

NORTH HAVEN Gardens

Every Blooming Thing

www.nhg.com

JULY • AUG • 2010

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All NHG programs are complimentary and open to the public unless otherwise noted. Visit our Events Page at www.nhg.com for added programs.

~ JULY 2010 ~

JULY 2-8 • JULY 4TH OFF SALE
25% off all the best plant material in town!
 All annuals, perennials, trees, shrubs, herbs, groundcover and greenhouse plants. *In stock material only.*

SAT, JULY 3

9AM • Make Your Own Pottery Design your own pot. All designs will be fired and ready for pick-up at our August meeting. \$10 for non-members. All materials provided. Sponsored by the Bonsai Society.

SAT, JULY 10

11AM • Proper Summer Watering by Kato Crow TCNP, NHG Staff. Learn proper watering techniques to reduce waste while keeping your garden, trees, turf and containers healthy.

1PM • Attract Hummingbirds by Carolyn Oldham, popular, local bird expert and landscape designer. Learn what plants will attract hummingbirds and the different kinds of birds you can expect to see this summer.

SUN, JULY 11

1PM • Summer Herbs by Don Miller, NHG Staff. Many herbs are pretty in the summer garden! Basil, thyme, lavender, mint, oregano and more. Don offers suggestions on what herbs to plant and tips on how to use them in the kitchen.



SAT, JULY 17

1ST ANNUAL PESTO PARTY!

Bring your best, most creative pesto to win prizes! Summer is the time for basil and basil means PESTO!

1PM • Growing Basil & Making Pesto! by Kay Nelson NHG Garden Coach, TCNP. We'll announce the winners at the start of the program. *Stay tuned for details!*

SUN, JULY 25

3PM • Home Grown Revolution, a documentary describing a family's Organic farming activities in the midst of densely urban downtown Pasadena, California. Sponsored by the Dallas Organic Garden Club.

~ AUGUST 2010 ~

SUN, AUG 1

3PM • Growing Orchids by the North Texas Orchid Society. Come early at **2:30 for Orchids 101**. Ask questions, get great advice, shop a beautiful selection of Orchids.

SUN, AUG 8

3PM • Xerophytic Ferns by the members of the Southwest Fern Society. Learn about these unique ferns that grow well in hot, dry areas of the garden.

SAT, AUG 21

2PM • Grow Delicious Fall Vegetables

by Christine Hensley, TCNP, NHG Staff. We think fall is the best time for vegetables. Now is the time to plant broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage and more. For veggie garden success, don't miss this program! **Sponsored by Slow Food Dallas.**



SUN, AUG 22

3PM • Selection & Use of Texas Native Grasses in the Garden Grasses look amazing paired with other water wise plants in the sun garden. Sponsored by the Dallas Organic Garden Club.

SUN, AUG 29

11AM-4PM • Gardening 101

Just in time for the Fall Garden Season! Learn all you need to know about Texas gardening! This is a great class for those new to the area, beginner gardeners or experienced gardeners looking for a refresher course. \$65 / \$60 for Grow Card Members. Price includes our new book **Easy Gardens for North Texas** (Retail value \$29.99), class handouts on soil amendments, planting, maintenance and more all bound up in an easy to use binder. *Application at www.nhg.com*

Tropical Paradise

by Kato Crow, TCNP, NHG Staff

Do you love colorful blooms? Then you'll love our tropics! Use them in containers and in beds for a showy splash of color!

Hibiscus blooms in reds, pinks, whites and yellows and comes in a variety of sizes.

Pentas attract butterflies and do well in full sun or even part-shade. Give **mandevilla** and **allamanda** a trellis for support, and they'll bloom their little hearts out ALL summer.

Jasmine has a wonderful fragrance day and night, so I place them around my gazebo and entryways. Also, bright blue **plumbago**, hot pink **bougainvillea** and yellow **esperanza** are a wonderful contrast in the garden and grow beautifully in containers as well. Tropicals succeed best in a minimum of 6 hours of strong sun.

Got shade but still want a tropical feel? Grow **caladiums**, **Persian shield** and **lemon lollipops**! Feed all tropicals once a month April thru October. Use **Palm-tone** on palms, hibiscus and other tropical plants.

