



Fredericton Botanic Garden

Bulletin du Jardin botanique

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Spring 2021

Message from the President – Stephen Heard

Spring in a garden is a special time, isn't it? If you're like me, you've been searching eagerly for those first blooms – the saxifrage in the Rock and Crevice Garden, the dwarf iris in the Pollinator Garden, the trout lily in the New Brunswick Literature Garden (and in the woods). Those blooms are signs of Nature's activity, but you'll see signs of our own activity too. Volunteers are already busy weeding and maintaining old beds and shaping and planting new ones. They're also busy preparing for our Spring Plant Sale, which is just around the corner now. You won't want to miss it – read on in this Newsletter for all the details.

We're planning a busy summer for the Garden. We'll once again host artists from the City Artist in Residence program, we'll have guided walks, and of course we'll keep planting and building. Keep an eye, for example, on our in-progress Wabanaki Healing Garden and on the expansion of the Rock and Crevice Garden. We're sure that you can walk through our Garden every day and never have the same walk twice.

Won't you join us? Everything we do starts with our volunteers and our donors. If you'd like to lend a hand, stop by for a Weeding Wednesday or two, or ask us how else you can help. And if you're able to support our work financially, you'll find a convenient "Donate" button on our web site (under the "Support Us" tab). Our Garden grows because there's a team behind it, and there are many ways you can be part of that team.

Spring is upon us. See you in the Garden!

Spring Plant Sale

Happy Spring! Glad to have the warmer temps & things turning green. We are getting closer; it won't be long now until our Annual Spring Plant Sale. Things are looking wonderful in the greenhouses both at the Resource Centre & UNB. We should have a great showing for this year's sale: perennials, heritage tomatoes, herbs, annuals & more.

We will be digging up stock in our holding beds starting this Wednesday 12th aka Weeding Wednesday. They too are looking wonderful & bursting with assorted perennials for the show. The [plant list will be posted to our website](#) May 17.

Pre orders May 25-26th.
Pick ups May 27-28th.

On site Sale May 29th
10am-2pm and again May
30th 12noon-4pm at the
Resource Centre,
10 Cameron Court.



If you are digging up plants and would like to donate to the gardens, we'd love them.

We ask that if possible you identify them by plant name and blossom colour, and leave them at the greenhouses, 10 Cameron Court.

This is our largest fundraiser for the gardens and your support is greatly appreciated! Join us if you are able!

John Welling Chair - Plant Sale
Tess Madigan Co-Chair



Hal Hinds Memorial Garden Tour

Sunday, June 6, 2 pm

Spaces are limited. Email
fredbotanicgarden@gmail.com to
reserve a spot.



Rhododendron Tour

Sunday, June 13, 2 pm

Spaces are limited. Email
fredbotanicgarden@gmail.com
to reserve a spot.



Upcoming Tours

July, Date TBD: Day Lily Garden

August, Date TBD: Pollinator Garden

The Secret Garden

By: Holly Abbandonato & Jim Goltz

If you haven't had a chance to visit the Harold Hinds Memorial garden this spring, we highly recommend it. Its blooms are spectacular and riddled with colour around the end of May and early June. This garden is truly a hidden gem, not because we want to hide it, but to grow primroses, rhododendrons, hostas and woodland ferns successfully, these plants require a fair amount of partial to full shade habitat. The entrance of the garden is somewhat hidden by tall trees, and nearby lilacs. It is nestled between the Lilac and Mixed Shrub garden and the pond, growing under a canopy of trees with a small seasonal stream running through it. Take the grassy path between the NB Literature Garden and the ponds. This secret garden is a must-see!

You may be wondering, who is Harold Hinds?

