Every in thing



Celebrating

52

Years of Service

September-October 2003

North Haven Gardens Newsletter



September

Plant cool weather color — petunias, alyssum, dianthus, cyclamen, primrose, flowering kale.

Select and purchase spring-blooming bulbs. The best selections are available now: paperwhites, tulips, hyacinths, and specialty bulbs. We will store bulb purchases of \$100 or more in our cooler until planting time (mid— to late December when soil temperatures are 50° or colder).

The fall is a great time to plant (and transplant) trees and shrubs.

Apply beneficial nematodes.

Fertilize lawns, trees, and shrubs at the beginning of September. Between mid-September and October 15, apply corn gluten meal as a weed pre-emergent to grass areas only; use 20 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft; water after applying. Keep it out of the gardens. (If you apply the corn gluten, you don't need to fertilize the lawn also.)

Plant leafy green vegetables such as Swiss chard, spinach, lettuce. Also plant onions, broccoli, cabbage and kale.

October

Plant cool weather plants such as mums, pansies, snapdragons, dusty miller, and fragrant stock.

Sew native seeds for spring bloom.

Pick pumpkins for Jack-o-lantern carving and mini-pumpkins and gourds for fall decorating.

Compost those falling leaves! Mulch flower beds in preparation for winter.

Purchase frost cloth to be prepared for unexpected cold weather.

Feed the birds! Safflower seeds are great; squirrels don't like them!

Fall is Fabulous for Creating Compost! by Debbie Jackson

Fall is a great time to start a compost pile. As you prepare your flower beds and yard for the cooler months. Don't discard the leaves, grass clippings or summer flowers — turn them into compost.

Locate your compost pile or **Compost Tumbler**, available in the store, of in a shady level area. Make sure this location is convenient to your work because you don't want it to be a chore to get to. Also make sure that the area you choose doesn't flood during heavy rains. The best size for your compost pile is 3 ft. in length by 3 ft. wide by 3 ft. high.

Now it is time for the fun to begin. You need carbon-rich ingredients, such as fallen leaves and straw, and nitrogen-rich ingredients, such as fresh grass clipping and **cottonseed meal**. Let's start with the leaves. Place a 3-inch layer in your compost pile, then wet it with water. Top the leaves with a 3-inch layer of grass clippings and again water this layer. Repeat the layers, alternating with leaves and grass clippings until you reach 3 feet in height. Cover your pile with a tarp to help hold the heat and moisture in. You can help the pile work by turning it weekly.

The end result of all this work is compost that is rich in nutrients. There are many uses for the compost from mixing into your flower beds or as a top dressing for your shrubs.

8th Annual Tea Off and Herb Days!

It's herbal tea and dessert time again! Prepare your favorite tea (one gallon of it) and/or herbal dessert. Then, bring your herbal creation and the recipe to North Haven Gardens on *Saturday*, *October 4, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon*. The judging will take place at noon. Winners will be announced at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday.

A \$50 NHG gift certificate will be awarded to each of the First Place winners in the "Herbal Dessert" and in the "Herbal Tea" categories. Second place winners in each category will receive a \$25 NHG gift certificate.

Weekend lectures include entertaining ideas for "Processing Herbs from Your Garden" on Saturday, and "Herbal Teas" on Sunday — the tea recipes we always want because they taste so great!

Members of the local herb societies will be in the herb area to help with herb selections and answer questions from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on October 4 and 5. Mark your calendar! Enter the competitions! Sample herbal tea, try some of the desserts, and learn more about herbs from the experts!

Bulbs! Glorious Bulbs! Buy Now! Regret-not, Later!

Fresh Dutch flower bulbs start arriving in September and October! Choose from colorful tulips, daffodils, ranunculus, crocus, hyacinth, and more! We chill our tulip and hyacinth bulbs to insure their spectacular performance in our warm climate. Shop early for the best selection. Also, we will store your bulb purchase of \$100 or more in our cooler until planting time (mid— to late December when soil temperatures are 50° or colder). Prepare now for an incredible spring burst of color in YOUR garden!

