

# THE EAST YORK GARDEN

NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST YORK GARDEN CLUB



The East York Garden Club is a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association, District 5.

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month (except August and December) in the Stan Wadlow Clubhouse, 373 Cedarvale Avenue at 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments are available at 7:00 p.m. The Clubhouse is wheelchair-accessible. Visitors are always welcome.

Yearly membership fees are \$20 for a single, and \$30 for a family. To inquire about membership, please contact Suzanne Boyd at 416-423-5857.

Visit us on the web at [www.eygc.ca](http://www.eygc.ca)

President:

Veronica Callinan

Vice President:

Linda Boyko  
Susan Bartlett

Newsletter Editor:

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[newsletter@eygc.ca](mailto:newsletter@eygc.ca)



## Thursday, May 21, 2009

**Topic: Creating Garden Ornaments**

**Speaker: Gary Diane and Westlake**

**Also on: Plant Sale, Flower Show**

Diane & Gary Westlake will be showing us how easy and inexpensive it is to make our own garden ornaments. Gary is the Past-President of the Peterborough Horticultural Society and Diane is the Past-President of the Norwood Horticultural Society. Both are Master Gardeners. This will be the first flower show of the season.

The plant sale will be held after the speakers - please see page 2 for details.

Members with surnames beginning with "G" and "H" are asked to bring in some cookies or squares for the refreshment table.

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## Thursday, June 18, 2009

**Topic: Master Gardeners: Your Questions Answered**

**Also on: Flower Show**

This has quickly become one of the more popular events, so we thought we'd hold a session in the midst of the gardening season. Please send questions in advance to [anna.leggatt@sympatico.ca](mailto:anna.leggatt@sympatico.ca) or [veronica@eygc.ca](mailto:veronica@eygc.ca) before June 12. Questions from the floor will also be answered.

Following the meeting there will be a 50/50 draw. Members with surnames beginning with "I" to "K" are asked to bring in some cookies or squares.

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*Our meetings start at 7:00 p.m. with a chance to socialize – remember to "lug your mug". Speakers are at 7:30 p.m.*

*Important: The Humber Nurseries coupon sent in the March-April newsletter is missing some information. Please use the one enclosed here.*

*Reminder: We need your plants! We will need donations for Environment Day, the May plant sale and especially for Canada Day. See inside for details.*



## May Meeting Plant Sale by Lee Pritchard

It's spring and that means it's time for our popular plant sale - where else you can pick up locally grown perennials, biennials, annuals, bulbs, tubers for bargain prices? If you would like to donate any plants, please mark your plant's container clearly with the name, colour and some basic instructions (time of year for blooming, sun or shade loving, etc.) If your plant is rare or unusual, please indicate so and it will be priced accordingly. Please give your donation to the plant table before the meeting begins so it can be priced. The sale will be after the speaker.

After an absence of a couple of years, the "garden treasures" table will be back. If you've recently cleaned out your shed we welcome your gently used garden tools, implements or décor.

We still need volunteers to assist with pricing plants before the meeting and handling the cash during the sale. (As a volunteer you will be able to "reserve" one plant of your choice.) If you would like to help, please call Lee Pritchard at 416-467-5624.

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## Environment Day - May 16

Janet Davis's Environment Day is Saturday, May 16 from 10 am - 2 pm in the Stan Wadlow parking lot. Although this is Victoria Day weekend, the Club will still have a table to meet with other community groups, promote the Club and perhaps sell a few plants.

If you would like to volunteer or if you have plants to donate, please contact Veronica Callinan (416-801-9659).

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## Canada Day Parade by Veronica Callinan

The East York Garden Club has marched (ok, "walked" is more accurate) in the Canada Parade for the last few years. It's time to consider it again for this year. We always receive a good response from the onlookers and it's a terrific opportunity to promote the Club to the Community. We hand out lavender to the crowds, wave and shout out "Happy Canada Day"!

