



"Niagara Rhodo"

Newsletter of the Niagara Chapter,
Rhododendron Society of Canada,
District 12, American Rhododendron Society
February 25, 2019



Our Purpose: We are a non-profit organization whose aim is to promote, encourage and support interest in the genus *rhododendron*. Our goal is to encourage gardeners to grow and appreciate these plants, by providing educational meetings with knowledgeable speakers, access to topical publications and hosting joint meetings with other chapters'

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Word of Caution

By becoming a successful grower, the reader will be exposed to a contagion for which there is no cure. Once infected with an appreciation of rhododendrons and azaleas most gardeners spend a lifetime collecting these most beautiful of all plants.

H. Edward Reiley



March 3, 2019 Plants? What, Where When



SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2019. 2 P.M.

Kevin Kavanagh: Plantsman, Landscaper, Botanist, Principal @ South Coast Garden Nursery, St. Williams ON, with Nick Yarmoshuk, Newsletter editor.

TOPIC: Discussion of this year's plant sale, new cultivars, old favourites and a collection of interesting perennials, trees and shrubs. We'll describe each cultivar's strengths, weaknesses, appropriate growing conditions and our own experiences with many of these varieties. A colour slideshow will accompany the discussion. Kevin will answer your questions.



Sunday, March 3, 2019 2 PM, Rittenhouse Hall at Vineland Innovation and Research Centre. QEW, Victoria Ave, exit, Vineland Station; North, toward the lake.



NEWS FLASH !

The Rhododendron Society of Canada, Niagara Region, is announcing its 2019 Annual Plant Sale of interesting and not-usually-available rhododendrons, azaleas and companion plants.

Plants will be sold only by pre-order, there will be NO on-site plant sale.

The sale is open to paid-up members of the Niagara Region Chapter. Membership is only \$5.00 per year. In addition to this plant sale, benefits include several email Newsletters per year, member garden tour, and occasional sales of unique plants. Membership will be available at the March 3 meeting or by mail as follows:

Cheque (\$5.00) payable to **ARS Niagara**

Please include your *e-mail address* and *mailing address* with your cheque.

Mail to: Lillie Haworth, 4 Deer Park Crt, Grimsby ON, L3M 2R2.

Personal Contact: Lillie Haworth at ljhaworth@sympatico.ca Telephone: [1 905-945-2433](tel:1905-945-2433)

Our meetings are held at 2:00pm, in Rittenhouse Hall, Vineland Research and Innovation Centre, Victoria Avenue/Vineland Station exit off QEW.

Dates to Remember

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| February 27, 2019 | The entire plant catalogue posted on the Chapter's Website http://www.rhodoniagara.org and Facebook page. Order forms available on the website. Orders will be received until April 7, 2019.

Some plants will be available in limited numbers, and will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. Orders are to include full payment and sent to Lillie Haworth at the address shown above or may be delivered at the meetings. |
| February 27, 2019 | Pre-Order begins. |
| March 3, 2019 | Niagara Chapter Meeting, 2:00 p.m. Agenda: Plants in the sale are discussed and described in detail with accompanying colour slideshow. All are welcome. Attendance is FREE at all our meetings |
| April 7, 2019 | Pre-ordering ends. April meeting: 2:00 p.m. Featured speaker: Rick Bauer, President, Azalea Society of America. |
| April 27, 2019 | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Plants available for pick up: Vineland Research & Innovation Centre, Equipment Shed. |

While the photo-catalogue of available plants will not be posted before February 27, the Pre-Order Form for the Plant Sale is provided here pages 6 and 7.

Please share this information with your friends and neighbours.

Working with, not against, extreme weather in your garden: An interview with Kevin Kavanagh.

By Mark Cullen Special to the Star Friday, February 8, 2019



The weather, it's a-changin'. And it's due to climate change — which is not news to almost anyone.

Kevin Kavanagh sees the opportunity to grow different plant species as an upside of climate change.

Our globe's long-term warming trend is reshaping how we garden, like it or not. While we do not like the overall trend, and support measures to curb this change, we also accept that there is a certain

level of warming which is at this point locked in.

