

NORTH HAVEN Gardens Every Blooming Thing

www.nhg.com

MAY • JUNE • 2008

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 THROUGH MAY & JUNE.

~ MAY 2008 ~

SAT, MAY 3 • FRESH FRUIT WINES

by Nashwood Winery. Nashwood Winery is back to teach us all about making wine from fresh fruits. Strawberries, blueberries and more make a tasty wine! Plus, purchase wine making supplies.

2:30PM - 3:30PM • **MAKE WINE AT HOME** \$10.
Advance reg. suggested.

3:30PM • **WINETASTING**
Must be 21 to attend. Complimentary.



SUN, MAY 4

1:30PM • **ORCHID PROGRAM**
by the Greater North Texas Orchid Society

SAT, MAY 10 • **MOTHER'S DAY ART IN THE GARDEN SALE** A wonderful opportunity to acquire unique gifts of art by local artisans for Mother's Day, birthdays, Anniversaries or a special gift for yourself!

SAT, MAY 17 • HAPPY 57TH BIRTHDAY NORTH HAVEN GARDENS!

Our official birthday was May 15th. But, drop by today for cupcakes, lemonade and some extra surprises!

11 AM • **DAYLILIES IN THE GARDEN** by the Daylily Growers of Dallas

1:30PM • **PERENNIAL GARDENS** by Dione Lineberry, Dallas County Master Gardener

SUN, MAY 18

1:30PM • **PERENNIAL GARDENS** by Betsyann Tippet, Dallas County Master Gardener
A program so necessary, we had to do it twice!

SAT, MAY 24

1:30PM • **BUTTERFLY GARDENS** by Dale Clark

~ JUNE 2008 ~

FRI & SAT, JUNE 6 & 7

FIRST MEN'S GARDEN CLUB PLANT SHOW

Tour through a great exhibit of award-winning plants, veggies and more! Want to enter? Visit www.dallasgardeners.com/plantshow.

SAT, JUNE 7 • A DAY IN THE TROPICS

presented by Diana Harris, Dallas County Master Gardener. Put on your Hawaiian shirt! We're going to the tropics!

1:30PM • **TROPICAL PLANTS IN THE GARDEN**
2:30PM • **TROPICAL CONTAINER GARDENING**

SUN, JUNE 8TH

11 AM - 4 PM • **GARDENING 101** Learn all you need to know about Texas gardening! Details and a registration form online. Call 214-363-5316 or bring from into the store to register. Limited space. Call early! Class fills quickly!

SAT, JUNE 14

1:30PM • **LUSCIOUS LAWNS** by James Hatcher, DCMG. Sponsored by the First Men's Garden Club

SUN, JUNE 22

1:30PM • **PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE GARDEN** by Bob Frank. Award-winning photographer gives us great advice on how to get the most beautiful pictures from our gardens! Bring your digital camera!

SAT, JUNE 28

1:30PM • **RAIN GARDENS** Harvest your rainwater! by Carrie Dubberly

SALSA SUNDAY! • JUNE 29

Prizes given for the best salsa recipes! Put those tomatoes and herbs you so tenderly cared for all season to good use! Use fresh veggies, herbs and even fruit to create your very best salsa! We have lots of fun things in the works. Check back to see a schedule of events. Details at www.nhg.com.



Summer Turf Care

~Chuck Goecke, TCNP

Lush grass all summer is easy to achieve with a few of these tips and techniques. Turf needs adequate water and fertilizer, plus proper sunlight to succeed. Excessive watering, or watering in the evening will encourage disease. 6:00 am to 9:00 am is the best time. In hot, dry weather, water 1.25" to 1.5" all at once. Fertilizer should be provided about every two months, from spring green-up until October. Corn gluten based fertilizer is ideal because its both slow release and has weed suppression properties. Take All Root Rot and Brown Patch are troublesome this time of year, although the damage may show up more in the heat. Synthetic fungicides, such as Immunox Plus, work best if applied ahead of the problem. Top dressing with 1/2 inch of peat moss or acidic composts have been found to also help suppress these diseases. Immunox plus will also help control chinch bugs, the major hot weather insect pest. Grub control, if necessary, should be applied in mid July. *NORTH HAVEN GARDENS has everything you need for a healthy lawn year round, including a full line of organic lawn products!*