## Canada Day cont'd

How easy is that?! BUT, OUR MARCHERS ARE DWINDLING! We need at least 10-12 people to make it worthwhile.

Please let us know if you will join us. Call Veronica (416-801-9659) or send an email to [veronica@eygc.ca](mailto:veronica@eygc.ca). If we don't get at least 10, then the Club won't sign up for this year's Parade.

## Canada Day Plant & Attic Treasures Sale

Regardless of whether the Club walks in the parade, we will hold our usual table at Stan Wadlow Park. This is the Club's major plant sale of the year and there will also be our "attic treasures" table. There will be sign-up sheets at May and June meetings for volunteers.

Donations of plants and household items are most welcome. Plants/rummage sale items can be dropped off first thing in the morning or throughout the day but as access by car to the park is limited early in the morning, arrangements will be made for someone to take donations prior to Canada Day - we will let you know the details.

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## Members' Open Gardens - Wednesday June 24

This year three members have generously offered to show their gardens to EYGC members from 6:00 p.m. until dusk on June 24.

- Lucie Simons: 16 Trimontium Crescent (3 blocks west of Woodbine, and O'Connor. Turn north at the Glebe Mount traffic lights, Trimontium Cr. is on the right hand side).
- Betty Meyers: 45 Joanith Drive (off of St. Clair Ave. E., east of O'Connor, Turn north at Westview Blvd, at Joanith Dr will be on the right).
- Marie Sharp: 45 Amsterdam Avenue (Amsterdam is off of O'Connor Drive, east of St. Clair & O'Connor)



## District 5 AGM

**By Veronica Callinan**

The East York Garden Club was very well represented at the AGM. Twenty-three of us participated on the 25th; eating, chatting, laughing. The business part was short and concise, which is always appreciated. Malcolm Geast completed two years as District Director, and is now Assistant District Director again, focusing on completing the OHA's history book.

Christina Sharma, from Project Chirp! gave an inspirational talk on ways to bring pollinators and songbirds back to our gardens. Her presentation was well researched and we all came away thinking of how we can take up her challenge. Cristina da Silva gave a historical talk on Plant Adventurers, focusing on Alice Eastwood, who was born in Toronto and contributed a wealth of botanical discovery and knowledge to the American West Coast.

As usual, our East York members received awards in the Floral competitions. Diane Ronan, Anna Leggatt, Vera Stoyanoff & Betty Meyers submitted amazing entrees, coming away with 2 Firsts, 5 Seconds, 3 Thirds and 2 Honourable Mentions.

Our Yearbook won first prize (again!). I have to apologize to Susan Bartlett, many many apologies. I forgot to submit the East York Garden for competition. Oh bother.



*The EYGC Attendees*



*Diane Ronan's 2nd Place Entry*


No one from East York won any of the 20 Door Prizes. Bummer, eh!? But Barb Foster and Paula Cameron-Meaney won at the Raffle draws. And, we all received a potted violet plant to take home.

Speaking of winning - YOU WON! We all won at the East York Garden Club! We won the 2008 OHA District 5 Membership Increase award- over 20%.

This was more than any of the other Clubs and Horticultural Societies in the District. The hard part was when they asked me to tell them the secret of increasing members, especially in a year where overall District membership decreased. It's because Anna brings us terrific speakers! And, because Paula's work at publicity increases our exposure in the Community. It's because of our continuous work at the Rockery. And, because the Club participates in many East York Community Events.

We have a terrific, dedicated Board and the Club Members are such a fun bunch, too (evident from the cheering from our tables!) So, it doesn't "just happen". We deserve this one, so Congratulations to us all! The trophy will be displayed in our case out in the hall once it's given a Spring cleaning!

A fun day was had by all. Next year's AGM, hosted by The Beach, and will also be held at the Toronto Botanical Gardens, April 24, 2010. Hope to see you there!

