yellow to white but 10-25 days to change from white to yellow. When turning white, it just excretes the pigment but when turning yellow, it needs to produce and distribute the pigment.

Spiderlings
Courtesy of Diana Sequin

A member of our Master Gardener Facebook page posted a picture of a goldenrod crab spider with a captured Japanese beetle. After grabbing the insect, it is injected with venom which paralyzes it and starts to liquefy the insides. It becomes like soup for the hungry spider. No one said predation is a pretty process!

Wolf spiders, identifiable by their large size and hairy bodies, are prevalent in our Ottawa gardens. Unlike crab spiders, wolf spiders are active hunters, primarily seeking prey at night. Their coloration typically includes shades of brown or grey, allowing them to blend seamlessly with their surroundings, unlike the more visually striking orb weavers. As ground dwellers, wolf spiders possess both excellent vision and a keen sense of touch. Wolf spiders are regarded as excellent predators of agriculture crop pests. It is unusual to spot spiders outside in winter, but the thin-legged wolf spider is one exception. On sunny mild winter days, you might spot one just catching some rays.

Jumping spiders can jump up to 20 times their body length. They are known to be intelligent and curious. That is why some jumping spiders are kept as pets! In Ontario, the bold jumper (*Phidippus audax*) is frequently encountered. This species measures approximately 15 mm in length and has distinctive colours and iridescent markings.

Black and Yellow orb weaver
Courtesy of Christine Hanrahan, https://pbase.com/image/127319946

Orb weaver spiders are the ones often pictured on nature posters. Many of us fell in love with Charlotte, the spider in Charlotte's Web who wove words like "*some pig*", "*terrific*", "*radiant*", "*humble*" in a web to save her friend Wilbur the pig. As Wilbur learned, the orb web is literally a death trap for many flying insects. Some orb weavers build their webs late in the day to catch night flying insects and others build

their web near dawn to catch early flying insects such as mosquitos. As an early morning gardener, I am grateful to the latter. The webs are spun by female spiders and juvenile males. When making these webs, a spider knows instinctively how to avoid any glue-coated lines it lays down.

Orb-weaving spiders rely on touch due to their poor vision. They sense vibrations to distinguish between prey and potential mates. Mating is a vibratory courtship. Often, orb weavers construct new webs daily, consuming the old silk to recycle it into new threads.

There are other types of weaver spiders and web formations. We see evidence of sheet web weavers in a morning damp with dew. These tiny spiders spin a small horizontal web like a hammock and lie in wait below for their prey.

Beyond benefitting our gardens as predators, both spider venom and spider silk are being researched for human benefits. Cornell University (2019) in their online exhibition Arachnophila state "*spider venom holds great promise as a treatment for pain, potential also for treating heart arrhythmia, neurodegenerative diseases, epilepsy, cancer*…". The same Cornell exhibition points to the strength of spider silk and its "remarkable composition and how it could benefit the design of planes, bullet proof vests, surgical threads, implants, prothesis and more."

Will I continue to be scared away like in the nursery rhyme "Little Miss Muffet" if a spider comes to sit beside me? Probably. However, I am going to be observing as closely as I can to appreciate these helpful predators. Spiders offer amazing pest control benefitting my garden at no cost to me or the environment. ❀

Tip: *When water is in short supply focus on watering plants that are new to the garden this year . New plants will not have established the roots systems of older plants. . If it looks wilted in the early morning it needs water.*

The Place of the Maple Tree in Indigenous Culture

Nancy McDonald

Canadian National Flag flying atop Sulphur Mountain.
Ethan Sahagun, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:National_Flag_of_Canada.jpg#filelinks, CC BY-SA 4.0

Our Canadian flag, with its stylized maple leaf, prominently symbolizes our identity and sovereignty. It is important to recognize the maple tree's significance in Indigenous culture. Joan Tenasco, an Algonquin language keeper and translator from Kitigan Zibi reminded me that "*Trees give us oxygen, medicine, spiritual strength, food, shelter, travel, and tools. They stabilize the soil for all life, including wildlife.*" Joan also provided the Algonquin words in this article.

The maple tree (ininàtig) holds significant cultural importance among Indigenous communities across North America. In Canada, Indigenous groups such as the Anishinaabe, Abenaki, Haudenosaunee, and Mi'kmaq traditionally tapped maple trees to obtain "sweet water". From its role in sustaining communities to its presence in ceremonial practices, the maple tree is much more than a simple natural resource.