TODAY'S TREND: Tropicals! ~Mark Black, TCNP

The exotic colors and rich textures of tropicals are catching our eye these days! Plant tropicals in your garden to add texture and extreme color for summer and fall. Hibiscus, bougainvillea and ginger added to vibrant containers and placed on patios, entrance ways and around a pool or water garden will "WOW" guests. Other lush plants we love are bananas, tapioca, copper plants and mandevilla. There are several wonderful tropical plants that thrive in shade. Lemon lollipops, elephant ears, crotons and caladiums are some of our favorites. Most tropical plants like to be fed on a regular basis with Carl Pool Hibiscus Food or Liquid Seaweed. Water them as needed and allow the soil to dry in between. *For more great info on tropical lovelies, attend A Day in the Tropics on June 7th!*



North Haven Gardens



Pentas

Butterfly Gardens

~Kay Nelson, TCNP

Butterflies are another good reason to have an organic garden! Plant flowers, vines, trees and herbs as host plants for caterpillars. Plant other blooming varieties to attract butterflies with their nectar. If you have lots of sun, there are many options to attract butterflies. Pentas, autumn sage, honeysuckle and marigolds are great nectar plants. Dill, parsley and fennel make excellent host plants. Be sure to always plant enough for you AND your butterfly guests! There are many plants that act as hosts AND offer nectar. Mexican plum tree, hibiscus, pineapple sage and tropical butterflyweed are only a sample of options. Rue is the host for the giant swallowtail. So, be sure to plant plenty for these gorgeous creatures. Monarch butterflies love flame acanthus. Do you have shade? There are many ways for you to attract butterflies as well! Plant lemon lollipops, columbine and violets. *For more butterfly plants, visit www.nhg.com and check out the Plant Lists page. Be sure to attend our free program "Butterfly Gardens" on May 24th at 1:30.*

Organic Pest Control – Creatures that Eat Creatures

~Christine Hensley, TCNP

One of the really interesting aspects of organic gardening is the use of beneficial insects. There are several creatures that we use in an organic program that actually feed on other insects! Ladybugs and their larvae are voracious; they feed on anything they can catch. They eat thrips, spidermites, and whitefly larvae, but their favorite food is aphids. We also have Trichogramma wasps. Before you see the webs or tents (starting in mid-April) place a card covered with pupae (we call them eggs for simplicity's sake), pin the card on a tree, and in a couple of days the tiny, non-stinging wasps emerge. They seek out tent caterpillars and lay their eggs on them – the larvae hatch and eat the caterpillar (eeww – cool)! This stops the webs or tents from ever being constructed. We also have nematodes, microscopic worms that feed on anything that has an underground larval stage. Their main victims are fleas, flies, fire ants, and grubs. *NORTH HAVEN GARDENS also carries lacewings and preying mantis.*



Great Groundcover! ~Kato Dixon, TCNP

Got an area that won't grow grass? Tired of mowing an area of your landscape? Consider an evergreen groundcover! It's much lower maintenance and you still get the green. Some of our standard groundcovers for shade are mondo grass (4-6"), dwarf mondo grass (2-4") and 'Big Blue' liriope (10-12"). Dwarf mondo grows a bit slower so plant your 4" pots on a 4-6" center. Most other groundcover can be planted on 1 foot centers and will fill in quickly with good soil and a first year watering schedule. Asian jasmine hugs the ground and is great in sun or shade. Giant Liriope also works in sun or shade and offers 2'-3' of evergreen beauty. Looking to add color between stepping stones? Plant evergreen herbs in full sun. Trailing oregano and thyme smell great when you walk on them! Most herbs want a minimum of 6 hours of sun, but golden oregano works great in part sun and has a pretty, chartreuse color. *NORTH HAVEN GARDENS has an entire area of specialty groundcover for the shade and sun.*

