
Oshawa Valley
Botanical Gardens

21st Annual Oshawa

Peony Festival

June 7 & 8, 2025





oshawa.ca/Peony

Cover photo by Nick Maycher

Top 100
Festivals &
Events Ontario
for the 13th year
in a row!

Land Acknowledgment: The City of Oshawa is situated on lands and waters within the Williams Treaties Territory, home to seven First Nation communities of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Anishinaabeg, who have cared for and maintained these lands from the time immemorial and continue to do so to present day.

Welcome

Letter From The Mayor



In 2025, the City of Oshawa proudly continues its tradition of celebrating the beloved Peony Festival, building on the excitement of past years and welcoming new experiences for all visitors. Recognized once again by Festivals and Events Ontario as one of the province's Top 100 Festivals, this year's Festival promises to enchant attendees with its breathtaking floral displays, engaging activities, and strong community spirit.

Held at the stunning Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens (O.V.B.G.), the festival showcases over 300 varieties of peonies, meticulously cared for by the City's Horticulture staff. Stroll through the picturesque gardens while enjoying an expanded lineup of local artists, vendors, and interactive experiences that bring the festival to life.

In 2025, the festival continues to evolve and grow, offering new live performances, educational demonstrations, delicious food vendors, and fun-filled children's activities. The cut flower show inside Children's Arena, presented by

the Canadian Peony Society, remains a highlight, displaying hundreds of exquisitely curated blooms.

For those eager to explore Oshawa beyond the Festival grounds, complimentary shuttle services will once again provide access to Parkwood National Historic Site and the Robert McLaughlin Gallery—two of the City's cultural landmarks.

Whether you're a returning guest or visiting for the first time, we invite you to immerse yourself in the beauty, vibrancy, and welcoming atmosphere of the 2025 Peony Festival. Thank you for being a part of this cherished tradition, and we look forward to celebrating with you again next year!

Warmest regards,

Mayor Dan Carter

Our History

The Michael & Judi Denny Peony Garden

The history of the Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens peony collection and peony garden.



The Peony Garden at the Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens was named "The Michael and Judi Denny Peony Garden" on June 10, 2014, to commemorate the contributions made by the late Michael Denny and his wife Judi toward the establishment of the Peony Garden and the Peony Festival.

The current Peony Garden is based on the Walter Gilbert collection which Michael and Judi relocated and cared for until a permanent home could be found. They donated their own plants and in coordination with the Gilbert Collection created the City of Oshawa Peony Garden.

The first garden that officially opened at the Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens was the Peony Garden. It was established in 2001 with 100 peonies donated by

the Canadian Peony Society. The peony collection now numbers over 300 varieties.

The Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens also includes a collection of lilacs, hostas, a water feature garden, a commemorative gazebo and paths linked by a pedestrian footbridge. In 2017, a beautiful collection of daylilies was planted on the east side of the creek. Cross the bridge to take a look at this garden.

Public Art Sculpture:

These steel mushroom sculptures were donated by St. Stephen's Catholic Secondary School, Bowmanville, to the City of Oshawa. Between 2014 and 2015, the students of the Manufacturing class designed and fabricated the sculptures. The school has also donated sculptures to locations such as The Toronto Zoo, Harris Steel

(Windsor), Gerdau Steel, Whitby, and the Town of Essex.

Learn more at:
oshawa.ca/PublicArtworks



Mushrooms by St. Stephen's Catholic Secondary School
Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens
Collection: City of Oshawa

21st Anniversary

Peony of the Year

The peony chosen as the image for this year's Festival is Soft Salmon Saucer. It is a Canadian hybrid and was chosen by popular vote as the Canadian Peony Society's "Peony of the Year" for 2025.



An elegant and refined flower, its name describes it perfectly – a soft salmon colour, shading to a deeper tone at the base of the petals, in the shape of a saucer. It is a single, with a bright gold stamen centre. The flower is slightly fragrant, the plant stands about 32" tall and blooms mid-season. Its self-supporting growth habit means it does not require staking and unlike most singles, it will last when cut and displayed in a vase.

