

Gardening on the Rocks



November/December 2020



"An official end to the gardening season" submitted by Frankie Vitone. This after the unexpected, early snowfall at the end of October.

Season's Greetings

Feliz Navidad

Joyeux Noel

Frohe Weihnachten

Buon Natale

Hyvaa Joulua

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Sudbury
Horticultural
Society



Founded in 1911.

Dedicated to the beautification of the Greater Sudbury Region and the preservation of our environment.

WINTER TREE PROTECTION

According to our tree expert, Ron Lewis, to protect young trees, the most important thing is to put a white-coloured tree guard around the base.

To get onto Ron's Treemail list, or to get more important information about preparing your trees for winter, check out Ron's website (or the link below)



<https://www.lewishardyfruittrees.com/blogs/learning-resources/winter-tree-preparation>

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## 2020 - FOOD FOREST

In 2020 a FOOD FOREST was created near the Cenotaph and Community Gardens in Chelmsford. "In 2017 and 2018, volunteers led by Sudbury Shared Harvest planted an 8,000 square foot Edible Forest Garden called the Delki Dozzi Community Food Forest. In 2019, volunteers worked together to establish two more EFGs, one at Elm West Playground and the other at École Secondaire Hanmer, each about one-eighth as large as the EFG at Delki Dozzi." Learn more about these projects at <https://sudburysharedharvest.ca/>

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LIVING WITH SQUIRRELS

My sister and I recently prepared her cottage for the winter, which included cleaning out the tool shed. A week later, due to that unexpected warm weather, we took another drive out...to construct a 'pallet' gate.

I almost had a heart attack when Barbara let out a blood-curdling screech. She had not fallen off the ladder (she doesn't do ladders) and she is not afraid of snakes, so what was all the commotion about?

A mother squirrel had built (once again) a humungous nest in the tool shed. Aluminum garbage pail, basket of clothes pins, and

shelving were covered in hundreds of maple leaves. Such diligence to prepare a nest for her young – grab some leaves (with your teeth), climb the tree, jump to the 2"x 6" rafters, and enter, upside down into the shed (outside walls of shed are vinyl)

At this point, there were two solutions... Leave it alone or clean it out. We busied our brooms! I was then given the task of getting on the ladder to close the eaves and fascia to avoid a repeat performance.

Personally, I would have left the nest and cleaned it out in the spring. I love my squirrels – there antics amuse me, and they are part of my back yard. I often get sunflowers growing in unusual places! However, I no longer grow cherry tomatoes. I live by the old adage, 'If you can't beat them, join them'. Here's how:

1. Outwit them – plant tulips deeper, then cover bulbs with chicken wire so they cannot eat them. Also, plant daffodils or allium around the tulips.
2. Create Barriers – metal around bird feeders
3. Chicken poop, blood meal, and urine (?) are scents that keep them at bay (no wonder).
4. Provide water – that may keep them away from your plants.
5. Offer alternatives – plant oak, pine, hickory, berry bushes. That should keep them busy.

Love them or hate them...they are part of our ecosystem, just as long as they stay outside – not in your attic nor in Barbara's tool shed. ☺

Hermina

ACTIVITIES FOR MY COVID CHRISTMAS

Let's have some fun. Just because there is no Christmas Show, does not mean we cannot decorate for the season. We need some cheer (other than the wine :) Please share with our Facebook friends, photos (and comments if you like) of all the floral designs and festive features that you have created, this year or previous years! ...or send to Linda Hugli at lhugli@hotmail.com. Please include this hashtag in the text of your posts ... #shscovidchristmas ... This will allow the public to see the full collection in one location.

If you wish to join our Facebook group (optional), here is the link to copy and paste: www.facebook.com/groups/sudburyhorticulturalsociety Thank you, Linda, for keeping our Facebook group active.

SECTION A – Floral Designs

CLASS:

1. **“Admire from Afar”** – a wreath for a door
2. **“Memories of Last Year”** - wall or door décor, not a wreath, perhaps using an unusual container/hanger
3. **“A Candle and a Prayer”** – a design using candle(s)
4. **“Getting into the Spirit”** – a seasonally decorated planter or sleigh to brighten your entrance or the front of your home
5. **“A Complement to Dinner”** – a centrepiece for the dining table



NOTES: - Since this is not a competition, use whatever you have handy, and whatever makes you happy! The above classes are only **guidelines for inspiration.**

- Have fun! Take photos! Post on our Facebook group!
- Wreaths may be oval, square, etc...not necessarily round.

SECTION B - Festive Features

6. **Christmas Baking** – a plate of your favourite cookies, or Christmas cake, or traditional bread, etc. (perhaps a gingerbread house?)
7. **Arts & Crafts** (stitching, quilting, knitting, painting, etc...show us your talent!)
8. **Hand-made Greeting Card** (for that special person whose company you cannot share this Christmas :)



SECTION C – Youth Members (ages up to 15)

9. **“Decorating for the Season”** – Show us what special thing you do for the holidays.

(Photos are from the 2018 Christmas Show – our last year at the CNIB)



CANCELLATIONS

As the Parkside, Older Adult Centre will remain closed for some time, we are cancelling our SHS general meetings until further notice.

Also, Wayne is cancelling plans for a Gardening Festival in May because it appears that it will probably still be unsafe to hold such an event in the Spring.

If we hold a Spring Plant Sale, we will try to coordinate with the Farmers Market group to see if we can hold our sale as part of their event on a weekend in the Spring.

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### Year of the Garden - Gardens Canada

The Canadian Garden Council will collaborate with Canada's Garden Family to offer Canadians an engaging and exciting Year of the Garden 2022 program to celebrate our contemporary garden culture. Visit their website: [gardenscanada.ca](http://gardenscanada.ca)

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NEIGHBOURHOODS TOGETHER

Silly hats and hot chocolate (from the Coalition for a Liveable Sudbury)

Celebrate your neighbourhood and one another. It's easy – set a time, decorate a hat, put it on, and go outside with a cup of cocoa (or coffee) to enjoy some Covid-safe fun. Find more information at www.liveablesudbury.org/neighbourhoods_together

- Why does Santa have three gardens?
...so he can HO, HO, HO

- Why is there a turkey in the band?
...He has the drumsticks :)

- Why is that snowman rummaging in the bag of carrots? ...He is picking his nose, ha, ha, ha!

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