Proper Watering ~Christine Hensley, TCNP

Proper watering techniques will help ensure the long-term success of your landscape and allow it to develop a robust root system that will help it to survive our blazing summers. Plant roots need 3 things—soil, water and air. When we water too often, and/or in short intervals, plant roots never get the air they need. When watering plant material, think longer, deeper, and less often. For established landscapes, lawns and plants, 1 to 1.5 inches once per week is plenty of water. If at all possible, water only one day of the week. This method will allow the soil to become thoroughly saturated with no dry spots and then allow the water to drain through providing necessary air to reach plants roots. Watering multiple times per week never allows the soil to fully drain and forces the plant roots to remain in the upper surface of the soil. This creates smaller root systems that are not able to tolerate our summers. The plants that have deep roots that penetrate well into the soil are the ones that will thrive throughout the years. *North Haven Gardens has the tools and products to keep your garden hydrated through summer. Our favorites include moisture meters, expanded shale and lots of mulch!*



Time for Tomatoes! ~Leslie Finical Halleck, MS

There are good reasons to grow both hybrid and heirloom tomatoes. While the heirlooms tend to have better flavor and color, some of the hybrids are a bit easier to grow and give you more reliable production. A favorite hybrid variety I plant every year is 'Celebrity'. This is a heavy and reliable producer of medium sized good-flavored fruits. Plants are resistant to many of the diseases common to tomatoes and are easy to grow. 'Sun Sugar' is one of my favorite cherry type hybrids that produces super sweet yellow fruit by the bucket loads. Of the heirlooms, my favorite varieties include 'Porter', which produces pinkish-red plum sized tomatoes, 'Green Zebra', which produces loads of sweet green and yellow striped fruit, and 'Roma', which is great for making pastes and sauces. Now, there are thousands of tomato varieties to choose from, each offering their own unique benefits. You just have to experiment with different types until you find the ones you like best. A second crop of tomatoes can be planted in July! *NORTH HAVEN GARDENS has everything you need for a successful tomato growing season.* Put this spring's tomato harvest to good use! Enter your best Salsa in our contest during Salsa Sunday, June 29th. Details at www.nhg.com.

HERE ARE A FEW IMPORTANT TOMATO GROWING TIPS:

- Tomatoes need full sun. At least 6 hours a day of direct sunlight is best.
- Tomatoes require consistent moisture; so make sure you place them in a spot that is easy to water. Good aeration and consistent moisture will help reduce disease problems.
- Raised beds or containers work best for tomatoes because they require good drainage and soil aeration.
- Amend your beds with organic compost, humus, and well-composted manure. Use mulch as moisture conserving top-dressing.
- Work in an organic fertilizer into the soil when you're prepping the area. Use products like organic vegetable food, alfalfa meal, or cottonseed meal. 1 or 2 lbs per 100 sq. ft. At planting time, apply a root stimulator such as liquid seaweed and also add Epsom salts (magnesium sulfate).
- When planting transplants, be sure to place them deeper in the soil than where they were growing in the pot. Bury a couple of inches of the main stem under the soil. The plant will produce additional roots from the stem.
- Cage your tomatoes to provide necessary support.
- Apply an additional fertilization when the first fruits have developed about a quarter of their mature size. Use a 4-1-2 ratio fertilizer, and reapply every two weeks thereafter.
- Avoid getting water on the foliage, and water in the morning to avoid fungal diseases.

Now is the Time



M A Y

Leave lots of hints around the house about the **Mother's Day** gift you were hoping for—an **NHG Gift Card** or colorful **garden accessories**.