The flower was bred by Lyman Cousins, a lithographer and photographer from London, Ontario. He is one of the most notable Canadian hybridizers of peonies. It is believed that Cousins grew the plant in 1968, but it was not registered and introduced for sale until 1981 by nurseryman Roy G. Klehm of Wisconsin.

This Canadian bred treasure is not currently in the garden at the Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens but is scheduled to be planted in the fall of 2025.



Event Program

Note: The Judged Peony Flower Show in the arena will open on Saturday at 11 a.m. after judging is completed.

In The Arena

Canadian Peony Society
Judged Show

Saturday and Sunday
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Come see the grand champion of the peony flower show and the collection of beautiful entries.

Peony advice and sales of peony floral arrangements, while supplies last.

Art Competition

Sponsored by
Renewal by Andersen

Vote for your favourite interpretation of a peony!

New this year, we have added a Young Artist category – don't forget to vote for your favourite pieces!

Vandermeer Nursery
Display & Sales

Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Vandermeer Nursery has helped transform Children's Arena and our stage into a garden oasis. See what products they have for sale outside in the garden.

Washrooms

Washrooms are located inside Children's Arena as well as in the garden on the west side of the creek near the bridge.

Meet and Greet
with Poppy
from Trolls
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Visit the free
event photo booth
in the arena to
capture your day!!



Above and left photo by:
Oh Canada Photography



On Stage

Stage Entertainment Saturday June 7

Light Jazz Music
10 a.m.

Andy Earle and the Bandits
10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

Opening Ceremonies 11:30 a.m.

Andy Earle and the Bandits
12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Oshawa Camera Club Demo
1:30 p.m. and 2:15 p.m.

The musical stylings
of Sam Ninan
2:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Andy Earle and the Bandits
3:15 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Stage Entertainment Sunday June 8

Light Jazz Music
10 a.m.

Swing Street Band
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Light Jazz Music
11:30 a.m. to 11:45 p.m.

Oshawa Camera Club Demo
11:45 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Swing Street Band
12:45 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

The musical stylings
of Sam Ninan
2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Light Jazz Music
2:45 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Swing Street Band
3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

In the Gardens

Community Displays and Sponsors

Canadian Peony Society
OSCC55+

Oshawa Garden Club

Oshawa Art Association

Oshawa Youth Council

Renewal by Andersen

Freedom Mobile

Pickering Museum Village

CUPE 251 – City of Oshawa
Inside Workers

Oshawa Public Libraries

Oshawa Camera Club

Vandermeer Nursery

Oshawa Tourism

Service Oshawa

City of Oshawa Planning
Services

Oshawa Fire Services

Durham Master Gardeners

Displays and Sponsors are
located throughout the park.

Artisans, Merchandise & Food

Garden inspired works
by painters, sculptors and
artists.

Interactive Activities

Meet and Greet with Poppy from
DreamWorks Trolls movie

Oshawa Art Association

LivingRoom Community
Art Studio

Paint a Bus with Durhamways

Planting with Oshawa
Youth Council

Bugs and Beetles

Tree Talk and Tours

For more information see
pages 6 and 7.



Artisans, Merchandise and Food

Available Saturday and Sunday
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Above photo by:
Oh Canada Photography

Artisans & Merchandise

- 3dforge.shop
- Abhinanda Art
- Bebo Bars
- Canadian Peony Society
(Inside arena)
- Couture Candlelight
- Creative Wood Products
- Designs by Diane
- Diane Maxwell Artist
- Eliza Perry Jewelry
- Glitter Designs Studio
- Grey & Co.
- Handcrafted JMS
- Handmade Simplify
- Julieta's Art Corner
- Just Some Local Artists
- Kat's Kreations
- Kopi Thyme
- KS Creations
- KvH Fashions
- Newfound Flavours
- Olivia Leigh Designs
- Pacific Fine Jewelry
- PaPaw's Bakery
- Phoenix Soap Company
- Pink Squirrel
- Rotary Club of Oshawa
Parkwood
- Shop by 'Bree Beauty
- The Mad Mudder Studio
- The Whimsical Crispie Co.
- Urb and Body
- Uxbridge Soap Manufacturing
Corp.
- Wall Naturals
- Wool 4 Ewe
- Encaustic Creations
- Wool and Silk Inspirations

