



# 2024 AMGA Conference

**Dalhousie University, Faculty of Agriculture**

Truro, Nova Scotia

11 & 12 July, 2024



## Theme

## Resilience in Plants & People

### Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> July

Keynote - Bob Osborne of Corn Hill Nursery

Cindy Day – Meteorologist

Team Plant Scavenger Hunt

Cynthia Parks - Dalhousie University, Faculty of Agriculture

AMGA Award Banquet at Inn on Prince

### Friday, 12 July

Plant Propagation Method Workshop with Bob Osborne



#### Cost

	<u>AMGA Member</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>
One Day	\$100	\$125
Both Days	\$175	\$225
Banquet	\$50	\$50

Lunch included



**Payment via E-Transfer to - [atlanticmastergardeners3@gmail.com](mailto:atlanticmastergardeners3@gmail.com)**

*Let us know if this is not possible and we'll make other arrangements*

## More Information & Registration

<https://www.atlanticmastergardeners.ca>



# 2024 AMGA Conference Program

## Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2024, Location - MacRae Library

- 8:30 **Pre-Conference Meet & Greet**  
Tea & Coffee will be available at the MacRae Library Foyer.
- 9:00 Welcome from the AMGA President

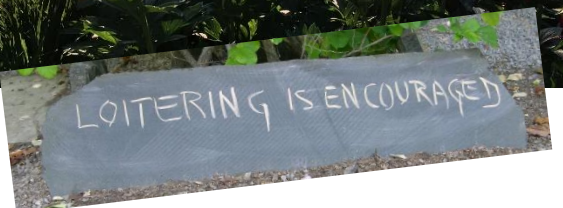
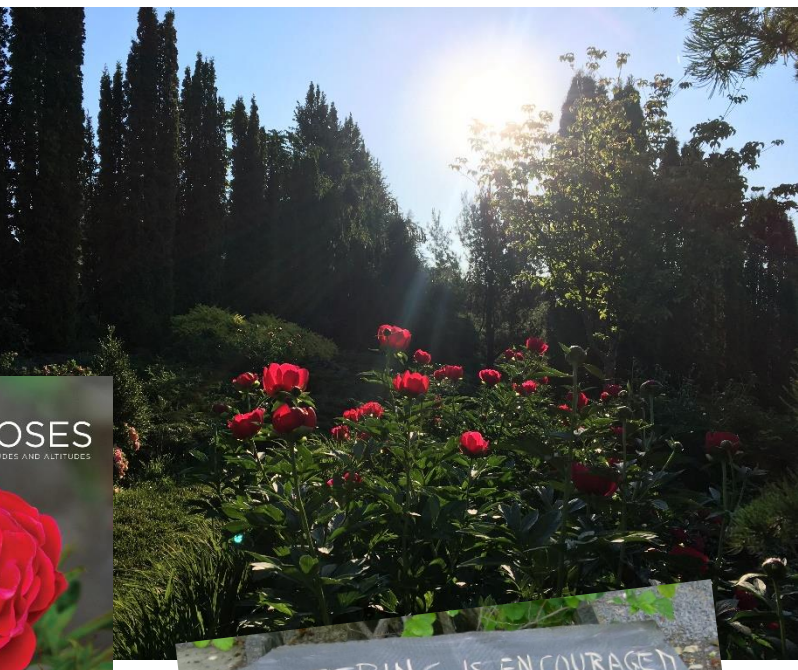
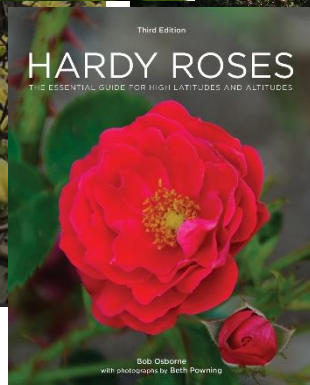
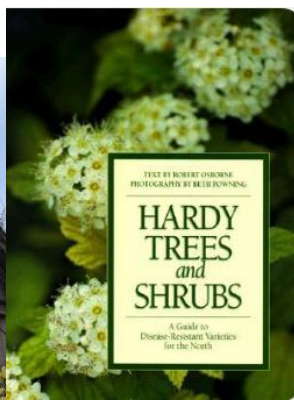
9:05 **Bob Osborne Resilient Plants Keynote**

Corn Hill Nursery, a family run business since 1980, has over 65 acres of cultivation and nearly 1000 varieties of plant material available, they are the largest Canadian plant production nursery east of Montreal. Owned by Bob Osborne and his wife Kathleen, the nursery is experienced in the grafting and propagation of many plants, including many native species. They are one of ten sites across Canada that test and evaluate new rose introductions as to their form, fragrance, disease resistance, and hardiness.