One significant role of the maple tree in Indigenous cultures is its sap (onzibàn), which is essential for producing maple syrup. Before European settlers arrived, Indigenous peoples had developed methods

for tapping maple trees and boiling the sap to create syrup and sugar. This process provided a crucial source of nutrition during winter and served as a communal activity. The sap was used for various purposes, including medicine, anaesthetic, preserving meats, and as a trade commodity in the form of dried sugar slabs.

The methods used to collect sap were both innovative and sustainable. Indigenous peoples would create V-shaped incisions in the bark of the maple trees, allowing the sap to flow into birch bark containers (piskitenàgan). These methods guaranteed the preservation of the trees, enabling sustained sap production annually. The sap was then boiled in large pots over an open fire, a process requiring both patience and expertise.

Maple syrup (shìwàgamizigan) and maple sugar (miziwechigan) were essential parts of the Indigenous diet. They provided a natural sweetener that was far healthier than the refined sugars introduced later by Europeans. Maple syrup also served as a key ingredient in various dishes, from sweet treats to savoury meals.

Tenasco sat with Elder Joe Louis Morin to discuss what they wished to share on the importance of the maple tree in Indigenous culture. He said that "*In the month of March our people and children would gather for ceremony and song before the tapping of the trees begins. This is to give thanks to the Creator for providing the tree to us for its sap and to also give thanks to the tree itself. Then the work would begin to tap and collect the sap to make what was needed. They also tapped the soft maple. Children were also a great part of this process for their own learning. This would go on for about a month depending on the weather*."

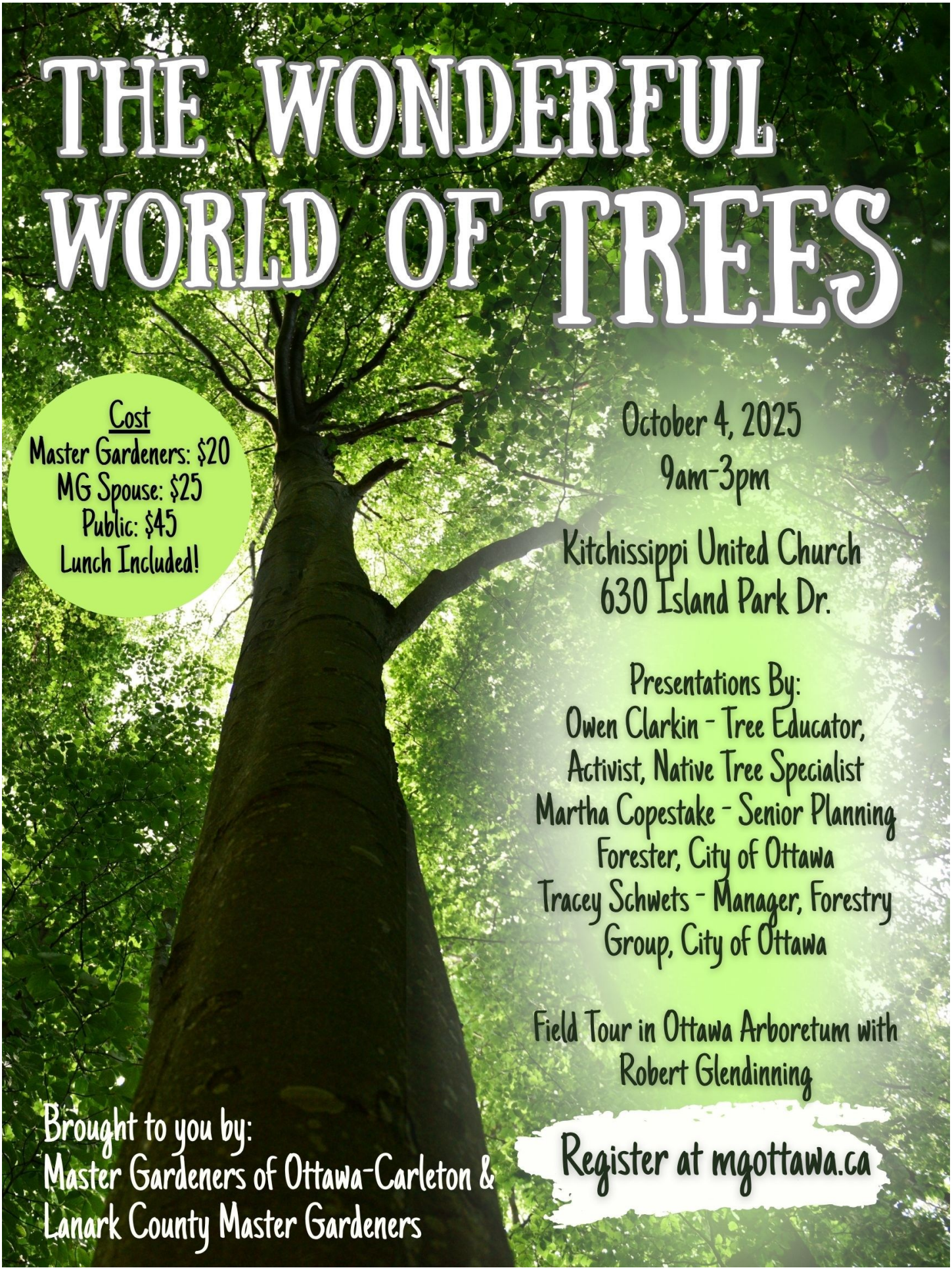
Indigenous cultures' rich oral traditions include stories and legends about the maple tree. These narratives often convey important moral and ethical lessons, teaching respect for nature and the importance of living in harmony with the environment. Coming from Prince Edward Island where Mi'kmaq are the Indigenous peoples, I was delighted to find **Sweetwater Maiden**, the Mi'kmaw Legend of Maple Syrup (2013) by Mary Louise Bernard at the Ottawa Public Library. I would recommend it as a story to share with children.