Street Food Hub

- Coal Pot Jerk
 - Coffee Brake
 - Cupcake Goodness
 - Tiny Tom Donuts
 - Lowlands Fire Food
 - Mama's Ginger Juice
 - Masala Box Food Truck
 - Smoke's Poutinerie
 - Strudel Ladies
 - Sunny Hotdog
 - The Ice Cream Man
 - Yummilicious Kettle Corn
- Subject to change.

More to See

Free Shuttle Bus

Free shuttle service between destinations in Oshawa on the weekend of the Peony Festival courtesy of Oshawa Senior Community Centres OSCC+55.



Shuttle Service

Shuttle service to nearby attractions and parking lots runs every 20 minutes on both Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The last pick-up at Parkwood Estates is at 4 p.m. sharp.

Shuttle Service will stop at:

- Peony Festival
- Parkwood Estates
270 Simcoe St. N.
- The Robert McLaughlin Gallery
72 Queen St.
- Arts Resource Centre
45 Queen St. (parking)
- Parkade 2
(north west corner of Bond St. W. and McMillan Dr.)

Parking

Parking at 155 Arena St. is for those holding a Ministry of Transportation issued Accessible Parking Permit. It must be prominently displayed so our attendants can provide access to the lot.

There is off-site free parking at:

- City Hall parking lot:
45 Queen St.
- Parkade 2: 117 Bond St.
- On-street parking where permitted by law
- Grass lot east of Arena St. and west of Kaiser Cres. on the north side of Adelaide Ave. W.

No Parking/Local Traffic Only

The following roads will be for local traffic only with no parking during the festival:

- Gladstone Ave. from Bond St. to Arena St.
- Elgin St. from Park Rd. to Arena St.
- Colborne St. W. from Park Rd. N. to Arena St.
- Warren Ave. from Bond St. to Elgin St. W.
- Punshon Ave. from Gladstone Ave. to Park Rd. N.



