

THE GREEN THUMB

Medicine Hat & District
Horticultural Society
Box 1134
Medicine Hat, AB T1A 7H3
www.medhathort.ca



March 2025

WE ARE MOVING!

New Location:

**All Saints Anglican Church
606—12th Street SW
(just off Bullivant Crescent SW)**



...and a New Meeting Date:

Monday, March 24, 2025

Meeting date will now be the **fourth Monday** of the month. **Start time remains at 7:30 pm.**

Regular monthly meetings will now be held on the **fourth Monday of each month (no meetings July & August)**

at

All Saints Anglican Church

at 7:30 p.m.

606—12th Street SW



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Monday, March 24—General Meeting
 All Saints Anglican Church
 7:30 pm
 Speaker: Dr. Yamily Zavala
 CARA Soil Health Lab (Oyen)

Saturday, April 26—Plant Swap
 Medicine Hat Public Library
 2:00 pm—4:00 pm

Monday, April 28—General Meeting
 All Saints Anglican Church
 7:30 pm
 Speaker: To be announced

Saturday, May 17—Farmers’ Market
 Cypress Centre Fieldhouse
 9:00 am—1:00 pm

Saturday, May 24—Plant Sale
 Ewart Duggan House
 10:00 am—3:00 pm
 (or sell-out)

Monday, May 26—General Meeting
 All Saints Anglican Church
 7:30 pm
 Speaker: To be announced

Monday, June 23—Annual BBQ
 Redcliff Lions’ Park
 6:00 pm

Saturday, July 5—Farmers’ Market
 Cypress Centre Fieldhouse
 9:00 am—11:00 pm

Sunday, July 13—
 Annual Garden Tour
 Noon to 5:00 pm

~ Our 2025 Executive ~

Marilyn Kusler—President	403 529 0068
Dale Kerr—Vice-President	587 554 0224
Genevieve Mathieu—Secretary	403 878 2578
Bonnie Doucette—Treasurer	403 504 9804
Lindy Doyle—Past President	403 548 6547
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Brenda Kingston	403 979 2344
Jenn Cederstrand	587 289 0289
Denise Burgess-Schwartz	403 979 1848
Shelley Nykolaishen	403 502 9589
Nadine Brooks	403 548 1564

Newsletter Editor

Mel Deydey—403 581 3348

*Thank you to the
following
members
who will be
providing the snack
at the*

March 2025
General Meeting:

Nadine Brooks
Robyne Rosenberger



Flower of the Year

Just a reminder that the beautiful **Begonia** is the Flower of the Year for 2025—any variety and any colour!

ABOUT: The 'Green Thumb' is published each month by the Medicine Hat & District Horticultural Society. Any recipes, articles, anecdotes, photos, reminders, important dates to remember or other submissions are all welcome! Please contact the newsletter editor with your suggestions.

Mel Deydey —email to:
medhathort@gmail.com

MISSION: The Medicine Hat and District Horticultural Association is dedicated to the promotion of all horticultural interest in and around the City of Medicine Hat, and to the education of the people of the area by featuring qualified speakers on a wide range of horticultural topics.

REGULAR GENERAL MEETINGS: are held on the fourth Monday of each month, at All Saints Anglican Church: 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise announced.

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS: are held on the third Monday of the month. The location is All Saints Anglican Church (or another location to be announced). Please contact any one of the Executive members listed at the top of this page for more information.



Soil Health Introduction

THE PRESENTATION...

Soil Health Introduction: What Do We Need to Know to Start Healing Our Soil

Healthy soil is the foundation of healthy plants, and healthy plants produce nutritious food to keep us well. Join me for an engaging talk on soil health, where we'll explore its essentials—what it is, how to sample it, key indicators, and common constraints affecting productivity.

We'll also dive into the vital role of soil biology, including an introduction to Alberta's fascinating soil creatures. Whether you're a gardener, farmer, or land steward, you'll gain practical insights and useful tips to better understand and improve your soil. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to restore and maintain healthy, living soils!



THE PRESENTER...

Dr. Yamily Zavala, Soil Health Lab Manager and Soil Health and Crop Management Specialist at Chinook Applied Research Association (CARA) Dr. Yamily Zavala led development of the CARA Soil Health Lab which opened in 2018. Under her management, the Soil Health Lab focuses on assessment of physical and biological soil properties and allows producers the opportunity for hands-on evaluation of their soils. She has been part of the CARA staff for 12 years and oversees applied researches on management alternative for soil health in addition to processing soils and managing the CARASHLab. Prior to joining the CARA staff, Yamily worked with producers in several countries restoring soil fertility and improving cropping systems. Her international experience is supported by an education focused on agriculture and soils. She

obtained an Agricultural Engineering degree at a university located in the Andes Mountains of Venezuela. She attended Missouri University achieving a Masters in Agronomy (with minor in Soil Science) and earned a PhD in Soil and Plant Nutrition from Cornell University.



...with Dr. Yamily Zavala



THE 2025 BUDGET

The Medicine Hat & District Horticultural Assoc. Budget for 2025 calendar year will be presented at the March general meeting and will be voted upon by the members in attendance at that meeting.

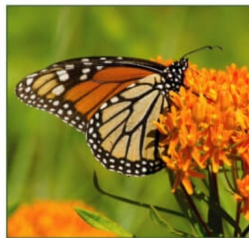


SATURDAY, MAY 24

**in the backyard of
THE EWART DUGGAN
HOUSE**

10:00 AM TO SELL-OUT

GARDEN TOUR



2025 Medicine Hat Annual Garden Tour

The date has been set!

Sunday, July 13, 2025

More details to follow!



Do you go to the Farmer's Market on Saturday mornings? Would you be willing to volunteer and help out by sitting at the our Horticultural Association table on Saturday, July 5? The market runs from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm—either for a two hour shift (9-11 or 11-1)—two people per shift OR for a four hour shift we would require only two volunteers. Contact Shelley Nykolaishen at (403) 502-9589 if you can help.



to **Jason Fuerst** with the City of Medicine Hat for the very detailed and informative presentation about **Sure Grow Compost—Class 2 Windrow Compost Operations** and for answering questions from the members in attendance.





We extend our deepest sympathies to two of our long time members and their families who have experienced the passing of a loved one recently. Shannon Yeast and Shawna Phaff both lost loved ones in their immediate families. Treasure all the beautiful memories you have made over the years. You and your families are in our thoughts and prayers.

Treasurer Report



Treasurer's Report
by Bonnie Doucette (Treasurer)

Current balance:

\$ 2074.23

As of February 10, 2025

2025 MEMBERSHIP PERKS

Where does your Horticultural Association membership card get you discounts?

Blondie's Gift & Garden Centre (10%)

Bow Island Greenhouses (10%)

Windmill Garden Centre (10%)

Spruce It Up Garden Centre Calgary (15%)

Green Haven Garden Centre Lethbridge (10%)

3 Little Birds Tree Care Redcliff (10%)

Country Blooms Lethbridge (10%)

Rivendell Tree Farm Ltd. Echo Dale (10%)

Suntaira Growers Redcliff (5%)

*You must show **your current 2025** membership card to receive the discount.*

Some restrictions apply.

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