



NOW is the TIME

☞ Start tomato seeds indoors in January! Direct-seed broccoli, Brussels sprouts and salad greens. Plant 4" transplants as available.

☞ Plant any remaining tulip bulbs by early January. Add cheerful color with pansies, violas, cyclamen and other winter favorites.

☞ Onions & leeks begin arriving in late December and are planted through January.

☞ Potatoes arrive in late January and are planted through February. Asparagus crowns, horseradish, and rhubarb are also planted in February.

☞ Amend existing veggie and landscape beds with compost. Now is the ideal time to add biostimulants such as Medina Soil Activator and Molasses to boost beneficial microbes for spring planting.

☞ Prune roses, perennials, and ornamental grasses by mid-February. Plan new rose plantings ahead of NHG's Rose Weekend March 7th-8th.

☞ Spray horticultural dormant oils on fruit trees and shrubs to control overwintering pests such as scale.

☞ Now is a great time for transplanting existing shrubs and trees while they are dormant.

☞ Turn compost piles and bins; continue adding new material to prepare for spring use.

☞ Provide food and water for wild songbirds to help them get through the winter. This helps to attract them back to your garden throughout the year.



Dig In to the Gardening Year

By Rusty E. Allen, TCNP, NHG Education & Outreach Coordinator



Happy 2015! We're proud to be hosting two new gardening organizations for their monthly meetings this year: the new **Garden Masters Inc.** organization will have their first meeting

on Wednesday, January 7th at 11 am. Their first guest speaker will be our General Manager, Cody Hoya, who will offer ideas and inspiration on Vertical Gardening projects—you won't want to miss! Also new at NHG this year is the **Greater Dallas Organic Garden Club**, who will meet with us on the 4th Sunday of each month at 3pm. They'll have wonderful speakers lined up, too, and you can learn more about gardening organically at these free meetings open to the public.

For those organic vegetable gardeners prepping for spring, **January is your seeding month**—especially for tomatoes! NHG always has a great selection of organic, non-GMO seeds at the right time to plant, and we program free classes like our **'Seeding Success'** on the 18th and 24th to help you get started.

January means **onion and leek time**, too—find transplant 'slips' of varieties specially selected to do well in north Texas in stock from

late December through January. As February approaches, it's time to prepare for **tomato transplants** arriving. We'll have free, one-hour classes to help you harvest your best crop ever this year.

Is your soil ready for all this planting? January and February are the ideal months for soil preparation. Join special guest **Randy Johnson of the Dallas Zoo** as he presents 'Soil Biology for Gardeners' on February 7th so you can dig deep and improve your soil health before planting. Follow this with **Heather Rinaldi of Texas Worm Ranch** on February 22nd—Heather will discuss the ecological value of worms, their role in gardening, and vermicomposting, as well.

If you're brand new to gardening in north Texas or need a complete class on growing vegetables, there are classes for you, too—the **Introduction to N. Texas Landscape Gardening or Home Vegetable Gardening** classes are the perfect way to get growing this year.

With fruit trees, roses, vegetables, and vermicomposting, we're committed to your gardening success at NHG. No matter the weather, join us in our comfy classroom and grow your gardening knowledge in time for spring.





Onion How-To:



Carefully tease apart the individual slips in the bunch avoiding root breakage as much as possible.



Sort the slips from largest to smallest—larger slips will go in beds for forming bulbs while smaller slips can be tucked into containers for their tasty green tops.



Make a shallow, 1" indentation with your forefinger and gently insert the slip.



Gently press the soil to secure the slip and help it stay upright.



Water lightly with organic root stimulator or a solution of liquid seaweed after planting.



Aren't all onions the same?

No! Onions are put into 3 distinct categories; short-day, intermediate-day and long-day. In north central Texas, it's best to plant short and intermediate varieties for best success. Leeks are not daylight sensitive, so that is not a factor when selecting varieties.

NHG will be offering yellow, red and white onion varieties in both short and long day categories as well as specialty onion varieties and leeks!

Short Day Onions:

Texas Supersweet
Southern Belle Red
White Bermuda
Yellow Granex



Intermediate Day:

Super Star
Candy
Red Candy Apple



Potatoes

Yukon Gold
Russian Fingerling
Red La Soda
and more.

Potato How-To:



Select seed potatoes that are firm and have at least 2-3 'eyes' per potato (or piece)

Choose a raised bed or large container, such as these 45 gallon nursery pots.



Fill your container about 1/3 full with loose, rich soil that drains well and contains plenty of organic matter.



Also in January & February:



Leeks



Horseradish



Asparagus



Rhubarb

Space your seed potatoes about 1' apart.

Cover your seed potatoes with 3-4" of your planting mix, mixed with a bit of pine straw to keep it loose and aerated.



After growth appears, continue adding soil every week or so depending on growth. Speak to one of our garden advisors for more information.



Vertical Mini-Landscapes

By Cody Hoya, NHG General Manager

Craving a touch of green to liven up the chill of winter months indoors? These easy, low-maintenance mini gardens are the perfect creative project during gray January days. Unique air plants—tillandsias—are mounted with floral pins to a backdrop created with moss, stones, and branches. Feeling inspired? Here are the basic steps:

- 1. Find a container deep enough to hold a fitted piece of 2” Styrofoam**, but light enough to easily mount on a feature wall. Simple wooden boxes like these or even a vintage cigar box will do.
- 2. First, apply a hanger to the back.** Then, cut the foam to fit tightly and secure with hot glue.
- 3. Next, adorn your blank canvas with different mosses and secure with greening pins**—here, we used dyed reindeer moss to contrast with sheet moss and mood moss. There are many colors and types, so stop in to see all the possibilities.
- 4. Adding some stones and branches will give your creation depth and character.** You can go for whimsical or create a more realistic-looking forest floor composition. These are easily secured with hot glue, as well.