Shuttle Pick Up / Drop Off



Accessible Parking Only



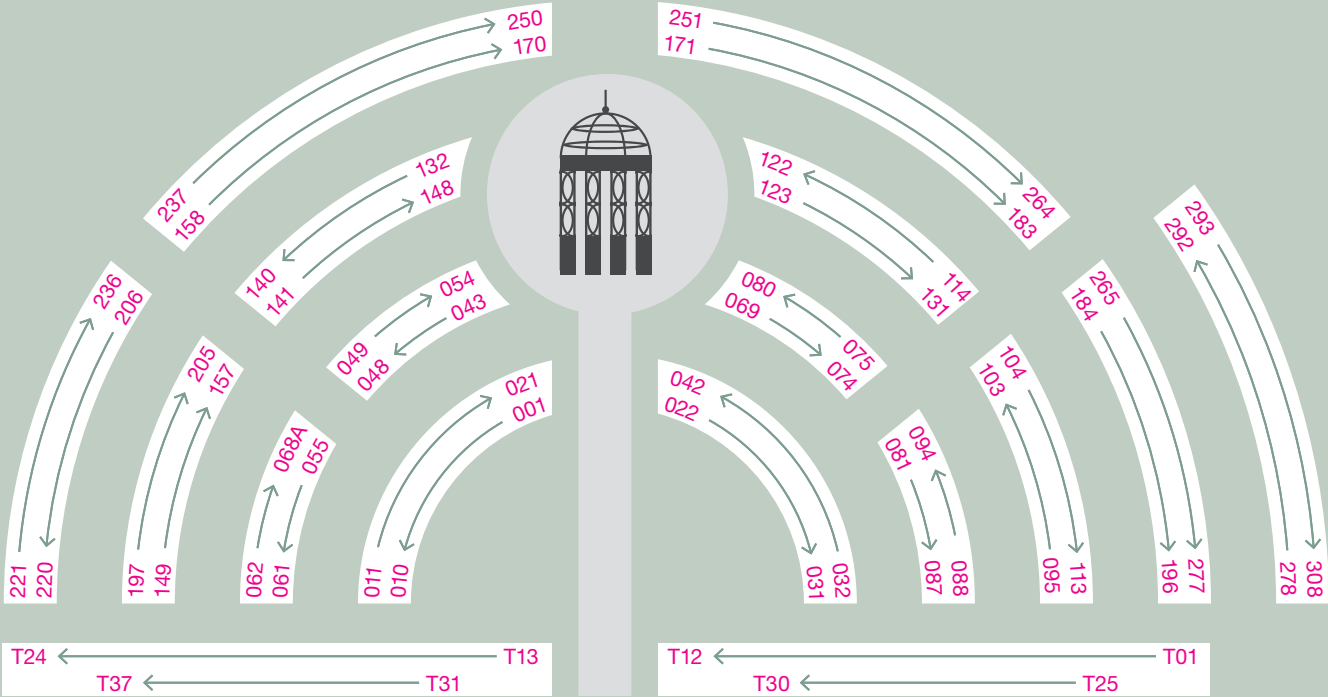
Public Parking



Local Traffic – No Parking



Map of the Peony Gardens



Our Garden

Peony Cultivars Map & List

A numbered list of all the peony cultivars in the garden.

The map indicates how the peonies are numbered and located.

Peonies numbered "T01" to "T37" are tree peonies.

Tree Peonies

T01	Rimpo
T02	Taisho - no - Hokori
T03	Renkaku
T04	Kokamon
T05	Spring Carnival
T06	Shima Daijin
T07	Taiyo
T08	Ice Storm
T09	Gilbert Seedling
T10	Nike
T11	Tama - Sudare
T12	Gilbert Seedling
T13	Kamada - Fuji
T14	Kamada - Nishiki
T15	Hana Kisoi
T16	Boreas
T17	Yatsuka Jishi
T18	Fuso Tsukasa
T19	Vacant
T20	Hatsu Garashu

T21	Godaishu
T22	Dou Lu
T23	Black Pirate
T24	Banquet
T25	Terpsichore
T26	Anna Marie
T27	Leda
T28	Ezra Pound
T29	Guardian of the Monastery
T30	High Noon
T31	Gauguin
T32	Souvenir du Professor Maxime Cournu
T33	Savage Splendor
T34	Unknown
T35	Ariadne
T36	Alice Harding
T37	Renown

Peonies

001	Minnie Shaylor
002	Sword Dance
003	Charlie's White
004	Gay Paree
005	Hot Chocolate
006	Largo
007	Rare China
008	Carrara
009	Festiva Maxima
010	Pink Princess
011	Skylark
012	King's Ransom
013	Miss America
014	Nick Shaylor
015	Isami Jishi
016	Myrtle Tischler
017	Ole Faithful
018	Dainty
019	The Nathans
020	Ann Cousins