Plant: Caladium bulbs and summer bedding plants such as lantana, marigolds, purslane and zinnia; perennials, herbs, warm-season vegetables.

Fertilize: Tomatoes, annual flowers and potted plants, and azaleas after blooming. Use root stimulator on all new plantings. Add compost and slow-release fertilizer to new planting beds.

Prune: Spring-flowering shrubs, vines and climbing roses after they are finished flowering.

Pest Control: Use BT for caterpillars, blast aphids with water and release ladybugs; use horticultural oil or insecticidal soap for thrips, scale, spider mites, and mealybugs.

Disease Control: Spray Neem oil for control of black spot, powdery mildew and other fungal diseases.

J U N E

Let your family know you are wishing for high quality **NHG Garden Tools** for **Father's Day**!

Plant: Warm-season annuals such as periwinkle, copper plant, vegetables, tropicals, fall-flowering perennials; re-pot houseplants.

Fertilize: Summer-flowering plants; potted plants.

Pests: Spray horticultural oil or orange oil for spider mites, lace bugs, thrips, and scale.

Mulch, mulch, mulch to keep in moisture and protect against harsh, hot temperatures this summer.

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

NORTH HAVEN Gardens

7700 Northaven Road, Dallas, TX 75230

214-363-5316 • www.nhg.com

NOT SURE WHAT TO GET THE GARDENER IN YOUR LIFE?

North Haven Gardens Gift Cards make the perfect gift! Order online or in-store.



Gifts for Gardening Parents

May and June are the months to celebrate our beloved mom and dad! This year give them gifts for their favorite activity—gardening! We have put together a list of some of the gifts we wouldn't mind receiving from our own children.

1. **Unsure what to give?** An **NHG Gift Card** in any denomination is always the most popular gift in town! *Order online, call the NHG store or stop by and we will mail it for you.*
2. **Blooming Garden Gift Baskets:** Whether your parent is a shade, sun or organic gardener, this popular gift is custom designed with your parent in mind. Fill their basket with herbs and organic products, unique sun annuals, lush shade perennials or a variety of seeds complimented by an ergonomic hand trowel to keep them comfortably gardening all season. *Call or stop by to place your order. Delivery offered in select Dallas areas for a small fee.*
3. **New Garden Accessories:** Introducing a new, vibrant line of glass votive & hurricane candle holders, colorful windchimes, contemporary bird feeders and more from New Creative.
4. **High quality NHG Garden Tools:** Made of stainless steel, these well-made tools will last a lifetime. The right tools make gardening easier!
5. **Fountains and Iron Garden Furniture:** A whimsical table and chair set next to a bubbling fountain will relax your mom or dad, improving their health, mood and well being!
7. **Greenhouse Plants:** Shop our beautiful selection of Orchids and other tropical and indoor plants for a unique gift to spice up your parent's home.
8. **EcoFriendly Accessories:** Mom and Dad will appreciate that they raised environmentally conscience kids! Rain barrels, composters, organic garden products and more will help them leave the earth a better place.



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.*

BEGONIA SOCIETY

214-363-6715 ext 340

Meets the fourth Sunday at 3pm

BONSAI SOCIETY

972-754-9883

Meets the first Saturday at 9:00am

DAYLILY GROWERS OF DALLAS

972-669-0291

Meets the third Saturday at 10am

FIRST MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF DALLAS

972-424-0724

Meets the third Tuesday at 7pm

HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Meets the fourth Saturday at 10am

IKEBANA CREATIONS

Call Sue Smith 972-424-8516

Meets the 2nd & 4th Tuesday
from 12:30pm-3:30pm

IRIS SOCIETY

Meets the third Sunday at 3pm

SOUTHWESTERN FERN SOCIETY

214-691-4364

Meets the second Sunday at 3pm

GREATER NORTH TEXAS ORCHID SOCIETY

214-691-4364

Meets the first Sunday at 3pm