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Society/Club Name: East York Garden Club President's Authorization: [Signature]

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(Required for our Loyalty Dollars Program only, will not be used for any other purpose)

Members Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Your email address will not be sold, shared or in any way be used without your consent)

Office Use Only

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Cashier: \_\_\_\_\_ Purchase Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Bus Tour - Sunday July 19, 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. by Rosalind Regnier**

This year's trip will be to the scenic Niagara region. The tour will start with a visit to Reggie Morgan's daylily garden. We will visit the Royal Botanical Garden, enjoy a buffet lunch, a drive through Niagara-on-the-Lake, a wine tasting and trip to Vineland Nursery. Of course, a morning stop at Tim Horton's is also in order.

Tickets are \$65.00 (includes lunch & driver's tip) and will be available at the May meeting. Any further questions please contact Rosalind Regnier 416-759-6247.





## Lyme Disease

by Linda Boyko

Unlike West Nile Virus, Lyme disease does not receive much press, yet according to the Ministry of Health up to 40 confirmed cases are reported in the province each year.

I had always thought it was confined to dense bush but last summer a colleague at work was walking her dog through a conservation area in Pickering and contacted the disease. She was off work for six months and experienced a lot of discomfort during that time.

Lyme disease is an infection caused by the bite of a tick which is carrying the *Borrelia burgdorferi* bacteria. These ticks are about the size of a sesame seed, feed on blood and settle in tall bush or grass until they attach themselves to a passing person or animal. Deer are common carriers of the tick.

Not all ticks carry Lyme disease, nor do all individuals bitten by infected ticks develop the disease. It is important to know the symptoms as prompt treatment will lessen the impact and speed recovery of infected individuals.

Ticks feed on blood by inserting their head (not their whole body) into the skin of a passing animal or person. Their body slowly enlarges as they feed making them more visible. The longer an infected tick is attached the greater the risk of infection.



The diagram above shows the tick from the size when it first attached to the size after it has finished feeding.

Symptoms of Lyme disease generally occur within a 1-2 week period after infection but may take longer and have three stages.

Stage one is circular rash which occurs in about 80% of infected individuals and radiates out from the site of the

bite in a bull's eye pattern. The rash may be accompanied by fatigue, chills, fever, headache, muscle and joint pain or swollen lymph nodes. If left untreated it may progress to stage 2 or 3 with worsening conditions. Although not fatal if left untreated it may turn into chronic neurological difficulties.



If bitten you should carefully grasp the tick as close to your skin as possible with a pair of tweezers and pull the tick straight out taking care not to leave the head imbedded. Put the tick into a bottle and take it to your family doctor for testing. If any symptoms should occur within the next few weeks return for prompt treatment.

Since prevention is better than treatment, when walking through tall grass or bush try to:

1. Wear light coloured clothing which will allow you to spot ticks. Clothing should have long sleeves, long pant legs tucked into socks, and closed in shoes.
2. Make sure your pet is wearing a tick or flea collar.
3. If in a known area for ticks (such as the Lake Erie north shore) check your body for ticks as soon as you are indoors. Keep an eye out for any unusual rashes and seek medical attention if anything unusual is noticed. Be sure to tell your doctor you have been in an area where ticks were reported.

For further information check out the Ontario Government website at:

[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/pub/disease/lyme\\_mn.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/pub/disease/lyme_mn.html)



## Janet Davis Cleanup Day (aka - the Rockery Cleanup Day)

by *Veronica Callinan*

Many thanks to Janet for sponsoring our cleanup event on Sunday, April 19. We had about a dozen members come out to help clean up. Unbeknownst to us, Roz Regnier was there a week earlier and had already carted away a large garbage bag full of debris! There was so little litter, garbage pickup was a breeze and we quickly moved on to "yard waste" type cleanup. A reporter from the Observer dropped by for a scoop, and a neighbour (oh how I wish I'd got her name!) dropped off chocolate eclairs and chocolate brownies in appreciation for our work! Wow! Thanks to everyone for coming out and kicking this growing season off!

