



# THE BRANDON GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor: Shannon  
Brichon

20 June 2012

## PRESIDENT DEANE'S MESSAGE

Gardens are blooming much earlier this year so we should get to enjoy them much longer.

On July 8th we will be having the Member's Garden Tour and BBQ; this is always a fun day. Our new members would enjoy this day as we visit several gardens and they are all different; you'll come away with ideas in plants and design.

Thanks to all the

members who contributed to another successful plant sale; this was Esther Bryan's first year as the coordinator and she did a wonderful job.

To-night Gwen will be taking names for the tour to the Peace Gardens in August .

Judy Olmstead will require volunteers for the Flower Show and Tea; she will have a list that you can sign.

We have a busy

summer planned and I hope to see lots of you participate.



*" God made rainy days so gardeners could get the housework done"  
~ Author Unknown*

## SUMMER BREAK UPON US

It's hard to believe, but here we are, about to break for summer. The past year of club activity has been informative and enjoyable. I think we owe our current executive and directors "well

done" for their leadership, initiative and energy - the club is a better place because of your tireless efforts on our behalf. Have a nice, safe summer and don't forget that our first meeting in

the fall will take place on Wednesday, 19 September.



## **THIS MONTH**

### Tonight's Meeting

Succulent container art— Gwen will share her knowledge on growing living pictures and planting a hypertufa.

Register and pay tonight for the members garden tour and BBQ and bus tour to Peace Gardens.



## **NEXT MONTH**

8 July - Members Garden Tour and Barbecue A social highlight is our members' tour and barbecue. Bring a bag lunch and a lawn chair. A bbq will be held after the tour. Cost is \$5.00 per person. A good event to bring a friend or spouse. Timings and details to come later.

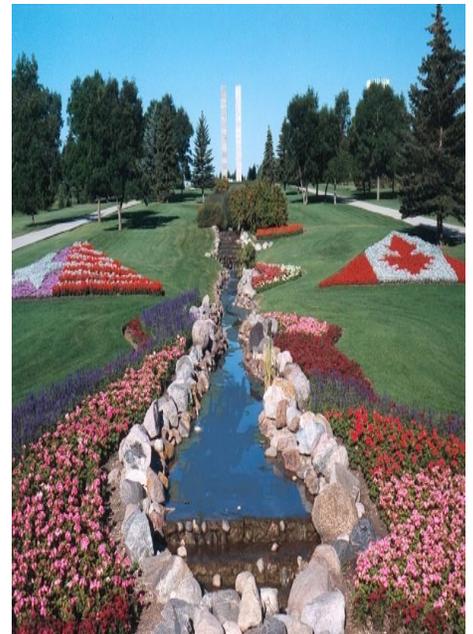
15 July - Brandon in Bloom Open Garden Tours This annual event is scheduled for 15 July . It's a great opportunity to see some of the finest gardens in Brandon. Closer to the date, keep your ears to the radio, your eyes on the Brandon Sun or you can check the City of Brandon website for details also.

28 July - Bus Tour International Peace Gardens This promises to be another great opportunity to view the conservatory and Anchorage Gardens. Pre-register and pre-pay by 20 June.



13 August - Flower and Vegetable Show and Tea Showing your flowers and vegetables at our annual show is a lot of fun. Try it and see. The "show book" is available from Bev Morrice. This book outlines the various categories of entry and is helpful in ensuring you get your flower or plant entered in the correct category.

19 September - What Was Hot and What Was Not with Perennials and Annuals 2012 (AND OUR ANNUAL PLANT SWAP) Our annual plant swap will be held that evening as well. Bring a plant and take a different one home. More fun than an auction.



## Should you hang things in trees using nails or screws?

By Art Drysdale

"Wondering if there is a problem nailing or screwing things (such as bird houses) to our trees? We have mostly maple trees on our property and don't want any of them to die.

When it comes to nailing or screwing things to trees we are always better to err on the side of what is best for the tree(s). However, if you think about trees in an arboretum, almost always they have labels attached to them—often a special type of attachment is used whereby the labels are held away from the tree bark by springs on the two screws. In addition, those institutions generally have a policy of going around and loosening the two screws on each tree label annually. That is the important part—the screws or nails should never be allowed to penetrate the tree completely so that they cannot be removed.

As I see it, by attaching bird houses to trees, you run the risk of the attachment screws or nails becoming imbedded so they cannot be removed, and that would be a negative. Also, as the tree grows, a closely attached birdhouse would begin to be forced into the bark of the tree causing a larger area of disturbance. These happenings are not going to kill the tree(s), but they are not the best policy.

The one way around this would be to use the botanical institutions' method of loosening the attachment screws annually, but the springs behind the birdhouse might cause it to be too movable which would not be liked by the birds.

So, I'll leave it to you; if you can devise a way to prohibit the attachment screws and the birdhouses themselves from damaging the tree, then by all means give it a try.

Read more: <http://www.icangarden.com/>



Rhubarb Slush      Marlene Capelle

3 cups rhubarb cut in 1" pieces

1 cup sugar

1 tablespoon lemon juice

2 cups water

Combine ingredients, cook and strain off juice. Put juice into container with 1/2 26 ounce rum. Freeze until slush and serve with crushed ice, ginger ale or 7UP.

**BRANDON  
GARDEN CLUB IS  
ON THE WEB-  
CHECK US OUT**

[http://  
www.thebrandongarde  
nclub.weebly.com](http://www.thebrandongardenclub.weebly.com)

**REMEDY FOR TICK REMOVAL**

A nurse discovered a safe, easy way to remove ticks where they automatically withdraw themselves when you follow her simple instructions.



**"Apply a glob of liquid soap to a cotton ball. Cover the tick with the soap-soaked cotton ball and swab it for a few seconds (15-20); the tick will come out on its own and be stuck to the cotton ball when you lift it away.**

**This technique has worked every time I've used it (and that was frequently), and it's much less traumatic for the patient and easier for me.."**

>

> **"Unless someone is allergic to soap, I can't see that this would be damaging in any way. I even had my doctor's wife call me for advice because she had one stuck to her back and she couldn't reach it with tweezers. She used this method and immediately called me back to say, "It worked!"**

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> **Please pass on. Everyone needs this helpful hint.**

**CLUB INFORMATION**

The Brandon Garden Club meets at 7PM on the third Wednesday of each month except July and August at the Seniors for Seniors Complex at 311 Park Avenue East, Brandon. New members always welcome. Annual membership is \$20 single / \$30 couple. Non-members are welcome to attend meetings to take ad-

vantage of the Club's horticulture program at a cost of \$5.00 per meeting. For more information on club affairs contact the club secretary, Nancy Lytle at 727-8912 or e-mail [thebrandongardenclub@mymts.net](mailto:thebrandongardenclub@mymts.net). The club newsletter is published free for members and is distributed

at monthly meetings. Contact the editor, Shannon Brichon at 727-3581 for e-mail or postal delivery. Members are urged to submit material or ideas for publication.