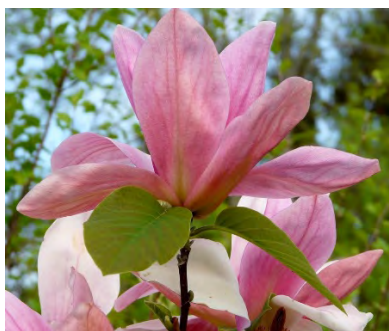


Plant a microsite of barriers, such as evergreens, for a west and north wind break to protect more tender greenery. (Dreamstime)

We are more likely to experience hot summer drought and extremely cold winter conditions that can kill plant species which would need time to adapt.

So what does a dominant warming trend with the occasional cold snap mean for gardeners? Kevin Kavanagh has spent a lot of time thinking about this. After a career as a conservation biologist with both [World Wildlife Fund Canada](#) and [Nature Conservancy of Canada](#), Kavanagh established his small nursery [South Coast Gardens](#) — near the shore of Lake Erie, in St. Williams, Ont. — in 2005.

“While the trend is warming, along with that we also get more extreme weather,” Kavanagh said. “We don’t escape the wild swings that have given us some of the coldest weather. But there are still some new opportunities for plant species.



Daybreak magnolias are a new variety that are proving their ability to survive in our changing growing zone. (Kevin Kavanagh)

A new growing zone for Toronto: The opportunities he refers to are those plants which we haven’t historically considered hardy, based on the old [U.S. Dept. of Agriculture growing zone maps](#). “There are published reports (showing) they are looking at how the zones are shifting,”

Kavanagh explains. “In the past 30 years, zones have shifted northwards about 150-200 kilometres. The new [Canadian system](#) is trying to match up with the USDA system, but for now you could try going a half-zone higher

than what you’ve tried in the past.”



That means Toronto — which has historically been a USDA zone 6a — is now a 6b.

Eastern Flowering Dogwood and Redbud are two examples of plants which, historically, were not widely planted in our part of the province — but are increasingly widespread. New magnolia varieties, such as Daybreak and the Yellow Butterflies variety, are also proving hardy. Sweet gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) is a beautiful and common forest tree in the southeastern U.S. that a lot of people have not yet tried but can thrive in Toronto’s “new

climate.” Toronto’s new “6b” growing zone now allows gardeners to grow the beautiful Karen azalea successfully. (Kevin Kavanagh)

Helping these marginal species adapt: Growing a tree or shrub outside of its traditional growing zone is never as easy as dropping it in a hole and forgetting about it. Start by selecting a local seed source. As Kavanagh puts it: “Shipping plants here from the Deep South is probably not going to work for us.” Sweet gum from seed sources as far north as Indiana have proven to do well in southern Ontario, as the genotypes are more locally adapted than the populations growing further south.

- Protect from wind and sun. In late autumn, place a screen of white fabric around plants without wrapping too tightly — a cheap set of white sheets will do. The white fabric deflects the winter sun, which can burn plants, while protecting against wind.
- Create a microsite by planting simple barriers, such as evergreens to the west and north of your home. Fencing also works to create a protected area on the east side for planting tender varieties.
- Mulch and water evergreens deeply in the fall. The freeze-thaw cycle can be particularly damaging with warm spells followed by cold snaps, something which is increasingly common. White plastic tree guards can prevent bark split or sunscald during early spring warm spells.

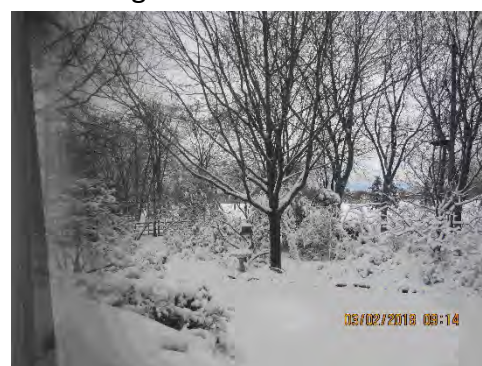
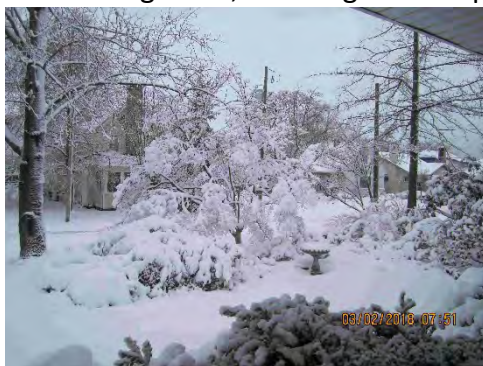
Experiment and take risks. Trying new things is half the fun of gardening. Nobody knows exactly what the new climate holds, and as Kavanagh puts it “plants can always surprise us”.