United by the lattice of the lattice

Every Blooming Thing September-October 2003

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, September 6 — 9 a.m. until sold out! Iris Society's Annual Fall Iris Sale! "All About Iris" - 11:00 a.m., September 6 Dell Perry, Dallas Iris Society

Saturday, September 13 - 1:30 p.m. "Landscape Design" Tim Closs, Horticulture Instructor Naaman Forrest High School presented by the First Men's Garden Club of Dallas

Saturday, September 20 — 1:30 p.m. "Monarch Migration and Butterflies that Stay the Winter in the Dallas Area " Dale Clark, Lepidopterist

Saturday, September 27 — 1:30 p.m. "Native Plants in the Garden Landscape" Lynda Strain, Garden Consultant

Sunday, September 28 — 1:30 p.m. "Planning Garden Color for Good Chi" Laurel Schellinger, Feng Shui Expert

October is a Festival of Events! Saturday, October 4 — 9 a.m. until sold out! Daylily Growers of Dallas' Annual Fall Sale

October 4 and 5 — Fall Herb Days
and 8th Annual Tea Off Competition
(see article on Page 1 on contests)

Saturday, October 4 — 1:30 p.m.
"Processing Herbs from Your Garden"
Bill Meyer, Heritage Herb Club, HSA
Sunday, October 5 — 1:30 p.m.
"Herbal Teas" with Edith Hiett
Heritage Herb Club, HSA, Master Gardener
Herb Society Members will help you with your herb selections and questions throughout the weekend from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

the weekend from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Bulb Weekend!! New Selections Arriving Daily! Saturday, October 18 - 1:30 p.m. The Best Blooming Bulbs" (Q&A following) Meet our Dutch Bulb Expert — **Cornelius Noordermeer**

"Wednesday at Noon" (12 noon to 2 p.m.) Wednesday at Noon - September 17 "Planning Now for Spring Blooms" - Judy Fender Learn what to plant for spectacular displays.

Wednesday at Noon - October 15 "Creating Garden Rooms & Interest"- Judy Fender Add interest to your garden with new ideas.

Reservations Required; Limited Seating Luncheon/Lecture Charge \$15 (incl. tax) Registration Form in store or on our website: www.nhg.com

Check our Website for More Info on Events!

Basic Principles of Pruning by Donny Rodriguez

- 1. Remove undesirable growth that distracts from the balance of the plant.
- 2. Remove diseased, dead, or abnormal plant tissue.
- 3. Prune to stimulate flowering and/or fruit production of old plants.
- 4. Develop a specific plant form, such as a hedge or an espalier.
- 5. Direct trees growth in a particular form to eliminate problems.
- Remove plant parts that interfere with structures, utility lines or visibility.

Pruning at the wrong time may stimulate new growth that could be damaged by early freezing and could remove flower buds, reducing next year's flowers. Most pruning is best done in late winter through early spring. Prune after the landscape feature of your plant has passed.



For most spring flowering plants, prune in late spring (after the bloom time); this allows for adequate growth during the summer. For fall-flowering plants, use a tip-pruning or thinning method. Prune as the flowering season is ending. For plants with colorful berries, prune after the berries are gone. For plants that produce flowers on one-year-old wood — such as hydrangeas, glossy abelia, and crape myrtle — cut away only branches with spent flowers or prune in late winter to promote vigorous spring growth.

Gardening Ideas for Fall by Bob McLaughlin

With the first indication that the intense hot weather is starting to abate, all those hormones start flowing, and we are seriously ready to start gardening again. Here are some thoughts about what to do. Start thinking about what seeds you might want for flowers next spring which like to 'winter over'. Some candidates are Larkspur, Poppies, Bluebonnet, Alyssum. Most varieties of cold hardy vegetables are available for fall planting now. Prune the spent heads on your roses for a wonderful fall show. Many rose growers think this is one of the best rose seasons.