Bob is a published author, columnist on CBC radio, and has been a Red Seal apprenticeship landscape instructor. He is also a member of several horticultural and agricultural associations, and has received numerous awards including the Canadian Society for Horticultural Science Special Recognition Award.



The Keynote presentation will center around plants that we believe will have resilience in the face of a changing climate that evidence shows will include extremes of weather and precipitation. We will discuss the challenges of new insects and diseases on various species and how the choices in the collection of material can heighten chances of success. The show will include photos of plants highlighted.

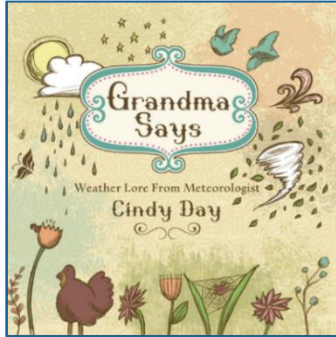


**Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2024, Location - MacRae Library**

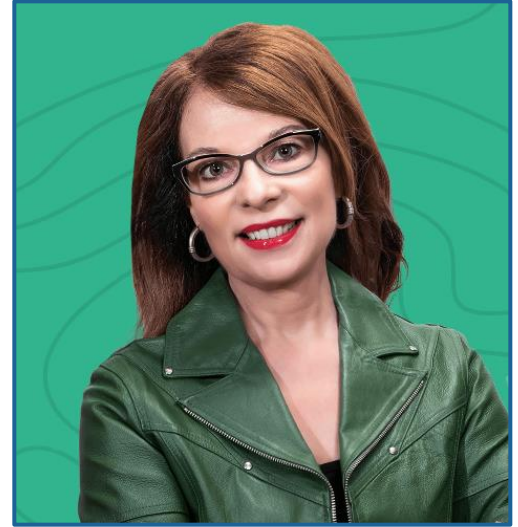
10:15 Morning break

10:45 **Cindy Day**                      **Changing Weather and Gardening**

Cindy Day is one of Canada's top meteorologists and the most trusted source for weather in the Maritimes. She began her career with Environment Canada as a public and aviation pilot briefer at the MacDonald Cartier Airport in Ottawa. Her valuable experience spans more than 35 years in radio, television, and print in the Eastern Ontario and Atlantic Canadian markets.



She has extensive experience writing and producing weather segments and reporting on climate issues. Her passion for weather lore inspired her to write her first book, "Grandma Says" – a Canadian best-seller.



The focus of Cindy's talk will be climate change and its impact on our region. A look at how our seasons have shifted, water distribution, snow cover and wind patterns. How the factors that influence plant development will continue to change.

Noon **Lunch (included)**

1:00 **Team Plant Scavenger Hunt**

Teams (randomly drawn from registrations - mixture of students & Master Gardeners) will be announced at 1pm. Each Team will have 15 minutes to meet and plan their strategy. The objective is to find as many of the 10 plants listed. At each plant location you will pick up one sealed envelope. At 2:15, Teams are to present their 5 best poker hand cards. Prizes for winning teams.

2:30 **Cynthia Parks**                      **Building resilience through soil health**

Cynthia Parks is a Senior Instructor in the Department of Plant, Food, and Environmental Sciences at the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture.

She enjoys instructing students in the areas of agricultural ecosystems, soil science, plant pathology and plant propagation. Participants in this session will observe soil health testing techniques including compaction, water infiltration, soil texture, and soil biology through experiential learning. Each of these techniques will contribute to the understanding of increasing soil resiliency to climate events.



3:45 **Wrap up**

## 2024 Annual AMGA Banquet

The Inn on Prince Hotel  
Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> July

6:00 Reception

7:00 Dinner

8:00 Awards Ceremony

*All dietary restrictions will have substitute entrée*

**INN ON PRINCE**  
HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTRE TRURO

### Inn on Prince Hotel & Conference Centre

437 Prince Street, Truro, NS, B2N1E6  
902-895-1651

A block of rooms is being held for attendees (Wed. 10 July & Thurs. 11 July nights) at a rate of **\$179** per night plus applicable taxes.

Rooms are only guaranteed at this rate until 11 June, 2024.

Call to reserve, please specify you will be attending the AMGA Conference to insure preferred rate, or

[Book Hotel Room Online](#)

### Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2024, Location TBA

9:00 Welcome from the AMGA President

9:05 **Bob Osborne** **Plant Propagation Method Workshop**

Mr. Osborne will be discussing and demonstrating various techniques of propagation including softwood and hardwood cuttings, division, grafting, budding and using root pieces and stolons.

