

# RICHMOND GARDEN CLUB

## Getting Ready for our plant sale

### Mark your calendars

**Vancouver Dahlia Society**

**Tuber Sale, April 2**, 10 am - 3:30 pm, Floral Hall, VanDusen Botanical Gardens

**David Suzuki Butterflyway**

**Rangers, April 6**, 7pm via Zoom. Lynda Pasacreta, first Butterflyway Ranger, presentation.

**BC Council of Garden Clubs**

**AGM, April 9**, 9 am - noon via Zoom. **Maria Valana**, guest speaker. **Getting to Know Your Soil**

**RGC Executive Meeting,**

**April 13**, 7 pm, via Zoom.

**Earth Week, Attracting Pollinators to Your Garden,**

Paulik Park, **April 16**, 10 am - 11 am, Lynda Pasacreta, presenter.

**Earth Week, Dividing to Create More for Your Garden,**

Paulik Park, **April 17**, 2 pm - 3 pm. Lynda Pasacreta, presenter

**Earth Week, Planting a Summer Container,** Paulik

Park, **April 23**, 10 am - 11 am. Jill Wright, presenter



## Plant sale preparations

Little over a month from now, we will be hosting our annual plant sale. This is a major fundraiser to help us bring in amazing speakers like Brian Minter and Linda Chalker-Scott to help us improve our 'green thumbs'.

We have quite a few new members. Our goal for the plant sale is to grow and sell our own plants. For those folks familiar with the plant sale, you should be well underway with potting up divided plants, propagated plants, tubers, bulbs and seedlings.

Remember that vegetable and herb seedlings are very

## Mark your calendars, cont'd

**Earth Week, Soil for a Healthy Garden**, Paulik Park, **April 24**, 2 pm - 3 pm. Jill Wright, presenter

**Earth Week, Gearing Up to Garden**, Hamilton Community Centre, 5140 Smith Drive, **April 22**, 6:30pm - 7:30pm. Lynda Pasacreta, presenter

**RGC Meeting, Dr Linda Chalker-Scott, University of Western Washington, April 27** pm, via Zoom. Native Trees, Shrubs, Perennials in Our Gardens.

**92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bradner Flower Show**, Bradner Hall, 5305 Bradner Road, Abbotsford, **April 8, 9 and 10**, 10 am - 5pm daily. Hundreds of varieties of daffodils will be on display. Many plants and shrubs will be on sale at wholesale pricing, as well as crafts from local artisans. Bradner Community Club will donate all proceeds from cut flower sales to Abbotsford Regional Hospital



popular at the sale. Tomatoes, beans, squashes, pumpkins, peppers and other edibles go like 'hotcakes'. Fruit trees, berry bushes are also another "hot" item.

Do not bring any invasive or aggressive plants to be sold at the sale. Those plants include **ivies, periwinkle, bachelor's buttons, mountain bluet, butterfly bush, english holly, scotch broom, St John's wort, lamium, yellow flag iris**. These plants can easily escape a garden and choke out native plants in the wild.

Plants like **alyssum** are so popular at our sale. They are great ground covers, hiding places for spiders and other beneficial insects and for attracting pollinators to veggie gardens! They are so easy to grow from seed also.

Our plant sale will be held in the parking lot of IKEA Richmond on May 7, 9:30am to 12:30pm, the day before Mother's Day. The community will be so happy we are back with this very popular sale.

More information will be available about bringing the plants to the sale on event day. We will also be asking for volunteers on that day to help out. Stay tuned!

## Plants to divide right now

We are very busy in Paulik Park dividing plants to create more plants for our garden beds. Here is a list of what you should be dividing and potting up right now:

- ✦ beautiful ferns
- ✦ irises
- ✦ pulmonaria
- ✦ forget-me-nots
- ✦ snowdrops, daffodils (once blooms die back)
- ✦ grasses
- ✦ hostas (once fully leaved out)
- ✦ brunnera
- ✦ astilbe
- ✦ rudbeckia





Ajuga



Autumn joy sedum



Lady's mantle



Catmint (nepeta)

For those new members who have not visited Paulik Park, we invite you to come over and visit us while we work in the 30+ perennial garden beds. These beds were created by Mrs Paulik in the 1930s when the Paulik family farmed the land. Mr. Paulik planted all the magnificent trees brought in from the North Shore and other locations.