This is the time when the largest, freshest varieties of bulbs are available. Those which need to be stored in the bottom of the refrigerator can be bought now — see North Haven's offer to store them for you on Page 1. They will then be ready for planting around December 1st.

If you are thinking about planting a tree, you can't beat fall planting. North Haven Gardens has a wide selection of choices available in both flowering and shade trees. They will have time to start rooting before the winter cold sets in.

Don't forget that now is the time to do your last lawn fertilization for a strong, cold resistant root system. We've got the right fertilizer for your needs at NHG.

Garden Conservancy 'Open Days' Tour HQs

North Haven Gardens is Tour Headquarters for this Saturday, September **13th tour.** Seven Dallas gardens are featured — including our very own staff member Judy Fender's garden, which includes three ponds and a stream, roses, native and drought-tolerant plants, herbs, and drought-tolerant perennials. North Haven carries all the plants you will see here, too!

Tour hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, September 13 only. Tickets are \$5 at each garden gate or books of 6 tickets/\$25 can be purchased at our NHG Customer Service desk. Stop by to pick up garden host information, or start at Judy's garden [9019 Fringewood Drive, Dallas - Mapsco 38X] and pick up our NHG plant information sheets and visitor coupon there. Then, stop back at NHG and pick up some plants you've seen for your garden.

Every Blooming Thing September-October 2003

North Haven Gardens

... a family-owned business serving the garden lovers of the Metroplex since 1951.

Visit our greenhouse for houseplants — orchids, begonias, ferns, violets, bromeliads, bonsai, and so many tropical selections to enhance your indoor garden. Walk the nursery for your landscape garden needs. Choose from our vast selection of herbs — the best in the Metroplex! Pick up our helpful Plant Lists when in the shop or online. Choose from our mulches and fertilizers to keep your gardens and lawn beautiful. Great ideas for the gardener fill our gift shop; and our floral department can fill your every whim for those you love and/or just want to cheer. Attend our educational lectures and join one of the many clubs that meet here. Check our Customer Service Desk for tickets for local garden tours and our NHG programs. Let us help you with your garden needs. We're here for you!

Bring the Colors of Fall Indoors by Tamara Pickard

As fall fast approaches, our senses are invigorated with the colors of the season — beautiful reds, oranges, and yellows abound. Create a cozy autumn atmosphere indoors with a wide variety of house plants in these rich shades.

Enjoy the look of **chrysanthemums** in a brightly lit spot with florist-grade mums. They come in many fabulous colors and petal types and add a cheerful touch to your fall décor.

Kalanchoes provide constant color with lovely dusters of star-shaped flowers. They come in such colors as red, bright orange, peach, and yellow to suit your fall fancy.

Perhaps the most colorful foliage plants for autumn are **crotons**. Each plant is unique in its varying red, green, orange, and yellow hues. No two are alike, but all will liven up the festivities. So, take a trip to North Haven to spice up your season, and bring the colors of fall indoors.

New Pumpkin Carving Idea! by Debbie Reeves

Are you tired of the same old Jack O' Lantern? Here is a wonderful NEW idea that is very easy to do and your neighbors can enjoy your new creation.

First: Choose one tall pumpkin for the Web. With masking tape, make a cross, then an "X" over it, then concentric octagons. Cut out the areas between the tape.

Second: Choose a round smaller pumpkin about 1/3 the size of the larger pumpkin to

make the spider; draw a line from left to right in the middle of the pumpkin, draw a half circle on top connecting the right side and the left so that it looks like the head of a mushroom, draw three long curved legs on each side and carve all the way through the drawing. Place a large candle in the web pumpkin and a small candle in the spider pumpkin. [North Haven Gardens will have pumpkins, gourds, dried corn, and straw bales in stock for this season!]

Friday afternoon Happy Hour is back!

Every Friday from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m., selected cut flowers will be marked 50% off.

