

# PRESS RELEASE

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## MEET CLIMATE CHALLENGES IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD

Stratford Public Library is excited to once again team up with the Stratford and Area Master Gardeners for a virtual speaker series that will keep you ready and inspired to tackle climate challenges in your own back yard.

As part of their mandate to provide expert gardening advice to the public, Stratford & Area Master Gardeners and their partners planted over 2022 native trees and shrubs through the ReLeaf Stratford Project and they are planning further projects to support local biodiversity in 2023.

Event organizer Nancy Burnett says, “Last year’s partnership with SPL was so successful that we wanted to do another speaker series. Climate change is an issue we are all grappling with. It can seem overwhelming but there are things we can do in our own backyards and in our communities. These speakers have ideas to inspire us.”

Starting January 19 at 7 PM and continuing on the 3rd Thursday of the month until April 20, attendees to this virtual series will have the chance to learn from four dynamic speakers over Zoom:

- **January 19 | Lorraine Johnson | Climate Change and the Garden**
- **February 16 | Jen Llewellyn | Plant Health for a Changing Climate**
- **March 16 | Sean James | Fusion Gardening**
- **April 20 | Cathy Kavassalis | Transforming Landscapes in a Changing Climate**

Robyn Godfrey, Adult Outreach and Collections Librarian says, “We’re thrilled to be joining forces with organizations such as the Stratford and Area Master Gardeners and Climate Momentum for a number of collaborative, eco-themed programs this year, the first of which is this speaker series.

She adds, “Starting the new year with an emphasis on empowering our community to meet climate change challenges where they are – in their own backyards – is something that reflects the Library’s own values. We are happy to facilitate these programs for such forward-thinking partners.”

Garden enthusiasts can find more details and register by visiting the Library’s website at [splibrary.ca/gardening](http://splibrary.ca/gardening). Registration will be open until the Monday before each session. For those who can’t make it, some of the presentations will be available on the Library’s YouTube channel for a limited time.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Robyn Godfrey, Adult Outreach and Collections Librarian at 519-271-0220 x132 or [rgodfrey@splibrary.ca](mailto:rgodfrey@splibrary.ca).