

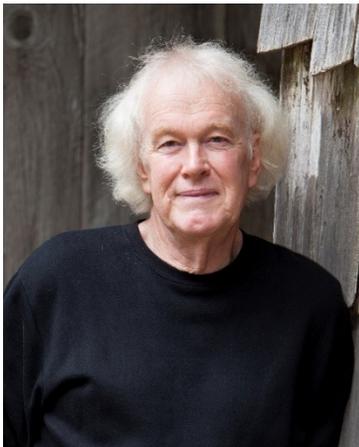
## **Douglas Justice presents “*Planting Trees for a Drier and Hotter Future*”**



There is increasing awareness among gardeners, if not the public at large, for the need to reconsider many of our planting choices. Numerous factors contribute to this change in perspective, but climate change, sustainability in horticultural practices and the biodiversity crisis are paramount among them. Douglas’s presentation will address tree selection in light of these issues.

Douglas had his initial exposure to horticulture in his parents' garden in Vancouver and at the family farm in Duncan. His passion for plants eventually led him into nursery work, then to degrees in horticulture and botany, which spurred him to pursue a career in teaching and public garden management. For the last two decades, Douglas’s job has been Associate Director, Horticulture & Collections at UBC Botanical Garden. He teaches in UBC's Landscape Architecture program and in the Botanical Garden's Horticulture Training Program, and is currently working on a manual of Vancouver's cultivated woody plants.

## **Des Kennedy presents “*Weather or Not – a light-hearted romp through the triumphs and travails of the weather-beaten gardener*”**



Des Kennedy is a writer, an activist and seasoned back-to-the-lander. He and his partner Sandy have for the last 50 years lived a conserver lifestyle on Denman Island. Their gardens, hand-built house and surrounding woodlands are regularly featured on the Denman Island Home and Garden Tour.

A celebrated speaker, Des is the author of ten books, in both fiction and non-fiction. He has been three times nominated for the Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal for Humour. His latest book is a novel titled *Beautiful Communion* (Ronsdale Press.)

## Caroline Jossefson presents

### ***“Gardening with less water – learning from the Garry Oak Ecosystem”***



Climate projections suggest that summers in our region will become increasingly warmer and drier, presenting challenges to gardeners. Can we look to our local flora, our region’s ancient history, and traditional ecological practices for solutions? The Garry oak ecosystem is a species-rich, drought-adapted plant community that originates in a warm dry period of British Columbia’s ancient past, 8,000 to 6,000 years ago. As the climate became cooler and moister about 6,000 years ago, the ecosystem was protected from encroaching conifers by Coast Salish Peoples who benefitted from the game and edible plants associated with it. The Garry oak ecosystem can serve as a model for sustainable gardening in our area, one that honours our region’s cultural history and its biodiversity. I will speak to my experience of gardening with Garry oak ecosystem-associated plants in my small front yard in Nanaimo, and suggest resources for information, seeds, and plants.

Born and raised in the southwest of Sweden, Caroline’s life-long interest in plants and plant propagation originates from her grandmothers, who were keen gardeners, house plant keepers and observers of nature. At the Swedish University of Agriculture, Caroline pursued an undergraduate degree in Horticulture and Biology. For her doctorate at the University of Washington she studied gene deregulation stemming from hybridization in the plant model system *Arabidopsis*. Caroline joined the Biology Department at Vancouver Island University in 2009. There she teaches plant biology courses, as well as courses in genetics and biochemistry. In 2020, together with students from VIU’s Eco Club, Caroline initiated a Garry oak ecosystem restoration project on the VIU campus.

## Bonnie Zand presents ***“Gardening for pollinators: supporting BC’s diverse native bees***



When most people think of pollinators, they think of honey bees. But did you know that there are more than 450 different bee species in BC, along with other pollinating insects? These pollinators are incredibly diverse in size, appearance and lifestyle, and are vitally important for pollination of both food crops and wild plants. Learn to observe and appreciate some of these less well-known pollinators, find out what challenges they are facing, and learn what you can do within your own gardens to support native pollinators!

## **Bonnie Zand**



Bonnie Zand is the owner of Bonnie's Bugs IPM, a private consulting company working with farmers to manage insect pests on Vancouver Island. She is currently running the Vancouver Island Pests, Pollinators and Beneficials Project. Bonnie holds a BSc in biology from UVic, is a board member of the Native Bee Society of BC and is part of the recovery implementation group for the endangered Taylor's checkerspot butterfly.

Bonnie is also the BC instructor for the Master Melittologist program. In her spare time, she likes to look for interesting native bees and other insects, raise mason bees, garden with native plants and instill a love of insects in her five-year-old daughter.