

Every Blooming Thing



Celebrating
52
Years of Service

July-August 2003

North Haven Gardens Newsletter



July

Plant: Tomatoes early in 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: Learn your city's water regulations. Water deeply when you water your lawn. See page 2 for more tips. 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.

August

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, squash, cucumbers early in the month; broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower about mid-month. Plant leafy crops late in August.

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

Xeriscaping — Conserve Water with a Creative Landscape

by David Reznik, A.S.L.A.

Do you know that over 50% of the water you use is used for landscaping? And much of that water is wasted. "Xeriscaping" is a set of principles and practices that help us reduce our water consumption in the landscape, resulting in dollars saved and a healthier environment. Xeriscaping uses seven basic principles which lead to saving water. These are: (1) Planning and design, (2) Soil Analysis, (3) Practical turf areas, (4) Appropriate plant selection, (5) Efficient irrigation, (6) Use of mulches, and (7) Appropriate maintenance.

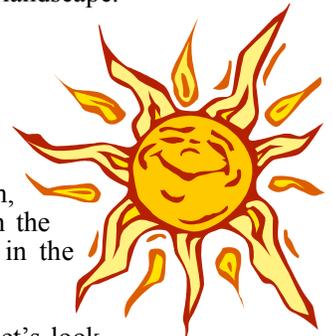


Start off with a well thought out plan. Next, have your soil tested. Usually our soils will benefit from the addition of organic matter to enhance plant health and retain moisture. Proper plant selection is a must. Select plants that are either native or adapted to our area. Know each plant's water demands and sun exposure needs. Irrigate wisely and efficiently. Plant your landscape in organized water need zones. Always use mulch. Mulching may be the most efficient method to conserve water and promote healthy plants. Just ask the staff at North Haven to help you know which plants are best for you and your landscape.

Love That Sun!

by Bob McLaughlin

Summer is the time to take advantage of the warm, wonderful weather we enjoy in Texas. Working in the yard can be great fun in the summer just as it is in the spring, assuming you treat the weather with respect.



The plants that love this season are numerous, but let's look at a few. In addition to roses, some of the following perennials are true sun lovers — most ornamental grasses, obedient plant, most herbs, coneflowers, Gallardia, sages, hibiscus, and sedums to name a few.

An excellent source to give you greater in-depth knowledge about these plants are the books about them. These can both inspire and inform us. After reading a good plant book, you can hardly wait to get out in the yard and try it yourself.

Summer gardening time is "Safety Time". The experts say that if you wait until you are thirsty, you are waiting too long. Use sun block skin lotion and wear a hat. If you start feeling light-headed, stop working and move to the shade to cool down. Try getting out early in the morning. With daylight saving time, we can get an early start and do plenty of work by eleven in the morning.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

STORE HOURS

Monday through Saturday — 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Sundays — 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Store Hours Change on Monday, August 11th

Monday through Saturday - 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sundays - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, July 19 — 1:30 p.m.
“Xeriscape”

**Charlene Rowell, The Heard
Natural Science Museum**

presented by the First Men’s Garden Club of Dallas



The Great Summer IRIS SALE
Saturday, July 26 - 9 a.m.
until sold out!

Come early for the best selections!
presented by the Iris Society

Saturday, August 16 — 1:30 p.m.

“Tropical Plants” with Tamara Pickard, NHG
presented by the First Men’s Garden Club of Dallas

‘WEDNESDAY at NOON’

Luncheon & Lecture with Judy Fender



Wednesday at Noon, July 16
(12 noon - 2 p.m.)

**“Hummingbirds, Butterflies,
and Beneficials in the Garden —
Their Habits and
What Attracts Them”**



Wednesday at Noon, August 20
(12 noon - 2 p.m.)

“Herbs from the Garden”

**Where to plant them, how to care for them,
and Recipes, Too!**

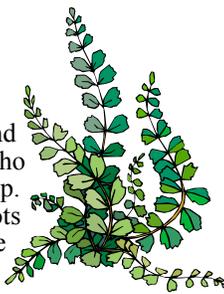
*Reservations are Required; Limited Seating.
Luncheon/lecture Charge \$15, includes tax.
Reservation Form (includes menu selections)
is on the website and in the store.*

Don’t have a **GROW CARD?**
Pick one up at our
Customer Service Desk in the store
so you can begin growing your savings
at North Haven Gardens today!