He will discuss rooting mediums and humidity systems for cuttings as well as proper environments for difficult to root species. The importance of juvenility in propagation success will be discussed.

We will discuss the establishment of stock plants and their maintenance as well as propagating plants from the wild, including interesting cultivars of our native trees and shrubs.

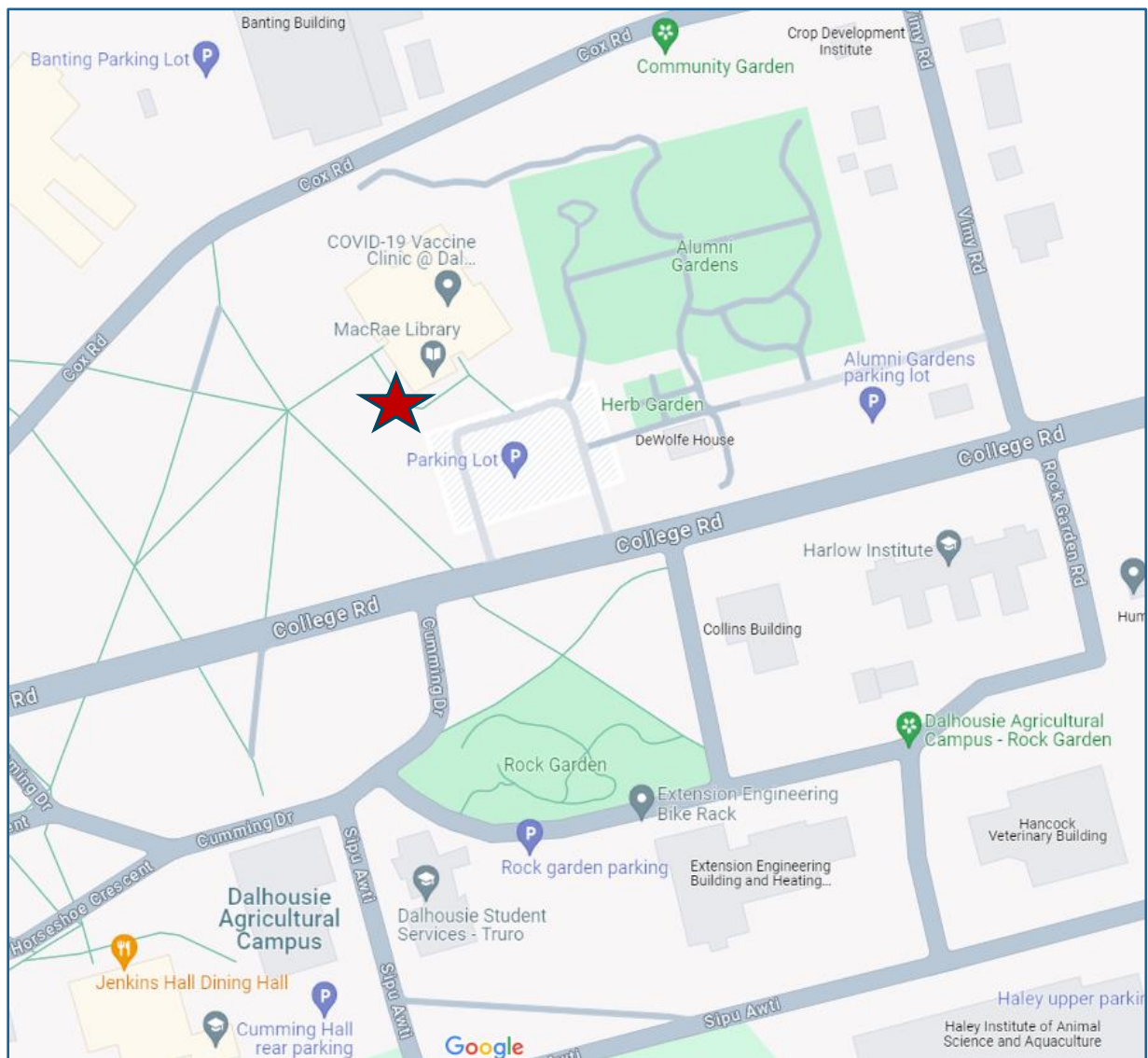
10:15 Morning break

Noon Lunch (included)

3:30 Wrap up



## Dalhousie University, Faculty of Agriculture Map



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