When it comes to the maintenance schedule, it just doesn't matter which days of the week we pick, there's always a few people who can't make that day. This year it's Saturday and Wednesday, 10ish days apart. On Saturday, the times are 10 a.m.-noon, Wednesday's it's 6-8 p.m.. BUT... If you want to go any other time to pick a few weeds, feel free! Don't wait for us! Below is this year's maintenance schedule:



Do you have fruit in your yard beyond reach? Would you like to see it put to good use? The Shoelace Collective has announced a partnership with Not Far from the Tree, Toronto's urban fruit harvesting initiative. Their Woodbine Heights Hub will pick your fruit for you, share it with volunteers and help to stock the local food bank with fresh produce. You get to keep 1/3 of the harvest and they will leave your yard clean from fallen fruit.

To register your tree or to register as a volunteer, please contact Mamie at: 416-4224677 or [mamie@notfarfromthetree.org](mailto:mamie@notfarfromthetree.org)

**May Planting/Maintenance - Date depends when plants arrive - Wed, May 6, 09**

**May Planting/Maintenance - Date depends when plants arrive - Sat, May 16, 09**

**May Planting/Maintenance - Date depends when plants arrive - Wed, May 27, 09**

**Maintenance - Sat, June 6, 09**

**Maintenance - Wed, June 17, 09**

**June - Pre-Canada Day cleanup/residual planting - Sat, June 27, 09**

**Maintenance - Wed, July 8, 09**

**Maintenance - Sat, July 18, 09**

**Maintenance - Wed, July 29, 09**

**August Deadheading/Maintenance - Sat, Aug 8, 09**

**August Deadheading/Maintenance - Wed, Aug 19, 09**

**Maintenance - Sat, August 29, 09**

**Maintenance - Wed, September 9, 09**

**Maintenance - Sat, September 19, 09**

**Maintenance - Wed, September 30, 09**

**Fall Bulb planting and Cleanup - Sat, October 10, 09**

**Fall Bulb planting and Cleanup - if needed - Wed, October 21, 09**

**Fall Bulb planting and Cleanup - if needed - Sat, October 31, 09**



## Blooming Contest by Malcolm Geast

This summer, as we've done for the last three years, we're teaming up with the City of Toronto to find the best front gardens in our community. Over the next couple of months you're encouraged to keep an eye out for particularly attractive gardens, and to nominate them for the competition. Nominations will close in early July, with judging to take place before August. Forms that give you all the details about what to look for, and how to submit a garden for the contest will be on hand at our May and June meetings and will soon be available on our website [www.eygc.ca](http://www.eygc.ca).

Winning gardens will be announced at an awards presentation at the East York Civic Centre in September. The first-place winners in each of the categories will be entered in the 2010 city-wide contest.

Once again, members of our Club will perform the judging. The opportunity to spend a few hours reviewing some of the most attractive gardens in the community has always been one of the more enjoyable activities of the Club. If you are interested in being a part of this process, we'll have a sign-up sheet at the May meeting. For more information, you can also call Malcolm Geast at 416-429-4719.

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## Photo Contest by Malcolm Geast

Your garden has sprung to life with the bulbs that you planted last fall, the flowering trees are blossoming, and you're about to spend countless more hours this summer working on your garden to get it looking just right. And of course, you'll be taking pictures to help you remember just how wonderful it all looked. While you're recording your work for posterity, why not take some shots for our photo contest as well? With six categories, you're sure to find a profusion of subjects to shoot.

With "*Leaves*", you'll have the opportunity show off some of the most visible parts of the garden, while "*Roots*" encourages you to take a closer look at a usually-hidden area of our plants. Like to get up close to your flowers? "*Captured Beauty*" is your category. And if you prefer your pictures to have wider subject, we've got "*Landscape*", a view from a distance. Don't forget the animals that you find in the garden; whether they're tiny insects, birds, squirrels, deer, or your own pets, they're all "*Garden*

## Photo Contest cont'd

*Visitors*". This year we also have categories for any horticultural subject: "*Black & White*" (as the name suggests, a black & white photo), and "*Anything Goes*" (our children's and youth categories). Entries will be accepted at the October meeting, and will be on display at our November AGM.