Nutristar Bougainvillea Fertilizer is specially formulated to encourage healthy blooms. Top-dress with mulch to give your designs a finished look and protect their top roots. *NORTH HAVEN GARDENS has tons of ideas on how to bring the tropics to North Texas and how to keep them healthy and gorgeous!*





Fall Tomato Harvest

by Leslie Finical Halleck, QM.M.S. Horticulture

Did you know that July is the time to plant your second crop of tomatoes for fall harvest? If you missed your spring planting of tomatoes, or your spring crop is winding down, planting a second crop mid-July will help you extend your harvest through November. There are a few key practices necessary to growing good tomatoes. Consistent, thorough watering is a must. Allowing plants to dry too often between watering will result in poor fruit production and potentially cracked fruit. A planting mix rich in organic compost as well as regular fertilization is necessary. Try our **NHQ Organic Herb & Veggie Food** for a great harvest. If you hope to have any fruit, a minimum of 6 hours of direct sunlight is needed. You'll usually have to fend off a few pests and diseases with tomatoes, especially if you prefer the heirloom varieties. Vigorous, healthy plants are the best defense, but you can also resort to several organic treatments such as Bt for chewing worms and horticultural soaps or liquid seaweed for whiteflies and mites. Liquid seaweed is an excellent organic liquid feed and foliar spray as well. It greens plants up and repels spider mites. **NHQ has a great selection of fall tomato transplants in stock!**

Planting Wildflowers

by Christine Hensley, NHQ Staff, TCNP

It's time to plant wildflowers! It's an unusual time to think about wildflowers because not many of them are blooming, but August is the best time to sow your seeds. Pick a spot that gets at least 8 hours of direct sunshine. Remove grass and weeds from the area, but don't till. Tilling brings weed seeds to the surface and your wildflower seeds will not compete well with them. Water the soil before you plant, then broadcast your seeds evenly over the soil surface. You can mix the seeds with dry sand to make them a bit easier to handle. Don't cover your seeds with soil; just gently pat the seeds into the ground by hand or lightly walking on the bed. Water again very lightly, you don't want the water to run off and carry your seeds away. The plants will germinate quickly but will not grow much through the winter! As soon as temperatures begin to warm up the seedlings will begin to grow and put on their beautiful show. To have a perpetual bed of wildflowers you must let them reseed, so don't deadhead in this garden, allow the cycle to continue. *We've got a great selection of wildflower seeds in stock now.*

Summer Is Here and It Is Hot Outside!

by Patricia Brodeur, NHQ Staff

Most perennial gardeners find it a challenge to keep plants thriving and blooming in 100+ degree weather. However there are a number of perennials that do survive beautifully in the late summer months and well into the fall. These plants are either Texas natives or plants that are drought-tolerant and well adapted to our North Texas climate. If you have a sunny garden you can't beat the resilience and splash of color that you'll get from **Autumn Sage** (*Salvia greggii*) in reds pinks, purple and white; **Fall Aster** (*Aster oblongifolius*); **Sedum 'Autumn Joy'**; **Pink Skullcap** (*Scutellaria suffrutescens*); **Gaura** (*Gaura lindheimeri*); **Mexican mint marigold** (*Tagetes lucida*); **Hardy Lantana** (*Lantana camara*); **Zexmania**, and don't forget **Flame Acanthus** (*Anisacanthus wrightii*) with its red-orange tubular flowers that attract lots of hummingbirds. If it's shade you have, **Turks Cap** (*Malva viscus arboreus 'drummondii'*) and **Mexican bush sage** (*Salvia leucantha*) offer vivid color throughout the hot summer months and early fall. *Stop by NHQ and speak to a garden advisor on the best plants for your summer space.*

Made for Shade

by Elizabeth Del Turco, NHQ Staff

The hot days of summer are here at last. It's the perfect time to renew your appreciation for a hammock and a pitcher of iced tea! Create a cool refuge for your senses in the shade. Anchor your shady vision with the deep greens of hardy **ferns** like **Japanese Painted Fern**, **Autumn Fern**, and **Holly Fern**. Play upon the dappled sunlight filtering through the trees with variegated perennials that also provide textural contrast such as **Hosta 'Cathedral Windows'**, **Leopard Plant**, **Dead Nettle 'White Nancy'**, and **Japanese Forest Grass 'Albostriata'**. Add color and interest with the dainty blooms of **Chinese Ground Orchids**, **Geranium 'Johnson's Blue'**, **Turk's Cap** and **Lady's Mantle**. Create a sense of depth and shelter with hanging baskets filled with lovely ferns. All shade-loving plants benefit from rich, well-drained soil. Remember to amend your soil with plenty of compost and expanded shale before planting.