Let our floral department help you remember those important days throughout the year when you want to send flowers. Just fill out the form below and return it to us by mail or email the information to: Kmcgaughey@nhg.com.

We will send you a reminder or, if you prefer, call two weeks before the flowers need to be sent.

North Haven Florist Reminder Card

Your name:			Daytime Phone:	
Address:				
Please Call or	r <i>Send</i> me a remi	nder about the following dates.	(Please circle which way yo	u would prefer for us to contact you).
Delivery Date	Occasion	Person to receive gift	Recipient's Phone	Address, City and Zip

North Haven Gardens 7700 Northaven Road Dallas, TX 75230 (214) 363-5316

> Address Correction Requested



Visit: www.nhg.com

'Every Blooming Thing' will be mailed only to GROW CARD customers beginning with the November-December issue! Stop in to register for your free GROW CARD today!

Newsletters *will* be available on the NHG website for everyone.

SOCIETY MEETINGS

AT NORTH HAVEN GARDENS

Call the club to confirm the meeting — in event of a schedule change.

Begonia Society 214-363-6715 x340 Meets the third Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Bonsai Society 972-392-1430 Meets the first Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Bromeliad Society 214-691-6691 Meets 4th Saturday, October 25, 3 to 5 p.m.

Dallas Iris Society 972-231-9594 Meets Third Sunday, 3 to 5 p.m. No meetings in May or June

Dallas Rose Society 972-234-5184 Meets the fourth Friday at 6:30 p.m.

Daylily Growers of Dallas 972-241-1726

Meets the third Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

First Men's Garden Club of Dallas 972-530-3691

Meets the third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Southwestern Fern Society 972-241-6480 Meets the second Sunday, 3 to 5 p.m.



Check our ad each Friday in the Dallas Morning News'
House & Garden / Living
Section for lectures,
events, and sales information.



Visit www.nhg.com for More Garden Information!



Think Spring Bulbs Now by Don Miller

Plan your spring bulb garden now. The ideal time to plant spring flowering bulbs is in November and December; they will bloom in March and April. Take a look at your landscape and think where you would like to see a colorful spring display. There is nothing more elegant than a bright spring show of tulips. For an extra treat, plant them where they can be seen from a window.

Spring flowering bulbs need a bed that has good drainage. You can improve drainage by raising the level of the bed or mixing compost and lava sand with the existing soil. Spring bulbs will grow in sun or in bright shade.

Here are some ideas for your spring display. Bulbs make the best impact when they are planted in large clusters or in solid areas. If you want to plant them in a row, they should be at least 3 or 4 bulbs deep. Select a dark green evergreen shrub as a neutral background. Shades of pinks, blues, and purples blend well. Contrast purples and blues with yellows and reds. Harmonize pastel blues with white or pinks and roses with white. Remember, tulips can be planted with your winter pansies to provide displays of dazzling color.

Perennial Marigolds Make Good Scents for Fall by Chuck Goecke

Two Mexican herbs, both Marigold relatives, bloom in the late fill and have deliciously scented foliage all year.

Mexican Mint Marigold (*Tagetes lucida*) has anise-scented leaves, somewhat reminiscent of French Tarragon. It is sometimes called 'Texas Tarragon,' as it is native to southern parts of Texas. It grows about 2 to 3 feet tall and 2 feet wide, blooming with a yellow daisy-like flower in the late fall, continuing through short days of winter until spring when the weather is mild (above 25° F.). Most winters in North Texas, it behaves like a herbaceous perennial, faithfully returning each spring. Mexican mint marigold is a very drought resistant, tough native for your garden. It needs good drainage.

Lemon Marigold (*Tagetes lemmoni*) is also sometimes known as 'Copper Canyon Daisy'. It has incredibly lemony-spiced foliage with a somewhat fern-like look. Lemon Marigold grows a little larger than its cousin above, reaching 3 or 4 feet tall and wide. In many respects, it is otherwise similar to the mint marigold with golden-yellow daisies in fall, winter, and, if mild, spring.