We work Tuesday and Saturday mornings from 9:30am to 11:30am. Right now we are creating some new designs and dividing and moving plants to right locations. If anyone would like to join us, email us at [paulikpark@gmail.com](mailto:paulikpark@gmail.com). No experience necessary.



***YouTube video, Gary Lake, Dividing Perennial Shrubs and Plants***

Click on the video we created May 2020 in Paulik Park. Great information on easy ways to get more plants from your existing plants.

***Dr Linda Chalker-Scott, April speaker, April 27, 7pm***

Linda is a highly sought-after speaker. Her credentials and her engaging presentations keep her very active in educating gardeners throughout North America.

Linda is a professor in Washington State University's Department of Horticulture and is WSU's Extension Urban Horticulturist.

Linda will be speaking to us about Native Trees, Shrubs and Perennials in Your Garden.





## City of Richmond, 2022 Parks, Recreation and Community Events Grant

Richmond Garden Club applied for two grants this year. We recently heard back from the City of Richmond that we were awarded a grant of \$2,000.

Our grant proposal to the City outlined three key projects we are involved in that contribute to beautifying Richmond and to environmental and sustainable goals.

We plan on holding an open house in June this year to showcase our key projects – Paulik Park, rooftop garden at Richmond Cultural Centre and the dozen seasonal containers on the Steveston boardwalk for Steveston Harbour Authority.

We will be showcasing the work we are doing to beautify the City, attract pollinators, introduce native plants, raise fruit trees, shrubs, vegetables and herbs in small spaces.

Our plan includes having a garden expert at each location to answer gardening questions from the community.



Our next step will be to choose a date (or dates) to host our event. A report is expected back to the City on how the funds were spent.



Seasonal container on Steveston boardwalk

## I won a prize!

I was delighted to hear from Dwight Young that I had won a 40 pound pail of Grower's Delight Organic Supplement. For those that don't know, it is an organic supplement to be used in all kinds of applications.

We use it when planting seeds and seedlings (vegetable and flowers) in the rooftop garden. We use it when transplanting, moving, dividing, planting new plants in Paulik Park and in our own gardens.

Dwight Young and his partner have applied for OMRI Canada certification (Organic Materials Review Institute) for their product. They are on the last step with this organization.

I have been using it in my garden for the last few years. I am very pleased with the results.



### What is Growers Delight?

Our organic granular soil activator 4-2-2 blend is a coarse-grade granular humic acid and is enriched with calcium along with traces of copper, molybdenum, nickel, selenium, zinc and cobalt. All nutrients are in their naturally occurring form to provide continuous slow-release nutrition. This activator can be used as a fertilizer for organic production in soil/soilless medium for all plants. This blend is also an ideal blend for seedlings and as an additive for soilless mixes. All the ingredients are sourced here in Canada.

We would like to offer a promotion code: **activator15** on all three sizes we have available. Please note that the website is still under construction, you can still enter your promo code. [organicdirtsupplements.ca](https://organicdirtsupplements.ca). Any questions, feel free to call (604-780-5272) or mail anytime.

### The Benefits of Growers Delight Granular Soil Activator

- ✦ Increases microbial activity and organic matter.
- ✦ Improves soil structure + nutrient and water retention.
- ✦ Promotes strong root structure.
- ✦ Chemical-free, non toxic.
- ✦ Human and pet friendly.
- ✦ Helps control and prevents diseases in the soil, reducing toxicities.
- ✦ Helps with the development of seeds using the soil activator.
- ✦ Improves and balances the PH levels.
- ✦ Enhances urea performance.
- ✦ Stabilizes soil temperature.
- ✦ For **Chafer beetle problems**, please contact for more information.

### Final note

Remember to keep an eye on our website for upcoming events – <https://www.richmondgardenclub.com>

You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

We will be informing everyone about when we can get back to meeting in person. Very soon! Our meeting location is at the Richmond Cultural Centre, 7500 Minoru Gate.