FRI, JULY 2 - 8 • JULY 4TH SALE
Don't miss our annual 4th of July Sale to get 25% OFF all plants in the store! Greenhouse plants, seasonal color, trees, shrubs, groundcover, perennials, herbs and more! *In-stock plant material only. No special orders.*

NORTH HAVEN Gardens

7700 Northaven Road, Dallas, TX 75230

214-363-5316 • www.nhg.com

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GARDENER IN YOUR LIFE?

NORTH HAVEN GARDENS Gift Cards

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BASIL: The King of Herb

by Kay Nelson, NHG Garden Coach, TCNP

You can never have too much basil! Pesto is the ultimate summer dressing and basil is the key ingredient. A basic pesto is basil, pinenuts, garlic, parmesan cheese and oil. However, when you add peppers, cilantro, mint or replace the pinenuts with walnuts, you can be creative and still never go wrong with the recipe! Pesto is excellent on pasta, bread, pizza, and as a dip. So what kind of basil is best for pesto? Varieties commonly used are **Sweet Basil**, **'Aussie Sweetie'**, **'Genovese'**, **Lemon**, or **Thai**. We also love **Basil 'Pesto Perpetuo'** because of its lovely flavor and the plant is very slow to bolt and grows in a shorter, compact size. Encourage successful plants by planting in full sun and feeding monthly with **NHG Organic Herb & Veggie Food**. Add lots of compost and expanded shale to encourage well drained soil. *Speak to a Garden Advisor about varieties available and more great herb planting tips!*



Basil 'Perpetuo'

Mulch, Mulch, Mulch!

A good 2"-3" of mulch is a must in the garden this summer! Mulch keeps soil moist, roots cool, reduces weeds and, as an added bonus, breaks down as a natural compost into the soil. NORTH HAVEN GARDENS carries a variety of fine mulches both in bagged or bulk.



Society Meetings at NORTH HAVEN GARDENS

Does your club need a meeting space?

NHG has a wonderful lecture room!
Call **214-363-6715** ext: 326 for details.

TNT Judges Study Club

972-241-1726

Meets the second Thursday at 11am

Begonia Society

214-363-6715 ext 340

Meets the fourth Sunday at 3pm

Bonsai Society

More info at www.bonsaisocietyofdallas.com

Meets the first Saturday at 9:00am

Bromeliad Society

More info at www.dfwbromeliads.com

Meets every other month beginning in
Feb. fourth Saturday at 3pm

Daylily Growers of Dallas

More info at www.dallasdaylilies.com

Meets the third Saturday at 10am

Herb Society of America

Meets the fourth Saturday at 10am

Texas Daffodil Society

More info www.texasdaffodilsociety.org

Meets the second Tuesday October-February

Iris Society

Meets the third Sunday at 3pm

Southwestern Fern Society

Meets the second Sunday at 3pm

Greater North Texas Orchid Society

More info at www.gntos.org

Meets the first Sunday at 3pm

Dallas Organic Garden Club

More info at www.dogc.org

Meets the fourth Sunday at 3pm

Dallas Backyard Poultry Meetup Group

www.meetup.com/dallasbackyardpoultry
Meetings vary. Check website.



Fall Veggie Seeds

by Christine Hensley, NHQ Staff, TCNP

It's summer! Time to plan and plant seeds for your fall vegetable garden. You can plant eggplant, cantaloupe, watermelon, southern / black-eyed peas, winter squash, small pumpkin and okra in July. It's also time to plant fall tomato crops and peppers from transplants. These crops will grow quickly in the heat and start producing while it's still warm. They will stop producing when the weather turns cooler. In August you can plant seeds for pole and bush beans; corn; cucumbers; broccoli; Brussels sprouts; cabbage; cauliflower; kohlrabi; zucchini, yellow, and patty pan squash; Swiss chard; collard and mustard greens; parsley; spinach; Chinese cabbage; and lettuce. The August planted crops will produce longer into the cooler weather; a few of them will go all the way into winter. Planting now will give you a great fall harvest. Remember to add some herbs and flowers to your vegetable garden for flavor and fun. *Don't miss our FREE Fall Vegetable Gardens program August 28th at 3pm,* by Christine Hensley.