- 5. Lastly, add a specimen tillandsia or a group of them**, depending on your style. Tillandsias come in numerous shapes, sizes and colors, so check in at NHG to see the wide variety.
- 6. Hang your piece and enjoy!** To care for it, simply mist the tillandsias lightly with water 2-3 times per week. Avoid placing them in hot direct sunlight and heater drafts, as this can desiccate the plants.



Photo credit: John F. Rhodes, Dallas Morning News

Get Vertical!

If you're ready to get hands-on and create your own mini vertical landscape, join us for our make-and-take demo scheduled for **Sat, Jan 31 and Sun, Feb 8**. For \$49.99 you can select from all the materials needed to create your very own piece. Class is limited to 25 persons, so **please call to register by Wed, Jan 28!**

Jump Start your Tomatoes indoors in January

By Robyn Morris, TCNP, Garden Advisor & Seeds Buyer



'Sun Gold' tomatoes at harvest time.

January is the month for starting your tomato seeds! It may be frigid outside, but seeding tomatoes indoors is fun, easy, and the perfect way to have a gourmet selection of unique varieties at your dinner table this summer.

When you grow tomatoes from seed, you have a much broader selection of varieties to choose from than are available by transplant. NHG offers a wide selection of both heirloom and hybrid tomato varieties from seed as well as broccoli, spinach, peppers and other favorites

you'll be seeding out in the garden soon. Our seeds are organically labeled and non-GMO as well. Come in to see the array of options that seed starting offers for your garden. We have all the supplies, too—and throughout January and February, we'll have classes and demonstrations to help you achieve success.



**NHG's
Garden Coach
Make an
appointment
today!**

214-363-5316



NHG.com

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January-February 2015 Calendar

January 2015

Saturday, January 3rd:

9am: **Bonsai Society Meeting**

Sunday, January 4th:

3pm: **Orchid Society Meeting**

Wednesday, January 7th:

10:30am: **Garden Masters Inc.**
Vertical gardening styles

Saturday, January 10th:

10am: **Alpha African Violet Society**

9-11:30am: **Intro to North Texas
Landscape Gardening \$34.99**
Register today 214-363-5316

2-3:30pm: **Mini-Succulent Garden**

Workshop: \$30.00 includes all materials.
Register today! 214-363-5316.

Sunday, January 11th:

3pm: **Southwestern Fern Society**

Wednesday, January 14th:

11:30am: **Texas Daffodil Society**

Saturday, January 17th:

10am: **Daylily Growers Meeting**

1-2pm: **Preparing the Soil for Spring
Planting:** Is your soil really ready
for planting?

Sunday, January 18th:

1pm: POP UP Class: **Seeding Success**

3pm: **Iris Society Meeting**

Saturday, January 24th:

9:30am: **Herb Society Meeting**

9-11:30am: **Introduction to Home
Vegetable Gardening \$34.99 Register
today 214-363-5316**

1pm: POP UP Class: **Fruit Tree Success!**

1:30 **Demo: Fruit Tree Planting.**
\$24.99 Receive 1qt Nature's Guide
root stimulator and 1 bag of Vital Earth
hardwood mulch plus a certificate for
\$10.00 OFF a fruit tree of your choice.

Sunday, January 25th:

1pm: POP UP Class: **Fruit Tree Success!**

1:30pm **Demo: Fruit Tree Planting.**
\$24.99 Receive 1qt Nature's Guide
root stimulator and 1 bag of Vital Earth
hardwood mulch plus a certificate for
\$10.00 OFF a fruit tree of your choice.

3pm: **Greater Dallas Organic Garden Club**

Saturday, January 31st:

11am-12:30pm: **Vertical Mini-
Landscape Workshop \$49.99** includes
all materials. Limited to 25 attendees;
Register today! 214-363-5316

Noon-1pm: **Growing Tomatoes**

February 2015

Wednesday, January 4th:

10:30am: **Garden Masters Inc.**

All classes FREE unless otherwise noted.

Saturday, February 7th:

9am: **Bonsai Society Meeting**

9-11:30am: **Intro to North Texas
Landscape Gardening \$34.99**
Register today 214-363-5316

1pm: **Soil Biology with Randy Johnson**

Sunday, February 8th:

1-2:30pm: **Vertical Mini-Landscape
Workshop \$49.99** includes all materials.
Limited to 25 attendees
Register today! 214-363-5316

3pm: **Southwestern Fern Society**

Wednesday, February 11th:

11:30am **Texas Daffodil Society**

Thursday, February 12th:

10am: **TNT Judges Meeting**

Sunday, February 15th:

2-3:30pm: **Mini-Succulent Garden
Workshop: \$30.00** includes all materials.
Register today! 214-363-5316.

3pm: **Iris Society Meeting**

Saturday, February 21st:

9-11:30am: **Introduction to Home
Vegetable Gardening \$34.99 Register
today 214-363-5316**

Sunday, February 22nd:

1-2pm: **Growing Tomatoes**

1-3pm: **Worm Composting** with
Heather Rinaldi of Texas Worm Ranch