Hal (Harold R.) Hinds (1939-2001) was a highly skilled gardener, conservationist, naturalist, ecologist and botanist; and was the leading authority on the vascular plants of New Brunswick and author of two editions of the *Flora of New Brunswick*. He was one of the founding members of the Fredericton Botanic Garden Association and the Nature Trust of NB, and served on the executive of most of this province's environmental, conservation and nature organizations. When asked to autograph copies of his *Flora of New Brunswick*, he often would write "Learn them, love them, protect them". Hal had a tireless energy and insatiable curiosity, and devoted these and his passion and commitment to field work on the Flora of New Brunswick. He was a long time curator of the Connell Memorial Herbarium that houses pressed plant specimens documenting the occurrence of native and naturalized plants in New Brunswick, adding over 17,000 specimens to this collection, and was



employed as a Senior Teaching Associate in the Biology Department at the University of New Brunswick. In recognition of his many accomplishments, hard work and dedication to conservation, information on the province's natural history and his attention to societal issues, he received the Canadian Park Service Heritage Award, The New Brunswick Conservation Council's Milton F. Gregg Award, the Canadian Nature Federation's Douglas H. Pimlott Award, and the Canadian Council of Ecological Areas Award. He also had a unique remnant Appalachian hardwood forest named "The Hal Hinds Forest" and a woodland garden called the Hal Hinds Memorial Garden designated in his honour. The latter was constructed and planted approximately 17 years ago by colleagues and friends of the Fredericton Botanic Garden Association, and contains many primroses (Hal's favourite garden plant) and a number of woodland plants.

Why plant a shade-loving garden?

The Hal Hinds Memorial garden is an excellent example of a low maintenance, serene shade garden. If you have a yard that is north-facing, contains medium or large trees that block out the sun, or a garden that is shaded by a nearby building or structure – this type of garden may be an option for you. Shade-gardens



can be vibrant and lush depending on the species selected. There are a number of shade to partial-shade loving plants that we sell

at our annual Spring Plant Sale, such as a wide array of hostas, astilbes, epimedium, blue ajuga, and some varieties of dianthus and columbine that adore partial



shade. Other shade-loving plants are rhododendrons, Japanese maple trees, ferns (either native or decorative), primroses, bleeding hearts, and coral bells. Pathways or garden edges can be lined with annual plants, like begonias, coleus, fuchsia, impatiens, and lobelia. The possibilities are endless, and you can mix and match, or stick to a select colour palette. For example, I often see shade gardens that are a mix of green, white, and red. However, if you add in astilbes which can range in colour from magenta, pink to white, with coral bells, trilliums and lobelia, you will have a vibrant shade-garden that is full of bright blooms which will attract humans and pollinators alike!

Share your shade-garden photos with us on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.



Science in the Garden

A Threat to all Ash at the Garden's Doorsteps – the Emerald Ash Borer

By Michael Stastny

Ash is an undeservedly inconspicuous tree. Even in the old days, fewer people recognized its handsome form than its *sound* – the familiar clunk of a ball hitting the baseball bat, traditionally made of its wood. Yet, ash (especially the green and white ash) are common in the broadleaf and mixed Eastern forests, and popular in urban areas thanks to their moderately shading crowns. Like ash-made sports equipment, healthy, full-grown ash have become a rarity from the Midwest to growing portions of Ontario and Quebec: a victim of a devastating invasive insect pest, the emerald ash borer (EAB).

Native to temperate Asia, the larvae of this attractive jewel beetle effectively girdle the tree by feeding on its vascular tissue under the bark. In the invaded range, EAB kills the vast majority of ash in an area within a decade, leaving characteristic D-shaped exit holes when adults emerge and disperse to search for new host trees. By the time the signs of EAB attack (crown dieback, sprouts from the lower trunk, and woodpecker activity) become apparent, it is typically too late to save the tree.



And now Fredericton has become its new home on this quest – an unwelcome but not unexpected discov-

ery, having already been found in Oromocto in 2019 (in addition to infestations in Edmundston and Halifax). As the City is bracing for the pest's destructive impacts on its urban canopy, lessons learned from counterparts in decimated cities, such as Ottawa and Guelph, and the local EAB expertise at the Atlantic Forestry Centre will help guide the action. Unfortunately, control and mitigation strategies against EAB are very limited; realistically only a very small fraction of mature ash can be saved. While we have not yet detected the pest within the Fredericton Botanic Garden, it is just a matter of time – and so FBGA is taking the first steps to assess and prepare for its eventual impacts.