November will also be the month that we'll be holding our final "People's Choice" contest of the year, with the category "*Yearbook*". The winning photo will have the honour of appearing on the cover of the 2010 EYGC yearbook. Entries must be portrait-orientation, but can be any horticultural subject that you choose.

Full details can be found on pages 30 & 31 of your yearbook, and on the Club's website, [www.eygc.ca](http://www.eygc.ca).

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## New Library Books by Karen Bell

The Library Committee has been working on updating the Club's Library. A number of new books have been purchased which cover the widest possible range of gardening topics. This book covers a timely topic in an interesting way:

*The Natural Garden Book, A Holistic Approach to Gardening* by Peter Harper. "cultivating an ecologically sound garden environment". Combining garden design with organic and holistic advice, The Natural Garden Book provides inspiration and practical suggestions for creating the healthy garden of your dreams. Whether you cultivate a dryland garden or tend to your roses, this book offers simple yet diverse ideas for creating a beautiful outdoor retreat while respecting the environment. From water management to windbreaks; from trenching to transition zones; from solar energy to slopes, pruning to pesticides, this book contains an endless array of ideas, advice, with plenty of diagrams and colour photos.

The EYGC Library makes an appearance before most meetings; feel free to browse and borrow a book. Your name must be entered on the card in the back of the book and left with the librarian as a record of who has borrowed the book.



## Upcoming Events

**Thursday, May 14, 2009 - May Meeting of the Leaside Garden Society** at the Leaside Library (165 McRae Drive). Joe & Hazel Cook, from Blossom Hill Nursery, will be speaking this evening. Their topic will be Peony Pointers - From the Growers. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Further information: <http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/leaside/news/online/711>

**Saturday, May 16, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**, Scarborough Garden and Horticultural Society's annual plant sale at 3620 Kingston Rd. east of Markham Road. Parking at Scarborough Village Community Centre.

**Tuesday, May 19, 2009 - May Meeting of the Beach Garden Society** at the Adam Beck Community Centre, 79 Lawlor Avenue. Trish Symons will speaking about "Gardens I have known and loved". Begins at 7:30 p.m. Guests are welcome. Further information: <http://beachgs.ca/>

**May 30 & 31, 2009 (Saturday & Sunday) - Toronto Island Garden Tour.** Sixteen or more private gardens will be open to the public and the gardeners will be on hand to answer questions. The Ward's Island ferry departs from the foot of Bay Street on the hour and half hour. From the Ward's dock follow the signs to 5 Ojibway where tickets and maps will be available. Adults \$10, seniors \$8 and children \$2; the funds raised are used for public landscaping projects on the island. Runs from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Further information: [www.torontoisland.org](http://www.torontoisland.org) phone: 416-203-0968

**Sunday, June 7, 2009 - Hidden Gardens and Private Spaces Tour in Cabbagetown.** Self-guided tour of gardens in the Historic Conservation District of Cabbagetown. Bonus: members of the Riverdale Farm Garden Group will do a guided tour of gardens at the Riverdale Farm. Runs from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tickets cost \$10.00 and may be purchased at Mi Casa, 238 Carlton Street (416-929-1913; Jay's Garden Centre, 360 Gerrard East 416-927-9949; Sheridan Nurseries, North Toronto Store only, 2827 Yonge Street, 416-481-6429; Bill's Garden Centre, 903 Pape Street, 416-466-8283; Fairway Variety, 520 Parliament Street, 416-921-0624; (Note: not all gardens are wheelchair accessible; access to gardens may include climbing stairs, narrow walkways and unpaved back lanes. Event goes ahead rain or shine.)