Consider a Styrofoam cooler to cover plants and help them survive severe winter temperatures. This form of protection should always be white covers reflect sunlight and help reduce the heat build up inside the container. Ventilation holes must also be provided. In this photo, the ventilation holes are obscured by the presence of the stones. . . . which are there to help keep the light weight pot in place during strong winds.(Kevin Kavanagh)

Editor’s Note:

An early heavy snowfall that remains in the garden, covering soil and plants throughout the coldest



part of winter, is probably the best winter protection that Mother Nature offers, free of charge, to both the roots and foliage of small evergreens. Deep snow makes it possible to grow deciduous Exbury azaleas in Ontario’s Muskoka region as well as at the Reford Gardens near Rimouski Quebec, provided one is happy with maximum azalea plant heights of about 3 to 4 feet. Also, during a dry fall season it is critically important to water your shrubs, to send them well hydrated into winter.

Special Note:

Plant Availability, Pre-Order Form & Photo Catalogue

Readers will notice that there are fewer plants listed in the Azalea-Rhododendron section of the pre-order form on Page 6 than are depicted in the Plant Catalogue photographs.

This discrepancy is due to the fact that our most rare plants, those not usually available from local commercial sources are very limited in quantity. They are available, at this time, only as 1 plant or 2 plants.

To offer them, in an on-line sale, would be grossly unfair to many members likely to be interested in the rare plants.

Those available only quantities of 1 or 2 will be offered in a series of silent auctions; at the meeting on April 7, at the Garden tour planned for late May and on other occasions, during periods when planting them in gardens will be possible.

The others, are listed in the Pre-Order form. Yet, even these may be available in limited quantities.

The plant catalogue photographs include all plants available in this year's inventory; those offered in the pre-order sale and those to be offered in the Silent Auction.

A list of plants to be available in the Silent Auction will be presented in the March 2019 Newsletter.



Promises Made The Vineland Azaleas



Last year, at about this time, we stated that four Vineland Azaleas were prizes to be raffled at the current meeting. but that delivery would occur when they were ready to be planted in the spring. That promise was repeated a month later. As it turned out, the plants were not quite ready, in the opinion of our knowledge folk, to be released for planting in the garden. We assured members that the plants would be delivered in the following spring.

I have now been reliably informed that we will have 8 of those azaleas available to be distributed to the winners on April 27, 2019, at the VR&IC's Implement shed. Nick has the list of winners, which will be posted at the April 7, Meeting.



Niagara Region Chapter - Rhododendron Society of Canada

2019 Pre-Order Form Page 1 of 2

Variety	SIZE	PRICE	QTY	COST
AZALEAS				
'Elsie Lee' (Ever)	2 Gal	\$30	SOLD OUT	
'Girard's Fuschia' (Ever)	2 Gal	\$30		
'Karen' (Ever)	2 Gal	\$30		
Adriatic (HS)	2 Gal	\$17		
Afternoon Delight (HS)	2 Gal	\$17		
Amaretto (HS)	2 Gal	\$17		
ARNESON GEM (Dec)	3 Gal	\$29		
Blue Ice (HS)	2 Gal	\$17		
Brocade Pillow (HS)	2 Gal	\$17		
Cotton Candy (HS)	2 Gal	\$17		
Curtain Call (HS)	2 Gal	\$17		
Helen Curtis (Ever)	1 Gal	\$20		
Martha Hitchcock (Eve)	1 Gal	\$25		
RED DEMON (Dec)	2 Gal	\$26		
Stewartstonian' (Ever)	2 Gal	\$30		
yedoense POUKHANENSE (Ever)	2 Gal	\$25		
Total Azaleas				