In April we coordinated an inventory of our trees to determine just how much ash the Garden contains between the trees lining the trails and the pockets of dense woods and thicket off the beaten track. The best time to notice ash is before the leaf flush, when its fissured bark and sparingly forking, rigid branches stand out. Many of you would be familiar with them as the subtle backdrop to several of our Garden features, including the Harold Hinds Memorial Garden and the White Garden. As you walk the upper part of the Garden, ash becomes the main component of the forest stands crossed by the switchbacks of the main road, and by the Woodland Fern Trail.

Yet, even we were surprised by the sheer abundance of ash revealed by the inventory: trees above 10cm DBH (diameter at breast height) easily number upwards of 800! Most of these trees are relatively young (under 30cm DBH), reflecting the wave of forest recruitment after the cleared farmland was abandoned (ash grows well in more open areas); ash saplings are also plentiful. But older, tall trees with expansive crowns are common – including right next to the Resource Centre building. In fact, very few spots lack ash entirely, making it arguably the most ubiquitous tree in the Garden.

With the arrival of the invasive EAB, this wealth of ash canopy will become a significant challenge to the Garden. Imagine losing most of these trees within a





As trees succumb to the pest, the tall snags will become a falling hazard along the many trails, potentially necessitating proactive felling in the most high-risk areas (trees that are already dead are much more dangerous to cut down – and the City crews will become increasingly busy!). The only option to keep ash alive is through the injection of an insecticide that effectively protects the tree, but is expensive (\$150-300 per tree annually). This targeted control would require a substantial fundraising or “adopt a tree” campaign by the Garden, but would allow us to preserve a small number of select ash trees, including the culturally significant black ash (if we find any).

For all the ash we will not be able to save, we need to consider what will eventually replace them as other trees (and hopefully not invasive shrubs!) take advantage of the canopy opening. Since these changes will progress over a number of years, the Garden will have time to fundraise, plan, and even selectively thin specific areas to plant specific trees. The sooner we prepare for this unavoidable transition, the less dramatic and overwhelming the EAB aftermath will play out. In the meantime, the woodpeckers will undoubtedly enjoy the upcoming sad demise of a dominant tree species.

Renew Your Membership

A Garden membership provides ongoing support to the maintenance of the Fredericton Botanic Garden. In addition to free admission to most FBGA events, members receive a 10% discount at local garden centers.

Co-Op Country Store (Northside)
Corn Hill Nurseries
Curries Greenhouses
Kent Garden Center
Scott's Nursery
Wetmore's Nursery

[frederictonbotanicgarden.com/
membership](http://frederictonbotanicgarden.com/membership)

Paper forms are also available from the link above.

Thank you for your support!



Creekside Trail. Photo credit: Brendan Helmuth



Artists in Residence

Along with Odell Park, we are pleased to be a part of the City of Fredericton's Artists in Residence program again in 2021. Please drop by the Garden to meet the following artists this summer. Details on an end of summer exhibit will be available on our website and social media.



June 28-July 9 [Fibre Arts Network \(FAN\)](#)

July 12-23 [Somayeh Soltanizadeh](#)

July 26-August 6 [Kaitlin Hoyt](#)

August 9-20 [Laura Forrester](#)

August 23-September 3 [Eric Duivenvoorden](#)



Weaving by Tracey O'Brien, 2020 Artist in Residence

Erwin Landauer

By Steve Stehouwer

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of my firend and rock gardening mentor Mr. Erwin Landauer.

Erwin passed peacefully in his home in Plaster Rock on Saturday, April 10, 2021. Erwin was born on May 18, 1933 in the town of St. Johann, Austria near Salzburg. In 1953, Erwin immigrated to Canada as a single man looking for work in Western Canada. Much to our benefit he got a job in Plaster Rock working for a potato farmer, Mr. Briggs.



