

# NIGHT BEACON NEWSLETTER

Quarterly

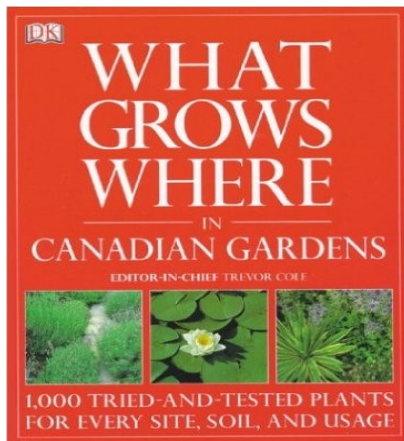
“Grow with Tay”

February 2017

## Tay Township Horticulture Committee

To foster civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification through community education and participation in horticulture.

### Favorite Garden Book



### Benefits of Rain Barrels And Collecting Rainwater

For home, garden and community

- It is estimated that 1/2” of rainfall can fill a typical rainbarrel
- A rainbarrel can save 1300 gallons of water during the growing season
- Lawn and garden irrigation accounts for 40% of residential water usage during the growing season
- Rainbarrels reduce harmful runoff into streams and lakes
- Rainwater runoff picks up soil, fertilizers, oil, pesticides and other contaminants from hard surfaces and landscapes
- Untreated runoff into streams and lakes increases bacteria and algae growth and alters fish habitats
- Collecting rainwater before it hits the ground will prevent flooding, foundation dampness and mold
- Rainwater is free irrigation for your garden
- Rainwater is highly oxygenated and beneficial to plants and soil
- Rainwater improves the growth and vitality of plants
- Rainwater does not contain inorganic ions and fluoride compounds found in tap water which can accumulate and potentially harm plant roots and soil microorganisms
- Rainwater can help cleanse soil of harmful salt buildup

### TAY BLOOMS BUS TRIP Thursday, June 15th, 2017



Tay Township Horticultural Committee  
Invites you to join them for a coach bus trip to visit  
**Plant Paradise Country Gardens**  
Botanical gardens showcasing unique, hardy perennials  
grown amidst 24 acres of managed forest using environ-  
mentally sustainable gardening practices.  
“RBG of the north”  
**Pathways To Perennials**  
Award winning landscape set on 11 acres of woodland  
and meadows ecologically designed and managed for the  
enjoyment of living in the great outdoors.  
Guided Tour, Speaker Presentation, Display Gardens  
Garden Centre, Nursery and Gift Shops  
**\$80.00 per person**  
(includes lunch, admission, tax)  
**Reserve your ticket before June 9th, 2017**  
**Limited Seating**  
Departing from Oakwood Community Centre  
Victoria Harbour

### Ways to use collected rainwater

- Water garden, lawns and indoor plants
- Clean outdoor furniture and tools
- Moisten compost bins when dried out
- Washing vehicles
- Bathing pets



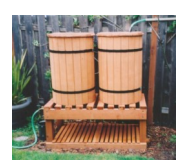
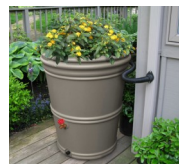
### Tips for basic rainbarrel setup

- Elevate on a solid base to provide for the opportunity of adding a garden hose or drip irrigation system
- A 55 gallon rainbarrel filled weighs approximately 460 lbs
- Use a screen to keep debris out
- Use a cover and a tight fitting connection at the downspout to prevent mosquito breeding and algae build up
- If roof contaminants are a concern, empty the first rainfall



Registration at Tay Township Office  
450 Park Street, Victoria Harbour

Cash/Debit/Cheque payment required at registration  
For further information contact Alison Gray  
705-534-7248 ext 240 agray@tay.ca



## TAY BLOOMS ADOPT-A-GARDEN-PROGRAM

Tay Township Horticultural Committee  
In conjunction with  
Tay Township Parks and Recreation Department

Invites you to join them to enhance the beauty  
and curb appeal of public gardens within the Township.



There are over 20 public gardens within the Township of Tay,  
with most being located at community parks, trailheads, en-  
trance and notice board signs.

An individual, family, friends, community business, group or  
organization can participate by volunteering to maintain a pub-  
lic garden from April through to October.

Monitoring the garden on a regular basis to maintain a healthy  
and tidy appearance.

Each adopted garden is acknowledged with a plaque recogniz-  
ing the participant. Volunteers are also recognized by the Town-  
ship at the Annual Volunteer Lunch.

For further information or to register for adoption  
Contact Alison Gray 705-534-7248 ext 240  
agray@tay.ca



### Spring Flower and Garden Shows

March 2-5 [Stratford Garden Festival](#) Stratford

March 10-19 [Canada Blooms](#) and [National Home Show](#)  
Enercare Centre, Exhibition Place, Toronto

Muskoka Travel Service offers bus tour on March 14th  
Departures in Orillia and Barrie

Admission and return trip \$ 88.00 / person

For more information 750-645-2583  
muskokatravelservice.ca

## Help Identify and Control Invasive Species

Visit these sites:



## TAY BLOOMS PLANT EXCHANGE and MULCH DAY Saturday June 3, 2017

Tay Township Horticultural Committee  
Invites you to join them at  
Tay Township Municipal Office  
Parking Lot  
450 Park Street, Victoria Harbour



### Free Plant Exchange

Bring a plant - Take a plant

Need to thin out your garden beds this spring

Have extra seeds, cuttings or annuals

Bring them to our plant exchange where they will find a new  
home and take home a new plant for your garden.

Please put your plants in a container or bag with a label

For further information contact Alison Gray  
705-534-7248 ext 240 agray@tay.ca

*Tay Horticulture Committee*

*Marina Josey, Glenda Bosley, Betty Wakish, Cate Root (Council Representative)*

*For any questions or to share your gardening tips or photos.*

*Contact Alison Gray, Clerk, Township of Tay 705-534-7248 ext. 240 or agray@tay.ca*