*For more garden information
and plant lists to assist you,
Visit our website — www.nhg.com*

Creative Shade Containers

by Tamara Pickard



Ah, the joys of summer-sunning by the pool, picnics, and enjoying time outdoors. But we aren’t the only ones who enjoy being outside when the weather heats up. Houseplants love to spend summers in shady spots outdoors. Tired of impatiens and begonias for shade containers? Look no further than North Haven’s tropical greenhouse for great ideas to spice up summer color. Try such hard-to-find fern varieties as Bear’s Claw, Lemon Button, Kangaroo Paw, and Bird’s Nest ferns, which have unusual foliage and pair well with caladiums and impatiens. Clubmoss (Selaginella), with its finely textured foliage, can be used to trail from pots instead of ivy. Hundreds of varieties of begonias await the opportunity to shine in pots with shade coleus and impatiens. Angel wing begonias do beautifully in hanging baskets while rex begonias add interest in mixed containers. So remember, when planning shade containers, try some houseplants for a change. Your neighbors will wonder how you became so creative.

Gardening with Butterflies

by Debbie Jackson

Butterfly gardening is a rewarding pastime. The adult butterfly lays her eggs on host plants. Caterpillars hatch from these eggs with a healthy appetite. Host plants include trees, shrubs, and even grass. Some favorite plants include passion vines, dill, fennel, parsley and rue. Whatever the host plant, expect there to be damage as the caterpillar grows so does its appetite. The caterpillar at some point will make itself a cocoon where it will stay until it has turned into a butterfly.



Now the fun really begins, as the butterfly will search for nectar from flowering plants. Nectar plants are many including lantana, butterfly bush (Buddleia), and purple coneflower (Echinacea). Be sure to locate your nectar plants in a sunny location, as the butterfly needs the sun to warm its body. You may also want to place a shallow birdbath in the bed to provide water for the butterflies. Be sure to place a bench nearby so you can enjoy the activity in your garden.

For a more in-depth look into butterfly gardening, be sure to check out **Butterfly Gardening in the South** by Geyata Ajilvsgi, available for sale in our book nook. This is a wonderful book with pictures of the butterflies that you may see in your garden and comprehensive lists of both host and nectar plants to grow.



Water-Wise Plantings for Your Garden

Water regulations take effect in June for most communities — i.e., no watering in Dallas between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Conserve this precious resource by watering properly and planting water-wise landscapes and gardens. [For proper watering techniques see <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/extension/homelandscapes/water/water/>.]

Stop by and pick up our **2003 Perennial List** that indicates the “water-wise” plants we carry. Using these plants in groupings your garden will eliminate heavy water usage and, hopefully, cut down on your water bills this summer.

We also carry many different types of mulch — we have one suited to your garden design and needs. Let us be your mulch supplier!

Send Red, White, & Blue –

by Kelli McGaughey

Floral arrangements are perfect when you want to send a little joy to someone and surprise them. You can come in and pick up a wonderful arrangement for a friend, your Forth of July picnic table, or we can send a bright red, white, and blue arrangement to almost any location in the United States.



Fresh flowers arranged in a vase will definitely bring joy upon their arrival!

Our florists use only the freshest flowers available to assure that you are 100% satisfied with the brilliance of each arrangement.

Bring home or send a sentiment to someone as part of their July 4th celebration in remembrance of those heroes who fought for America's freedom. We can create a spectacular bouquet of colorful blooms that are sure to lift their spirits! So, celebrate or commemorate the occasion with a touch of blooming delight.



We also have a wonderful selection of plants for the garden-style arrangement as a nice alternative to cut flowers.

North Haven Gardens

The Floral Department
214-691-6751

Nolinas — Hardy Pony-Tail Palms or Evergreen Ornamental Grasses

by Chuck Goecke

Many indoor plant lovers are familiar with the durable pony-tail palm (*Nolina recurvata* - formerly called *Beaucarnea recurvata*) as an easy houseplant. Surprisingly, they have similar relatives that are fully hardy here in Dallas. The pony-tail palm itself is only hardy into the upper twenties, but some of its relatives are hardy to below zero.