Erwin began with regular vegetable and flower gardening, but eventually went back to his Austrian roots and started rock gardening with alpine plants. He build the biggest rock garden in New Brunswick; it measured about 300 feet long by 100 feet deep. He had over 2500 different plants. It was through his association with the FBGA that I first met Erwin. It was he who got me interested and then infatuated with rock gardening.

Erwin was a generous friend of the FBGA donating his time, seeds and plants to our cause. He gave talks from Fredericton to Plaster Rock and loved to share his knowledge of garden and rock garden plants to all who were interested. He donated plants to our annual Plant Sale every year until he got too sick to do so. I remember one time going with a van to pick up his donations for the sale and he filled that van to the hilt all on his own (around 20 full trays of plants).

I will always remember his kind demeanour, humble expertise and generosity.

Rest in peace my friend.



New Additions to the Garden

We are very pleased to welcome Emily Estabrooks, Jay Chapman, and Connor Wilson to the Garden this summer.



Emily is a second year Biology student at UNB with specific interests in ecology and entomology. She has worked at Kent Building Supplies for the last three years as a Cashier, a Customer Service Representative and in the Garden Centre. Emily describes herself as having a passion for nature and gardening and is looking forward to spending the summer in the Botanic Garden learning new skills and talking with visitors about the garden. In addition to her interest in 'all things nature related', she is actively involved in music. She is a member of the Fredericton Symphony Orchestra, UNB Chorale and the Grace Memorial Church Handbell Choir.

Jay has a Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Thomas University with a major in history and a minor in communications and public policy. He is currently a third-year student at Memorial University studying biology with a focus on applied ecology and conservation. He has worked in the hospitality and health care fields and has experience as a Research Assistant with the Wildlife Evolutionary Ecology Lab at Memorial University. Jay explains that most of his previous experience with plants is primarily from working in his family vegetable garden and helping with haying, so he is looking forward to expanding his horticultural knowledge.

While Emily and Jay have already started through the SEED program, Connor will be joining us in June. Trained as an Architectural Technologist, at Algonquin College, he has worked for architecture and carpentry firms in Ontario, Alabama, and Nova Scotia. Changing career paths to conservation, Connor currently works as a Stewardship Technician position with the Nature Trust of New Brunswick. He will head up restoration of the Creekside Trail and maintenance of other natural areas within the Garden this summer.

Garden Explorers 1-3pm, July 8, 15, 22, 29

Children ages 3-12 and their caregivers can drop by the Discovery Shed (across from the greenhouses at 10 Cameron Court) Thursday afternoons July 8-29, 1-3pm for activities to learn more about plants, pollinators and the Garden. There will be activity handouts that children can take home or do in the Garden.



Garden Explorer inspecting the rocks in her Bee Bath



Volunteer Opportunities

Plant Sale

Help is needed with transplanting, watering, publicity and a myriad of other tasks. Please contact us if you are able to help.



Weeding Wednesdays

May 5 — September 29

6-8 p.m.

A weekly opportunity to garden with a group of fellow gardening enthusiasts. Weeding, planting and invasive species removal are among the many projects that happen Wednesday evenings, rain or shine. Wear long sleeves and bring your own gloves.



Azaleas, Resource Centre

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[#frederictonbotanicgarden](https://www.instagram.com/frederictonbotanicgarden)



The Fredericton Botanic Garden Association Newsletter is published by the Fredericton Botanic Garden Association, Inc. The FBGA is a registered charitable organization. The objectives of the FBGA are to guide the establishment of the Fredericton Botanic Garden and to foster an awareness and appreciation of plants. For information on membership and to become involved, please contact us:

fredbotanicgarden@gmail.com

(506) 452-9269

10 Cameron Court

Fredericton, NB E3B 2R9

frederictonbotanicgarden.com

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Resource Centre

Hours May-September

Monday 9-4

Wednesday 1-6

