

Newsletter



ASK CLAUDE:

Most of us belong to NWHS because we are seeking gardening advice. Get your questions answered by Claude Le Doux, the City of New Westminster's Horticultural Manager, at our July meeting. The catch: Claude needs to know your questions before the meeting! Please email your questions to Julia or Ellen ASAP. No email? No problem. Submit your handwritten questions tonight.

NEXT MONTH WE SHOW WHAT WE GROW!

At our July meeting, we hold our Annual In-Club NWHS Show. The Show Schedule is available tonight or on our website.

Keep your eye on your garden. What is blooming? How are those vegetables maturing? Check the Show Schedule for hints as to what is considered "perfection". It is going to be an interesting showbench. Instead of things not being ready, there is a good chance that this year, if the warm weather continues, many of the standard exhibits may be past their prime. It may be the equivalent of having an August show.

On show day, especially if the weather is hot, pick your exhibits early in the morning and store them in water in the coolest and darkest part of your abode. Pick that flower not quite open instead of one in full bloom. Come evening, it will probably be the better of the two. Gently wrap vegetables in a moist paper towel and put them in your fridge—make sure you make a big sign to yourself "check fridge". It is so easy to leave things behind when they are tucked away. For the floral art, check the "droopability" of your vegetative material a few days in advance. It is amazing how a leaf can look so sturdy and spry when attached to the plant but quickly decline once picked.

Read the Show Schedule. It is written so that almost everything you grow can be exhibited. However the number of items (stalks, units, blooms, etc) required for the different exhibits varies with the plant. Prior to show night, Audrey is willing to give advice as to placement of an exhibit - just call her. At the show, consult with any show personnel as to where to locate your exhibit. If we find your exhibit is in the wrong class, its location will be changed prior to judging. However if you have submitted the wrong number of items, nothing can be done to correct that. Remember for each class, you can enter up to two exhibits.

The Show is a FUN competition. Bring in what you grow or create and appreciate what others have done.

LAWN NEMATODES:

New Westminster residents are being offered a deal by the city. You can get 2 coupons for a 50% discount on nematodes at GardenWorks Mandeville or Lougheed. To get the coupons, visit the Parks Office next to Century House with picture ID and proof of residency between June 15 & 19. Take your coupons to GardenWorks to register. They will alert you when the nematodes are in. You then purchase them at 50% off (plus taxes). See the Bulletin Board or NWHS website for details.

Tonight's Meeting

Tuesday, June 9, 7:30pm

Speaker: Chris Jenks

Topic: "Carnivorous Plants—Tropical and Hardy"

Chris will have plants for sale

Mark Your Calendar

Royal City Farmers' Market:

Every Thurs, 3pm-7pm. Tipperary Park (4th St between Royal Ave & Queens Ave). Check www.rcfm.ca for weekly details.

Garden Days: June 19-21

VanDusen, Dr. Sun Yat-Sun, UBC Botanical, Bloedel Conservatory, Nitobe Memorial Gardens. Visit all with a \$25 Vancouver Garden Pass purchased via <https://vangardendays.eventbrite.ca>

Tool Sharpening Workshop with Henk Suijs:

Sun, June 28th, 1pm & 3pm
Pre-registration required (see article)

Heritage Hydrangeas Open House:

Sun, July 5, 10am-4:30pm.
13970 – 34 Ave, Surrey

Erikson's Daylily Gardens Annual Open House:

Sat & Sun, July 11 & 12, 10am-4pm.
24642 – 51 Ave, Langley.
www.eriksonsdaililygardens.com
604-856-5758

NWHS Regular July Meeting:

Tues, July 14, 7:30pm
Annual NWHS In-Club Show
Speaker: Claude Le Doux on "Gardening Questions & Answers".
Submit your questions ASAP to Ellen or Julia

NWHS Garden Tour & Picnic

Sat, July 18, afternoon & early evening (see article)

TREASURER'S REPORT - May 2015

Total Revenues: \$ 2358.75

Total Expenses: \$ 516.29

See bulletin board for Ellen's report.

New Westminster Horticultural Society

June 2015

ON SAT JULY 18th, WE SOCIALIZE!

Enjoy our club garden tour or the club pot-luck picnic—or both. The events are rain or shine.

The Tour:

The tour this year is shaping up to be an East to West event. Car pooling is recommended as parking will be tight at some locations. As you know, we visit the gardens according to a set itinerary - specific gardens at specific times. Tour start time will not be known until the gardens and route are finalized. It usually begins about 1pm. The itinerary allows generous driving and socializing times. There is also an extended gap between tour-end and picnic-start to allow you to zip home to collect your edible offering.