Peony Cultivars

021	Friendship	041	Requiem	061	Lotus Bloom	080	Coral Charm
022	Sea Shell	042	Vacant	062	Rose Heart	081	Red Charm
023	Springfield	043	Pastel Splendor	063	Charm	082	Rosaurea
024	Douglas Brand	044	America	064	Peter Barr	083	Irene May Gilbert
025	Norma Volz	045	Shawnee Chief	065	Red Charm	084	Susie Smith
026	Milton Jack	046	Illini Warrior	066	June Rose	085	Illini Belle
027	Kukeni-Jishi	047	Jewel	067	Bill Krekler	086	Claudia
028	Flame	048	Rashoomon	068	Cytherea	087	Pink Teacup
029	Pride of Blasdell	049	Bright Knight	068A	Feather Top	088	Scarlet O'Hara
030	Surugu	050	Rose Crystal	069	Plainsman	089	Mandarin's Coat
031	Krinkled White	051	Kathryn Ann	070	Suzanna Hotz	090	Sweet Melody
032	Onahama	052	Kukeni-Jishi	071	Mons. Martin Cahuzac	091	Nathalie
033	Auguste Dessert	053	Petticoat Flounce	072	Chocolate Soldier	092	Bu-te
034	Alexander Woollcott	054	Gay Paree	073	Requiem	093	Heritage
035	Kansas	055	Miss America	074	Red Grace	094	Coral Supreme
036	Black Swan	056	Ada Ruth	075	Sarah Bernhardt	095	Unknown
037	Moonrise	057	Henry Bockstoe	076	Vacant	096	Sunday Chimes
038	Paula Fay	058	Coral Charm	077	Coral Charm	097	Gardenia
039	Princess Margaret	059	Karen Grey	078	Akashigata	098	Angelo Cobb Freeborn
040	Roselette	060	Requiem	079	Mother's Choice	099	Nosegay

100	Flaming Star	120	Cardinal's Robe	140	Myra MacRae	160	Vacant
101	Loren Franklin	121	Vacant	141	Karl Rosenfield	161	Baroness Schroeder
102	Walter Faxon	122	Therese	142	Philippe Rivoire	162	Lowell Thomas
103	Silver Dawn	123	Bowl of Beauty	143	Postillion	163	Early Daybreak
104	President Lincoln	124	A la Mode	144	Smouthi	164	Do Tell
105	Buckeye Belle	125	Starlight	145	Horizon	165	Missie's Blush
106	Ruth Clay	126	Moon Over Barrington	146	Montezuma	166	White Innocence
107	Ludovica	127	Coral Sunset	147	Illini Belle	167	My Love
108	Constance Spry	128	Bride's Dream	148	Nathalie	168	Firebelle
109	Rosy Cheek	129	Coral Fay	149	Le Jour	169	Show Girl
110	White Charm	130	Mary Brand	150	Mahogany	170	Prairie Star
111	Ella Christiansen	131	Nice Gal	151	Matilda Lewis	171	Miss America
112	Shaylor's Sunburst	132	Border Charm	152	Red Red Rose	172	Doris Cooper
113	Buckeye Belle	133	James Pillow	153	Burning Bright	173	Prairie Star
114	Lois Arlene	134	Reine Hortense	154	Lovely Rose	174	Heidi
115	Laddie	135	Rosalie	155	Bravura	175	Mahogany
116	Salmon Chiffon	136	Mischief	156	Charles Burgess	176	Sparkling Star
117	Tom Eckhardt	137	Unknown	157	Cherry Ruffles	177	Topeka Garnet
118	White Sands	138	Henry Sass	158	Elizabeth Foster	178	Vacant
119	Eliza Lundy	139	Westerner	159	Lady Alexandra Duff	179	Ellen Cowley

