

# NAGA Spring Newsletter

Put some spring in your step by planning your garden plot in advance!



M. McMillan

## Upcoming Events

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| April 6<br>1 p.m.       | NAGA Annual General Meeting and seed exchange at the Tanglewood Community Centre 30 Woodfield Dr. (just off Merivale) ALL members are welcome and encouraged to attend! Payment due date. |
| April 27<br>9 am - noon | Annual Spring Clean-up. Volunteers needed! Many hands make light work! (Rain date - April 28)   |
| May 15                  | Annual contracts begin  |
| May 18                  | Orientation session   |
| May 29                  | Orientation session   |
| June 8<br>1 p.m.        | Spring Social - Come one, come all! There will be music, a seedling exchange, a craft table, gardening workshops and more!  |
| Oct. 31                 | Last day to remove all stakes and non-organic material from annual plots  |

### Orientation session

We will be holding two Orientation sessions this spring: May 18th at 1 p.m. and May 29th at 6 p.m. During the sessions, we will be giving tours of the NAGA grounds, going over rules and guidelines, and answering your questions. Whether you are a new gardener or are looking for a refresher, please consider joining us! We will meet at the tool shed near the parking lot.

### Spring Social

The community garden is an ideal place for people in the community, young and old, to gather, chat, and get to know one another - building ties to make a strong and healthy community.

NAGA is happy to host our second annual Spring Social on Saturday June 8, 2019 at 1 p.m. We will gather under the tree at the back of the garden for music, games, crafts, and snacks. We will also have a seedling exchange table. Please join us to get to know your fellow NAGA gardeners!

<http://nepeanallotmentgarden.yolasite.com>, [nagagardens@gmail.com](mailto:nagagardens@gmail.com)

P.O. Box 65073 Merivale P.O., Ottawa ON K2G 5Y3

## A Year in Review

Dear Gardeners,

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to another year at the garden.

2018 was a great year! NAGA tried online registration for the first time ever in 2018 and about half of all registrations were processed online. We had a lovely time at our Spring get together and plant exchange in June. Throughout the summer and fall, gardeners donated almost 400 lbs of food to the Debra Dynes Family house.

Thank you to all of the gardeners who volunteered their time at cleanups, staking plots, maintenance, food bank donations, on the board of directors and doing other tasks. The garden is possible because of you!

I look forward to working together with all of you for an excellent 2019 season.

Amanda Lancaster,  
Chairperson



M. McMillan



P. Gleeson

### **Make our NAGA Garden Beautiful**

Let's all work together to make our garden look nice for our neighbours and ourselves. Please do your best to keep your plots tidy and weed-free.

### **Compost and Straw**

We are having free compost delivered from the City of Ottawa again this year. We are also having bales of straw delivered to the garden for \$8 each (\$8.25 if paying with plastic). Dates and times will be e-mailed and posted on the bulletin board at the garden.

### **Taking vacation?**

If you are going on vacation or have other problems that prevent you from working in your garden, please have somebody help you out during your absence. Also, please notify a Board member. This way, the 'weed patrol' will be aware why there may be a problem.

### **We've gone digital!**

By giving us your e-mail address, you can help us save money by reducing our printing and mailing costs. The more money we save, the lower our fees need to be to cover costs. Please send us your e-mail address today ([nagagardens@gmail.com](mailto:nagagardens@gmail.com))!

# The NAGA Board Needs Your Help

The Board of Directors (BOD) manages the garden. We organize registration, maintain the grounds and equipment, manage communications with members, and more.

We have two vacancies that need to be filled this year and we need your help. We are looking for a registrar (1 of 2) and a Vice Chair. The registrar will work with our returning registrar to manage the membership records for NAGA. Responsibilities of the registrar include:

- Sending renewal letters
- Processing renewals
- Keeping an up to date record of membership
- Keeping the waiting list up to date
- Attending a winter and fall board meeting and the AGM

The bulk of this job takes place in the late winter and spring, except adding people to the waiting list, which occurs all year round.

Responsibilities of Vice Chairperson:

- Assist the Chairperson in their responsibilities
- Fill in for a board member if they are unable to perform their duties
- Attend a winter and fall board meeting and the AGM



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## Help Wanted:

NAGA is also looking for someone to operate our push mower and whipper-snipper on a regular basis.

Contact us at [nagagardens@gmail.com](mailto:nagagardens@gmail.com) if you have any questions and/or if you'd like to volunteer.

## NAGA's 2018 Board of Directors

Chair: Amanda Lancaster  
Registrars: Brian Martin & Pam Gleeson  
Treasurer: Ruth Qi  
Maintenance Director: Dengyi Wang

Directors at Large:  
Vincenzo Comunale  
Jinhe Wu  
Cally Chornenky



## Food Bank at Debra Dynes House

Did you know that NAGA has been collecting food for the Debra Dynes house for the past several years?

Debra Dynes family house is a multiservice community resource that over 100 people access per day. If you'd like to learn more, visit their website: [debradynes.ncf.ca](http://debradynes.ncf.ca).

Please consider 'growing a row' to donate in this year's garden plot! Starting mid-season, there will be a spot in the shed to leave your donations. Bill and Elizabeth Nye will take the produce to the food bank on a weekly basis. Details about when collections will begin and what day(s) the produce will be collected will be announced via e-mail and/or posted on the bulletin board in the garden.

If you are able to help with the deliveries, please contact the board at [nagagardens@gmail.com](mailto:nagagardens@gmail.com) and we will put you in touch with the organizers.

Let's all step up and help those in need!

## Did you know?

Did you know that gardeners are responsible for bringing their own hoses? Please choose one that is long enough for your needs. If the hose is pulling on the faucet and putting stress on the pipes, you need a longer hose. Tip - to save on costs, you can purchase one together with your garden neighbours!

**Rocks and trash** damage the mower and cause a dangerous situation for the mower driver. For this reason, rocks must never be thrown outside of your garden plot into the surrounding grass! Please takes all trash home with you. Rocks can be taken home or placed at the fence line at the rear (south) of the garden.

## Ticks

Did you know that tick populations are on the rise in and around the city Ottawa? There were tick sightings in our neighbourhood last summer. Here are some steps you can take to protect yourself from ticks:

- When walking in brush, woods, or tall grass, wear light coloured clothing. Wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts and tuck your pants into your socks and your shirt into your pants. Put your clothing in the dryer for 20 minutes as soon as you get home. A shower after returning home will wash off any unattached ticks.
- Wear insect repellent containing 30% DEET or 20% icaridin. Remember to spray hats and footwear.
- Check your entire body after potential exposure - using a mirror or a partner for help. Don't forget to check all the nooks and crannies like behind the ears and in the arm pits.

For more information, consult:

[https://canlyme.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/NS\\_Lyme\\_Prevention.pdf](https://canlyme.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/NS_Lyme_Prevention.pdf)

**Have a great 2019 season!**