At this point we have 3 confirmed and 3 potential gardens. There is still room for yours to be added! Each year we visit 5 to 7 gardens, depending on travel time and the complexity of the gardens. The tour will not be finalized until the weekend prior to our July meeting but it is best to inform Audrey ASAP if you would like to open your garden.

There is no sign-up sheet for the tour. It is open to all club members and their adult friends (no kids, no pets please). The map and itinerary will be only available as a hard copy. Pick it up at the July general meeting or from Audrey directly. No electronic copies will be distributed. Your possession of the map/itinerary is your ticket to be on the tour.

The Picnic:

The picnic, at Audrey's, starts at about 4:30pm. For the picnic there is a sign-up sheet. It will be at the table in front of the fireplace tonight and at the July meeting and with Audrey at other times. Although kids are welcome to the picnic, it is an adult-oriented event. No pets please. On the sign-up sheet put your name and the number of people in your party and what dish you would like to contribute. Please add details of your dish, eg. Instead of just putting a check in the salad column, specify the type of salad.

We expect about 60 people at the picnic. It is not expected that you make enough to totally satisfy the hunger pains of all 60. An amount to serve 10 would be good—enough for everyone to have a taste. The club provides beverages: wine, non-alcoholic punch, water, tea & coffee. Contact Audrey at non-meeting times for any additions or amendments to the sign-up sheet. The 2015 version of the Garden Stumps quiz is in the process of being created.

SEED EXCHANGE:

Wow! Some plants have already finished blooming and gone to seed. Hopefully, you have not deadheaded all the spent blooms from "that really neat plant". Please let some seedheads mature and when they are ready to pop, collect them in a paper envelope. Seal it well to prevent escapees. Record the data on the envelope right away: your name, the year, the plant name (common OK, botanical better), where you grew it (sun, pt shade, shade) and plant details (height, spread, bloom color, etc). Set it aside for the seeds to completely dry. When you bring your envelope to the meeting put it in the Seed Exchange box on the table in front of the fireplace. Richard will re-package your seed in appropriate amounts. The seeds available for pick-up are on the Free Table.

TOOL SHARPENING WORKSHOP:

Henk Suijs, the Lee Valley sharpening guru, will be conducting two (1pm & 3pm) workshops on Sunday, June 28th at Audrey's home, 117 Seventh Ave. He is good! Each session will be about an hour and half long. Henk will go over sharpening techniques and equipment and professionally sharpen one tool for each attendee. You can bring additional tools for personal practice. Class size is limited: 8 to 10 for each session. Priority goes to NWHs members for whom the fee is \$5. If there is room, non-members can attend for \$10. Your fee is payable with registration at the table in front of the fireplace. Registration will terminate when the classes are full or, if there is still room, at 5pm Thursday,

June 11th. Register through Audrey. Those who pay upon registration will get preference to those with money owing.

WATERING REGULATIONS:

'Tis the time for lawn watering restrictions. From June 1 to Sept 30, lawns can be watered only from 4am to 9am according to your address:

Even residential addresses:

Mon, Wed & Sat

Odd residential addresses:

Tues, Thurs & Sun

If you have just turfed or seeded your lawn, contact the New West City Engineering department for a permit to water more frequently.

Hand-watering of flowers, shrubs and vegetable gardens is not restricted.

PLANT A ROW, GROW A ROW:

The drop-off of your excess home grown or store purchased produce begins on June 14th and continues on every Sunday morning until Oct 4th, from 8:30 to 9:15am. Location: the main entrance of St. Thomas More on 12th Ave, just off Kingsway. Volunteers will be there to collect and weigh your donation and forward it to the New West Food Bank.

Contacts

Julia Goulden-President

604-526-1140 or

julia@newwesthortsociety.org

Lorna Cloutier - Vice President

604-524-1942 or

lorna@newwesthortsociety.org

Ellen Berg-Treasurer - 604-525-7827

or ellen@newwesthortsociety.org

Lea McDonald - Contests, Show

604-942-9416

Audrey Barnes - Contests, Show,

Tour & Picnic, Tool Sharpening

604-526-8284 (Before 8pm) or

audrey@newwesthortsociety.org

Dan Tessaro: At Meeting Sale

604-563-3361

Richard Harrison: Seed Exchange

604-544-2468 or

richard@newwesthortsociety.org