**June 13 & 14, 2009 (Saturday & Sunday) 5th Annual Peony Festival at the Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens** (155 Arena Street, Oshawa) Featuring the Gilbert Peony Collection, donated by the Canadian Peony Society, and featuring over 300 peonies. Free admission to the gardens, the floral design displays. Peony advice will be available. The tea garden is open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Further Information: [http://www.peony.ca/e\\_html/events.htm](http://www.peony.ca/e_html/events.htm) <http://www.ovbg.ca/>

### Farmers' Markets

- East York Civic Centre Farmers' Market Starts Tuesday, May 19, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- East Lynn Park starts Thursday, June 4, 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- Evergreen Brickworks market starts Saturday, May 23, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.





## Phyllis Shepherd 1920 - 2009

We have lost a lovely lady, a great friend and a passionate gardener. She died with her hospital room filled with flowers, fighting her diabetes and disabilities to the last.



I knew Phyllis as a gardener, first through East York Garden Club, where she was President in 1991. Her garden was featured in many garden tours and was awarded prizes in the Mayor's Blooming Contest. She became a Master Gardener and continued attending meetings even when she had to rely on Wheel Trans to transport her and her wheelchair. After retirement, she went back to school, graduating at age 70 from Ryerson University with a degree in landscape architecture.

Everyone who knew her knew she was from Trinidad. She emigrated here in 1960 and was the first black employee in the old CBC building on Jarvis Street, eventually becoming a producer for Fresh Air. I once asked her if she had ever encountered discrimination. She replied "Not really." Her determination and forceful personality would soon put paid to any doubts.

I knew she was always associated with the arts and had been part of a group with the poet Dennis Walcott. She had worked with many other illustrious people. During her memorial service I kept thinking "I wish I had asked her that".



Phyllis at District 5 AGM 2005

She chaperoned the Trinidad & Tobago contingent at Expo '67 in Montreal, was a dress designer and loved wearing large hats.

Travelling was a passion. She visited many countries around the world. However, she found wheelchair

accessible did not necessarily mean no steps. Difficult if you are by yourself.

Phyllis loved her extended family and to party. It was amazing how many could fit into her house, eating wonderful West Indian food, listening to a steel band and also dancing! I will always remember one large party in the Club House where she danced in her wheelchair.

Her memorial service was packed with family and friends, gardeners and people we recognised from the CBC. I never thought I would hear "Ave Maria" played delicately on a steel drum band. She must have been looking down on us and wanting to tweak the arrangements.

It was a fitting farewell to a determined woman, but above all, a lady.

Vale Phyllis.

*By Anna Leggatt*

*Photos: Veronica Callinan, Malcolm Geast*

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## August Flower Show & Tea

This year's Annual Flower Show and Tea will be held on Saturday, August 22. Over the next couple of months the August Flower Show Committee will be planning this event.

Volunteers are needed to help set up before the show and to assist during the show. Donations of cookies, squares and the like are also needed for the tea. A sign-up sheet will go around at the next meetings or you can speak to any member of the Executive.

Don't forget to enter the Flower Show, there are so many categories you are sure to have something in your garden, or perhaps you took the design course in April and want to show off your new skills.



### Who may nominate a garden?

You may nominate your own garden or someone else's. You do not have to be a resident of Toronto to nominate a garden.

### How to nominate:

Just fill out the attached nomination form in this brochure. Nomination forms may be copied and written facsimiles and e-mails will be accepted. No more than three gardens may be nominated by any one person. Visit our website at [www.eygc.ca](http://www.eygc.ca).

Completed nomination forms must be submitted by **Thursday, July 2, 2009** to:

#### Return by mail:

East York Blooming Contest  
c/o Councillor Janet Davis  
East York Civic Centre  
850 Coxwell Avenue  
Toronto, ON M4C 5R1

#### Return by fax:

416-397-9289

#### Return by email:

[blooming@eastyorkgarden.ca](mailto:blooming@eastyorkgarden.ca)

#### Drop-off:

East York Civic Centre  
850 Coxwell Avenue  
Drop-off box in main lobby



An invitation to residents of  
Wards 29 and 31

## East York Blooming Contest 2009



## Garden Award Categories

### Residential Gardens

**Residential Gardens will include only the front and side yard which can be judged from the sidewalk (backyards are excluded).** The gardens will be judged in one of the following categories.