H I G H L I G H T Favorite Organic Product

Medina HastaGro is a liquid fertilizer made in Texas and sold in a concentrated form. There are different dilutions listed on the bottle for different applications. It can be used to water during transplanting to reduce transplant shock, as a soil fertilizer, or as a foliar fertilizer. Foliar feeding allows nutrients to be absorbed directly by the plant; a foliar application is my favorite way to use HastaGro. It's a 6-12-6 balanced fertilizer (that means it has a value in all 3 numbers), and it contains humic acid, urea from clean sources, and seaweed extract. It increases microbial activity in your soil. It is easy to use in a hose-end sprayer or it can be mixed in a watering can for soil applications. *Great for the Veggie Gardener!*



Easy To Care For Houseplants

by Don Miller, NHQ Staff

Summer is a great time to bring the garden indoors! **Sansevieria** is one of my all time favorite, easy-to-care-for, house plants. This is sometimes called **Mother-In-Law's Tongue** or **Snake Plant**. They come in many different sizes and foliage colors. The leaves grow tall and vertical and have a contemporary, sculptural form. The tall varieties grow to about 2'. **'Black Coral'** is a very dark-green variety. **'Black Gold'** is dark green with bright golden edges. These plants grow in high light or low light and like to dry a bit between waterings. The **"Parlor Palm"**, **Chamaedorea neantha bella**, is an easy- to-grow palm that gives a more formal or oriental look. They grow to about 2 feet tall and do well in low to medium light. The **"Wax Plant"** or **Hoya carnosa** is a low maintenance vine that will grow in a hanging basket, trailing over a window sill or on a table. The thick, waxy leaves can be variegated or solid green. The variegated leaves when young will be mottled with pink. Another trailing low-light house plant is **Satin Pothos**, or **Scindapsus picta**. This vine has medium green leaves with silver spots. It will grow in a hanging basket or trail over a planter. All of these plants like to get dry between waterings. Feed with **HastaGro** or **Miracle Gro**.

NOW is the TIME...



J U L Y

- Plant: Tomatoes early to mid-July for fall production and plant pumpkins and gourds for fall harvest. Plant peppers about mid-July for fall production.
- Fertilize: Feed container plants and roses regularly and watch for insect and disease problems. We carry a full line of rose care products, including organics.
- Water: Water deeply when you water your and established plants. Water container plants as needed; use Soil Moist to retain water in the soil for container plants.
- Pest control: Use BT for caterpillars, blast aphids with water, and release ladybugs.
- Disease control: Spray Neem oil or potassium bicarbonate or horticultural oil for control of black spot, powdery mildew and other fungal diseases.

A U G U S T

- Plant: Fall-flowering bulbs, fall annuals (marigolds, zinnias, celosias) and perennials (Mexican bush sage, fall asters). Plant wildflower seeds late in the month to allow for germination and growth prior to winter. Plant beans and squash early in the month; cucumbers, broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower about mid-month. Plant leafy crops late in August.
- Pests: Spray horticultural oil for spider mites, lace bugs, thrips, and scale.
- Mulch, mulch, mulch to keep in moisture and protect against harsh, hot temperatures this summer.

DALLAS MANDATORY WATERING GUIDELINES

March 1 to Oct. 31, watering of lawns or landscapes with an irrigation system or sprinkler is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Watering with a hand-held hose or a soaker hose is permitted at any time. Don't allow your sprinkler system to water driveways, sidewalks and streets. Do not water or irrigate lawns or landscapes during any form of precipitation. Rain/freeze sensors are now required on all irrigation systems installed on or after Jan. 1, 2002. As of January 1, 2005 all irrigation systems must be equipped with rain sensing devices and freeze gauges. Violations of these outdoor watering guidelines can now result in fines of \$250 to \$2,000 per incident. For water conservation information, call 214/670-3155.

Visit our website for more tips and information www.nhg.com