HS = Holly Spring Azalea
Dec = Deciduous Azalea
Ever = Evergreen Azalea

Variety	SIZE	PRICE	QTY	COST
RHODODENDRONS				
AGLO (Lepidote)	3 Gal 30 cm	\$39		
Angel Powder (Lepidote)	1 Gal	\$20	SOLD OUT	
CAT. ALBUM (Elepidote)	2 Gal	\$27		
CORNELL PINK (Lepidote)	2 Gal	\$27		
DANDY MAN PINK (EI)	2 Gal	\$29		
FLORENCE PARKS (EI)	2 Gal	\$27		
HAAGA (Univ. of Hel) (EI)	2 Gal	\$27		
HELSINKI UNIVERSITY (Elepidote)	2 Gal	\$27		
Ilam Violet (aka Mood Indigo) (Lep)	1 Gal	\$20	SOLD OUT	
KALINKA (Elepidote)	2 Gal	\$27		
LANDMARK (Lepidote)	2 Gal	\$27		
Maximum roseum (EI)	2 Gal	\$29		
Maximum x aureum (EI)	2 Gal	\$29		
OLGA MEZITT (Lepidote)	2 Gal	\$27		
PATTY BEE (Lepidote)	2 Gal	\$27		
Pearce's American Beauty (Elepidote)	3 Gal	\$39		
PJM ELITE (Lepidote)	3 Gal 30cm	\$32	SOLD OUT	
Purple Passion (Elepidote)	2 Gal	\$27		
Total Rhododendron				

Total from Page 1 _____ + Total from Page 2 _____ = Cheque Amount \$ _____

Please make Cheque Payable to: **ARS Niagara** and mail cheque & pre-order form to:
Lillie Haworth, 4 Deer Park Crt, Grimsby ON L3M 2R2

Deadline Date for submitting orders: April 7, 2019

Name: _____ Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

2019 Pre-Order Form Page 2 of 2

PERENNIALS	SIZE	PRICE	QTY	COST
Buddleia x. PUGSTER AMETHYST (P.	2 Gal	\$17		
Helleborus RIO CARNIVAL	1 Gal	\$17		
Helleborus TRUE LOVE (Honeymoon)	1 Gal	\$17		
Helleborus x. ICE N' ROSES RED	1 Gal	\$20		
Iris ensata EILEEN'S DREAM	1 Gal	\$12		
Iris ensata HARLEQUINESQUE	1 Gal	\$12		
Lobelia cardinalis	1 Gal	\$12		
Phlox EARLY CERISE	1 Gal	\$9		
Phlox subulata EMERALD BLUE	1 Gal	\$9		
Phlox subulata EMERALD PINK	1 Gal	\$9		
Podophylum Spotty Dotty	4 inch	\$32		
Fern Adiantum venustum (Himalaya	1 Gal	\$11		
TREES and OTHER SHRUBS	SIZE	PRICE	QTY	COST
Abies koreana 'Silberlocke' Size:	60 cm	\$178		
Abies koreana 'Silver Star'	3 Gal	\$144		
Acer pensylvanicum	2 Gal	\$21		
Betula pumila	1 Gal	\$17		
Cedrus libani var. stenochoma Size: Grown in Root Maker Bags	100 cms	\$127		
Clethra acuminata	1 Gal	\$17		
Clethra alnifolia VANILLA SPICE	2 Gal	\$22		
Daphne ETERNAL FRAGRANCE	2 Gal	\$33		
Hydrangea a. INVINCIBELLE RUBY	2 Gal	\$29		
Hydrangea serrata TUFF STUFF Ah ha	3 Gal	\$26		
Pieris japonica KATSURA	2 Gal	\$27		
Pieris japonica VALLEY ROSE	3 Gal	\$33		
Pinus strobus 'Blue Shag'	3 Gal	\$98		
Taxodium distichum Size: 5 or 7 gal	125 cm	\$78		
Thujopsis dolabrata 'Nana' Size: 3 Gal 30 cm	30 cm	\$49		
Vaccinium angustifolium	2 gal	\$16		
Vaccinium corymbosum SWEETHEART	2 Gal	\$16		
Vaccinium vitis-idaea KORALLE	1 Gal	\$12		
Veronicastrum virginicum	1 Gal	\$9		

Total Page 2 \$ _____

Name: _____

Please print NAME again here



Elsie Lee (EG)



Girard's Fuschia (EG)



Karen (EG)



Adriatic (HS)



Afternoon Delight (HS)



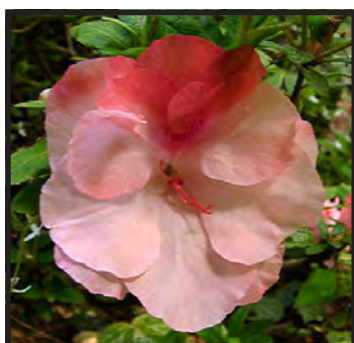
Amaretto (HS)