Beyond its cultural and spiritual significance, the maple tree plays a crucial role in the ecosystems of North America. It supports a diverse range of wildlife, providing habitat and food for various species. Indigenous peoples have long understood the importance of maintaining healthy maple forests, as they contribute to the overall health of the environment.

Sugar maple leaves— *Acer saccharum*
Ayotte, Gilles, 1948- , https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Acer_saccharum_15-p.bot-sac.charum-36.jpg, CC BY-SA 4.0

Modern methods of sap collection and syrup production often incorporate traditional knowledge, combining ancient practices with contemporary techniques. A maple syrup producer in Eastern Ontario I spoke with provides facilities and will "light a fire" for Indigenous groups if requested. Their practice recognizes that settlers originally learned these methods from Indigenous knowledge, without the intention of commercializing such ceremonial activities.

By honoring the maple tree, Indigenous peoples continue to preserve their cultural heritage and foster a deeper connection to the natural world. The lessons learned from the maple tree remind us as settlers of the importance of living in harmony with our environment and respecting the wisdom of those who came before us.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Helplines are monitored daily.
Send questions and photos of garden pests, diseases or plants for identification.

Trowel Talk can be found on the Lanark County Master Gardener's blogsite and Ottawa-Carleton Master Gardener's Website https://mgottawa.ca/

Article suggestions box

This is your chance, as a reader, to suggest an idea for an article you would like to see in Trowel Talk. Click on the button.

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Letters to editor: newsletter@mgottawa.ca

Banner Photograph: . Daylily—H. Autumn minaret

Design and layout: S.R.Bicket

Clinics

Ask a Master Gardener, face to face gardening questions.

Market locations can be found on the calendars of the Lanark and Ottawa–Carleton websites

Almonte Farmers Market, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
Saturday, August 16, 23, September 13

Barrhaven Market, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Sunday, August 24, September 7

Carleton Place Farmers Market,
8:30 am to 12:30 pm
Saturday, August 16

Carp Farmers Market, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm
Saturday, September 6, 13

Main Street Farmers Market, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Saturday, September 6

Manotick Watson Mills Market, 8:30 am to 1:00 pm
Saturday, September 13

Perth Farmers Market, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm
Saturday, August 16, September 13

Westboro Market, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Saturday, September 6

Talks and Events

Colour through the Seasons
Robert Stuart
Saturday, August 16, 11:00 am
Ottawa Public Library – Blackburn Hamlet branch

Climate Change and your Garden
Rebecca Last
Wednesday, September 3, 7:00 pm
Greely Gardeners Club