

Canada Blooms

THE FLOWER AND GARDEN FESTIVAL

MEDIA RELEASE

March 2014

Canadian Wildlife Federation is Growing Our Future at Canada Blooms 2014

Special Culinary Presentation with Celebrity Chef Doug McNish on CWF Day

OTTAWA, Ont. – The Canadian Wildlife Federation, in conjunction with students from the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture, Halton Catholic District School Board, and District School Board of Niagara is creating the Canadian Wildlife Federation Backyard Habitat Garden (booth A31), a new feature to Canada Blooms, March 14-23, 2014. The unique garden design will feature an “I SPY” element that invites visitors to identify native plants, learn about their importance and discover how they perform in the landscape.

Throughout the show, visitors to the CWF garden and booth can enjoy daily presentations by the student design team as well as Canada’s Favourite Gardener and CWF Habitat Manager, Ken Beattie including “Eat It, Don’t Weed It”, a culinary demonstration on how to make dandelion pesto using edible plants. There will also be the opportunity to enter into draws for over 30 prizes including a framed Robert Bateman print “The Moose Family” and pick up a CWF Canada Blooms Bag Bundle.

Canadian Wildlife Federation Day: *Growing our Future* – Sunday, March 16

Celebrity chef Doug McNish will join Beattie, former host of WTN’s “Get Growing”, for a special culinary presentation on the Unilock Main Stage, 4pm on March 16. During the presentation, McNish will be preparing special recipes featuring local and native plants that will be a treat for any family. McNish, a Toronto-based vegan chef and restaurateur, is author of the award-winning cookbook *Eat Raw, Eat Well* and the recently released *Raw, Quick and Delicious*.

The first 500 patrons on CWF Day will also receive a limited edition reusable bag.

The Canadian Wildlife Federation Backyard Habitat Garden would not be possible without the support and generosity of our partners Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds, Permacon and Connon Nurseries NVK.

For full details about CWF activities throughout the show and a full schedule of Beattie’s presentations on the Unilock and Learning stages during Canada Blooms, visit CanadianWildlifeFederation.ca/CanadaBlooms.

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About the Canadian Wildlife Federation

The Canadian Wildlife Federation is a national, not-for-profit charitable organization dedicated to fostering awareness and appreciation of our natural world. By spreading knowledge of human impacts on the environment, sponsoring research, developing and delivering education programs, promoting the sustainable use of natural resources, recommending changes to policy and co-operating with like-minded partners, CWF encourages a future in which Canadians can live in harmony with nature. For more information visit CanadianWildlifeFederation.ca.

About Canada Blooms

Canada Blooms is an annual world-class festival that connects people to the joys and benefits of nature through experiences with gardens and flowers by promoting, educating, inspiring and celebrating all aspects of horticulture. A not-for-profit organization that gives back to the community throughout the year by funding community garden projects around Ontario, Canada Blooms is also dedicated to providing the community with horticulture expertise, education and resources on an ongoing basis.

Now in its 18th year, Canada Blooms was founded by Landscape Ontario and The Garden Club of Toronto. Each year it is supported by a committed group of partners, sponsors and volunteers. Canada Blooms has been named One of Ontario's Top 100 Events by Festivals and Events Ontario and One of North America's Top 100 Events by the American Bus Association.

The 2014 Canada Blooms Festival Sponsors include: AM740, Canadian Gardening, Canadian Wildlife Federation, Fafard, Floral Dimensions, GardenMaking Magazine, CTV, Gardens Central Magazine, Growers of Ontario, Harrowsmith Almanac, Homes Publishing, InterContinental Hotel Toronto, Metroland, The New Classical 96.3FM, Ontario Gardener Magazine, Ontario Tourism, Pick Ontario, Santa Margherita Wines, Scotts Canada, Toronto Botanical Garden, The Toronto Star, Tourism Ireland and UNILOCK.

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