Nolinas are members of the lily family, have persistent evergreen grass-like leaves, and are grouped collectively by some as “woody lilies” with yuccas, agaves, and sotols. They are all desert plants with long life spans and easy culture, provided they are well drained and not over-watered. Fortunately for gardeners, nolinas have no spines. Some Nolinas form a big fat swollen trunk, like a pony tail; and others, the trunk is always underground — so they appear like an evergreen ornamental grass.

Our native *Nolina texana* is one such variety that reaches only 2 feet high.. It goes by several common names, beargrass, devil's shoestring, or sacahuista. Basket grass is also a common name that refers to the tough leaves main usage. *Nolina nelsonii*, the Blue beargrass tree, eventually forms a trunk over 12 feet tall. It is hardy to 10 degrees or slightly lower, thus is best sheltered or in a pot. *Nolina microcarpa* is intermediate in size, around 5 or 6 feet in size, and very slow at forming a trunk. It and *N. texana* are hardy to -10 degrees. All nolinas have creamy yellow flowers spikes in summer, either above or near their foliage.

Check out these and other woody lilies and xeriscape drought resistant plants in NHG's Natives section. Also check out a new product for drainage enhancement, called **Tru Gro** expanded shale soil conditioner. It is ideal for enhancing the drainage for this type of plant, where you do not want the soil to be too rich.

Gifts & Yard Art

by Donny Rodriguez

Need some instant color for your yard? Add something that will brighten up your yard year around! We have a wonderful hard-to-find selection of new and trendy Wind Chimes like the stone age, tea time, and laundry day. Not only do they brighten up your yard, they will add color and music for your ears to enjoy while planting those new herbs, bright colored perennials, and annuals in your garden.

If it's new containers you are looking for, we have a great selection of colorful ceramic pots in a wide range of styles and sizes. The new colors include sage, emerald green, royal blue and antique white. Inside the retail store is a unique selection of ceramic pots for those indoor plants. The larger containers are located near our new arrival of water garden plants and on our patio next to our tropical greenhouse. We also have those hard-to-find self-watering containers. Be sure to check out our greenhouse for a wonderful selection of indoor plants like ferns, bonsai, and indoor palms to fill those new containers. Our Greenhouse is a relaxing location to wander around and experience the tranquil setting while you shop.



North Haven Gardens
7700 Northaven Road
Dallas, TX 75230
(214) 363-5316
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Gift Ideas, Books, Containers
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SOCIETY MEETINGS

AT NORTH HAVEN GARDENS

*Be certain to call the club
 to confirm their 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 Saturday, August 23, 3 to 5 p.m.

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.
 (No meetings June, July, August.)

First Men's Garden Club of Dallas
 972-530-3691
 Meets the third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Perennial Color for the Hot Summer by Don Miller

Mexican petunia is one of the best perennials for hot summer color. Known botanically as *Ruellia brittoniana*, it gets about 3 feet tall with long slender leaves along the stems. Its trumpet-shaped flowers are blue or pink. They appear on the upper part of the stems all summer and love the heat and sun but will tolerate some shade. It also comes in a dwarf variety called 'Katie's Dwarf' which only gets 8 to 10 inches tall. The pink-flowered dwarf is called 'Katie's Pink' or 'Poquita Pink' and the white variety is 'Katie's White' or 'White Ruffles.' These dwarf varieties make great ground covers for small areas. The light-colored flowers give a cool illusion to the landscape. A tall-growing cousin is '*Ruellia malacosperma*.' This species has wider leaves with flowers of blue or white.

Another perennial for summer color is *Phlox paniculata*, also called 'Summer Phlox' or 'Garden Phlox.' The most hardy varieties are 'John Fannick', a pink that gets about 2-3 feet tall; David is a white variety that gets about 2-3 feet tall. And, 'Texas Pink' is the old fashioned one that grandma grew. It also gets about 3 feet tall. These summer phloxes slowly spread and the large cluster of flowers appear at the top of the stems most of the summer.



Nature's Guide[®]

Quality organic products for your home and garden

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- Organic Vinegar
- Compost Tea
- Orange Oil
- Molasses
- Alfalfa Meal

Results you want and safety you expect - naturally

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



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