Peony Cultivars

180	Adonis	200	Albert Crousse	220	Vacant	240	Roselette's Child
181	Cream Puff	201	Stellar Charm	221	Primevere	241	Your Majesty
182	Felix Crousse	202	Unknown	222	Imperial Red	242	Dawn Glow
183	Belle Center	203	Gypsy	223	Fantasia	243	Prairie Princess
184	Mons. Jules Elie	204	David Harum	224	Vacant	244	Delaware Chief
185	Ethel Mars	205	Brand's Magnificent	225	Pink Hawaiian Coral	245	Command Performance
186	Elsa Sass	206	Francois Ortegat	226	Vacant	246	Fairfield
187	Early Scout	207	Couronne D'Or	227	Vacant	247	Lavon
188	Mme. Ducel	208	Barrington Belle	228	Vacant	248	Golden Wings
189	Coral 'n Gold	209	Chestine Gowdy	229	Great Lady	249	Early Glow
190	Solange	210	Pink Firefly	230	Mary Elizabeth	250	Judith Eileen
191	Paul M. Wild	211	Green Lotus	231	Candy Stripe	251	Ace of Hearts
192	Arcturus	212	Silver Dawn Mix	232	Winged Victory	252	Nova II
193	Vivid Rose	213	Mrs. Livingston Farrand	233	Serenade	253	Ladonna
194	Many Happy Returns	214	Pink Luau	234	Audrey	254	Lorelei
195	Age of Victoria	215	Queen of the Dawn	235	Rose Pearl	255	Greenland
196	Merry Mayshine	216	Vacant	236	Raspberry Charm	256	Blaze
197	Carina	217	Vacant	237	Early White	257	Color Magnet
198	Yellow Emperor	218	Vacant	238	Garden Peace	258	Pink Vanguard
199	Circus Circus	219	Ann Berry Cousins	239	May Lilac	259	Pink Moon

260	Bev	280	Sibelius	300	Maréchal Vaillant
261	Magic Moonbeam	281	Donald	301	Imperial Divinity
262	Pico	282	Lamartine	302	Octavie DeMay
263	Dearest	283	Grace Gedge	303	A.B. Franklin
264	Athelstane	284	Mandaleen	304	Jean Erickson
265	Zuni Lad	285	Petite Porcelain	305	Mildred May
266	Golden Bracelet	286	Vacant	306	Myrtle Gentry
267	Scarlet O'Hara	287	Rose Garland	307	Mother's Day
268	Louise Lossing	288	Garden Treasure	308	Mrs. J.H. Neeley
269	Early Windflower	289	Strawberry Wine		
270	Vacant	290	P. Anomala		
271	The Fleece	291	Callie's Memory		
272	La France	292	Belleville		
273	Windchimes	293	Vacant		
274	Richard Carvel	294	Bartzella		
275	Mrs. Edward Harding	295	Julia Rose		
276	Pink Cutie	296	Elora		
277	Garden Lace	297	William F. Turner		
278	Susan White	298	Kelway's Glorious		
279	William F. Turner	299	Le Cygne		



Above photo: Daniella Paudash



In 2019-2020 Durham College students, under the supervision of faculty member Linda Cheng, designed new wayfinding technology to enhance visitor experience at one of Oshawa's exceptional parks, the Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens. The community can use the technology to learn about the gardens, identify points of interest and launch a navigation guide between landmarks. This was a partnership between the City of Oshawa and the Durham College's Office of Research Services, Innovation and Entrepreneurship and School of Media, Art & Design.

Event Coordination



Sponsors



Presenting Sponsor



Main Stage Sponsor



Radio Sponsor



Events Vehicle Sponsor



Art Competition



Supporting Sponsors



The Peony Festival in Oshawa is a free public event. Some photographers may be present taking photos and video footage at this event. By participating, you consent to use by the City of Oshawa of such images, which may be used without further notification to you at a later date on City-owned and non-City-owned property, print media, the Internet, social media sites, media releases and broadcasts.

If this information is required in an accessible format, contact Service Oshawa.

Office: 905-436-3311

Email: service@oshawa.ca.



Thank you to the Government of Ontario for their support through the Experience Ontario Grant.

SHAWA

is award winning events



**Events
in the Park**
July 15 to
September 12



**Kars
on King**
August 22

**Bright
& Merry
Market**
November
14



oshawa.ca/Events

 **Oshawa®**



2026 Peony Festival

*Save
the
Date*

June 6 & 7, 2026

oshawa.ca/Peony

Join us as we celebrate the
22nd year of the Peony Festival
See you then!