Arneson Gem (Dec)



Blue Ice (HS)



Brocade Pillow (HS)



Cotton Candy (HS)



Curtain Call (HS)



Martha Hitchcock



Red Demon (Dec)



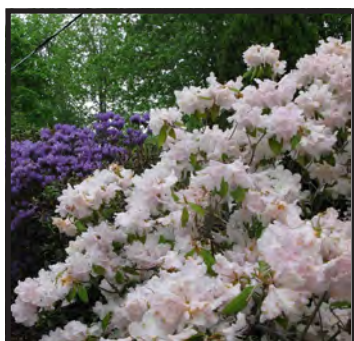
Stewartsonian (EG)



Yedoense Poukhanense(EG)



Aglo



Angel Powder (Lep)



Brown Eyes (Ele)



Brown Eyes (Ele)



Calsap (Ele)



Catawbiense (Album)



Cornell Pink (Lep)



Dandy Man Pink (Ele)



Florence Parks (Ele)



Front House Yellow (Ele)



Golden Horseshoe (Ele)



Golfer Flower (Ele)



Gold Golfer Full Plant



Golfer Tomentum



Haaga (Ele)



Helsinki University



Ilam Violet



Ilam Violet (Van Deusen)



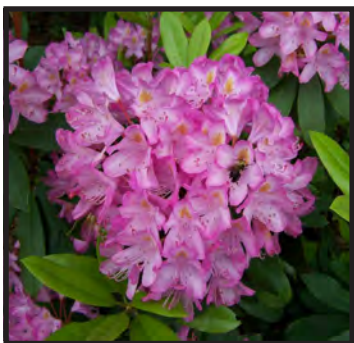
Mood Indigo



Kalinka



Landmark



Maximum Roseum



Maximum x Aureum



Maximum White



Olqa Mezitt



Patty Bee (Lep)



Pearce's American Beauty



PJM Elite (Finland)



PJM Elite (Estonia)



Purple Passion (Ele)



Purple Passion



Wyandanch Pink



Helen Curtis

PERENNIALS
→



H. Rio Carnival



H. True Love



H. Ice N' Roses



I.E. Eileen's Dream



I.E. Harlequinesque



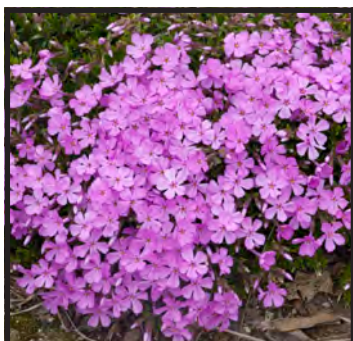
Lobelia Cardinalis



Phlox Early Cerise



Phlox sub. Emerald Blue



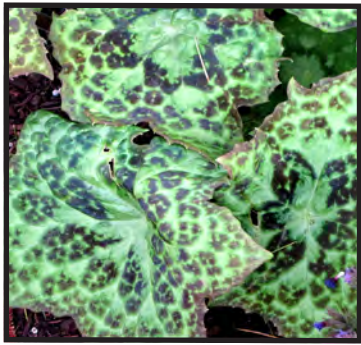
Phlox sub. Emerald Pink



Veronicastrum virginicum



Adiantum venustum



← PERENNIAL
TREES & SHRUBS →



Podophyllum Spotty Dotty

Abies koreana 'Silbelocke'

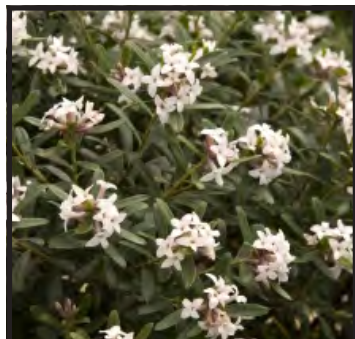


Abies koreana 'Silver Star'

Betula Pumila

Buddleia Pugster Amethyst

Clethra Acuminata



Clethra al. Vanilla Spice

Daphne Eternal Fragrance

Hyd. Invincibelle Ruby

Hyd. Tuff Stuff Ah-Ha



Pieris Japonica Katsura

Pieris Jap. Valley Rose

Pinus strobus 'Blue Shag'

Thujopsis dolobrata 'Nana'



Vaccinium angustifolium

Vac. vitis-idaea Koralle