#### Traditional

This is a garden with a predominance of grass. First, second and third place winners will be named.

#### Environmental/Alternative

An 'Environmental/Alternative Garden' for the East York Blooming Contest is a garden that substitutes plants for lawn, or significant areas of lawn, utilizes environmentally sensitive gardening practices and uses no synthetic pesticides or fertilizers. The use of organic gardening methods, including the elimination of garden chemicals, is essential. Although points are awarded to gardens that have native plants and help create wildlife habitat by providing food, shelter and water for indigenous birds and animals, an alternative garden does not have to include these components. A first, second and third place winner will be named.

### Commercial and Industrial Gardens

**These properties will be viewed from all sides and from within property limits.** A first, second and third place winner will be named.

### Other Properties

This category may include apartment buildings, churches, townhouse complexes, schools and any other properties that do not fall into the above categories. This category may be subdivided if there are significant numbers of entries. **These properties will be viewed from all sides and from within property limits.** A first, second and third place winner will be named.

### What will the judges be looking for?

The judges will look for the gardens that reflect an effective and creative use of available space. The size of the property is not important. The judge will evaluate the garden based on inspiration and creativity and the garden's contribution to the surrounding community. Upon arriving at an address, the judge will take a few moments to get an overall view and feeling of the space and will then evaluate the garden using the criteria listed on the next panel. Bonus points will be awarded for the planting of native species and the use of environmentally friendly gardening practices.



### The East York Blooming Contest is back for 2009 and we want you to show us your stuff!

Nominations are now being accepted for the East York Blooming Contest 2009. This is East York's way of recognizing the efforts of residents, businesses and other property owners in making their neighbourhoods beautiful, and your chance to showcase your beautiful gardens. Each garden nominated will be judged by a panel of experts from community horticultural societies. Winners in each category will be honoured at an Awards Ceremony in the Fall. These winners will go on to compete in the City of Toronto's City Wide Garden Contest 2010.

Nomination forms are to be sent to the addresses listed on the back of this form by **Thursday, July 2, 2009**. All winners will be contacted and the results will be announced in August.

### Coordinating committee:

Toronto Parks, Forestry & Recreation  
East York Garden Club  
Councillor Janet Davis  
Councillor Case Ootes

## Judging Criteria

### Scale of Points for All Gardens:

#### Design:

Creativity and originality of design. Balance and scale of garden to building. Selection and arrangement of plant material including placement of trees & shrubs giving the garden overall year-round appeal. Use of colour and texture in relation to building (at time of judging). Design of traffic flow, both pedestrian and vehicular.

#### Use of Plant Material:

Use of plant material that is suitable to the location. Use of perennials and annuals as to diversity, suitability, spacing and balance. Use of plant material that encourages beneficial insects, butterflies, birds, toads etc., indigenous plant species.

#### Condition & Maintenance:

Overall cleanliness of property including driveways, parking areas with respect to weeds and garbage. Hedges, flowerbeds, borders with respect to pruning, edging of beds, control of weeds, disease and insect damage. Lawn or ground covers - good colour, dense growth, well maintained. Some nonobtrusive weeds may be considered acceptable.

#### Hard Landscaping:

Condition of driveway surface and walkways. Appropriate use of stones, rocks, walls, fencing, statuary, garden art, containers, water features, outdoor structures and furniture, bird houses and toad houses etc.

#### Environmental Practices:

Use of good environmental practices such as mulches, rain barrels, compost, etc. Overall reduced pesticide use.

#### Community Contribution:

How the property contributes to the beautification of the neighbourhood as viewed from the street.

#### Distinction:

Impact and special overall appeal and special features.

## Nomination form

Deadline date:

**Thursday, July 2, 2009**

Form may be copied for additional nominations.

Please print

**I nominate:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Category \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Category \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Category \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominated by:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

