

## Every Blooming Thing

JULY • AUG • 2009

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All NHG programs are complimentary and open to the public unless otherwise noted. Visit our Events Page at [www.nhg.com](http://www.nhg.com) for added programs.

## ~ JULY 2009 ~

JULY 3-9 • **JULY 4TH SALE**

**25% Off All Plants in Stock!**

All annuals, perennials, trees, shrubs, herbs, groundcover and greenhouse plants. *In stock material only.* No discount on special orders, planting or delivery fees.

SUN, JULY 5

2:30PM • **General Orchid Care**

3PM • **Mexican Orchids** Sponsored by the Greater North Texas Orchid Society

SAT, JULY 11

11AM • **Understanding Your Irrigation System**

Johnny Macintosh, NHG Staff. Make the most of your irrigation system.

1:30PM • **Agaves, Yuccas & More!**

by Chuck Goecke, NHG staff.

SAT, JULY 12

1PM • **Crapemyrtles: Varieties, Care & Proper Pruning**

Christine Hensley, NHG Nursery Coordinator, TCNP.

2:30PM • **Attract Hummingbirds**

by Carolyn Oldham, local bird expert.

SAT, JULY 18

10AM • **Raising Backyard Chickens** by Dan

Probst, Bageniece Farms. Learn the basics!

Breeds, maintenance and more.

11AM-2PM or sold out • **Hens for Sale.** Bring a carrier if you plan to buy chickens.

1PM • **Mini Water Gardens** by North Texas

Aquascapes. Learn the basics of creating and maintaining a mini water garden.

SAT, JULY 25

10:30AM • **Native North American Indian and Hispanic Herbal Traditions**

Sponsored by the *Herb Society of America*.

1PM • **Drought Tolerant Herbs** by Kay

Nelson, NHG Garden Coach, TCNP. Lavender, thyme and more will be discussed!

## ~ AUGUST 2009 ~

SAT, AUG 1

9am-noon or sold out. • **Iris Sale** Sponsored by the Iris Society.

1:30PM • **Start Fall Veggie Seeds** Christine

Hensley, NHG Nursery Coordinator, TCNP.

SUN, AUG 2

2:30PM • **General Orchid Care** in the

Greenhouse.

3PM • **Orchid Species Conservation** Spon-

sored by the Greater North Texas Orchid Society.

SAT, AUG 8

1PM • **Trees: Maintenance, Pest Control,**

**Selection & more!** by Scott Geer, Moore Tree

Care, ISA Certified Arborist TX-3540A

WED, AUG 12TH

10:30AM • **Fall Vegetable Garden** by Leslie

Finical Halleck, NHG staff. Plant broccoli,

cauliflower, lettuce and more! Soil, sun, organic

pest control and more covered.

SUN, AUG 16

1PM • **Designing Your Herb Garden:**

**Mediterranean, Culinary, Fragrant** by Kay

Nelson, NHG Garden Coach, TCNP. Concept

and herb selection covered.

SAT, AUG 22

10:30AM • **Garden Photography -**

**Tips & Secrets** Sponsored by the *Herb Society of America*.

SUN, AUG 23 **INTERNATIONAL KITCHEN DAY**

1PM • **Fall Vegetable Garden** by Alison

Swann, NHG Staff. You'll learn plant selection,

soil amendments, sun requirements, organic pest

control and more.



## Fall Tomato Harvest

Leslie Finical Halleck, GM, 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 **NHG 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. *NHG has a great selection of fall tomato transplants in stock!*



**SAT, JULY 4 - 11 • 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.*



## July & August Heat Loving Perennials

by Alison Swann, NHG Garden Advisor

Dallas summers require plants that really thrive in the heat. Many sun loving perennials of varying heights and colors look great, even through July and August. Plant your blooms in layers. Taller heat lovers such as flame acanthus, black-eyed susan, turk's cap, loosestrife (Morden's Pink), Mexican bush sage and Mexican mint marigold make a gorgeous backdrop. Next, plant medium height blooms such as yellow and paprika-colored yarrow, Gaura 'Whirling Butterflies', Phlox 'John Fannick', Artemisia 'Powis Castle', purple or white cone flowers, lantana or one of the many varieties of salvias. For low-growing borders plant skullcap, your favorite thyme, or one of the many varieties of sedum in stock now. Even shady spots will benefit from some heat tolerant color. Turk's cap, ferns (wood, holly or autumn) and cedar sage are all excellent choices. Visit us this summer for a continuous variety of excellent plants each and every month.

## Easy Compost 1, 2, 3

by Kato Dixon, Garden Advisor, TCNP

Compost benefits the soil of any landscape and can easily be made at home. Plus, composting is a natural part of your eco-friendly lifestyle. You can either use one of the simple, ready-to-use compost bins from North Haven Gardens, or you can make your own. All you need is a 3' x 3' x 3' box-like structure made of wood and wire. Choose a level, convenient area in your yard. Once your bin is ready, layer carbon rich (kitchen scraps and fallen leaves) and nitrogen materials (chicken manure and grass clippings) material in the bin. Turn regularly and voila, you'll get a batch of compost in about 6-8 weeks. (TIP: Shredded materials compost quicker and easier). Boost your pile with EarthSafe Compost Activator to get things heated up. Moisten each layer after adding it to the pile and try to maintain the consistency of a damp sponge. Too wet or too dry materials will interfere with the "cooking process". We sell 2 styles of compost bins, kitchen compost pails, compost thermometers and sturdy tools for turning your pile. For a full description of how to make your own compost and a full list of compost approved ingredients, visit the Garden Solutions page at [www.nhg.com](http://www.nhg.com).

## The Benefits of a Balanced Garden

by Christine Hensley, TCNP, NHG Nursery Coordinator

We all dream of the picture perfect garden where everything blooms perfectly, bugs don't eat plants, and fungi and weeds gracefully die of their own accord. However, the reality is that bugs eat plants, fungi infect plants, weeds GROW! And, even if you're doing everything right, not all the flowers are perfect. And that's okay. The reality of gardening is that you can't kill every pest. And, by tolerating some, we are increasing the opportunity for predatory insects to work. Limiting pesticide applications will help create a more hospitable environment for the good guys like lizards, frogs and bees. Stress less, enjoy your garden more! NORTH HAVEN GARDENS has beneficial insects, organic garden products and are here to answer all your questions to help you maintain your balanced garden!



## Backyard Chickens are Here!

Have you caught on to the newest way to be eco friendly at home? Backyard chickens! What could be better than collecting your own "farm fresh eggs". NHG has all the supplies to get you started. We have galvanized feeders, waterers, feed scoops and locking lidded pails. You can pick up your hen scratch, laying pellets and electrolytes to keep those girls happy and productive. We also have a great "Chicken Ark". It is made out of cedar and has two roosting compartments. It is lightweight, so you can move it around your garden as needed for the chickens to feed and fertilize. Already have a chicken coop? We also offer nesting boxes made out of cedar with a tin roof. Come to North Haven Gardens July 18th at 10am for "**Raising Backyard Chickens**" by Dan Probst of Bageniece Farms. He'll also be selling hens from 11am-2pm or whenever they run out. Please bring a carrier if you are purchasing chickens. Dan will be back August 15th 10:30am-2pm again to sell chickens. Visit [www.nhg.com](http://www.nhg.com) for details.



## Medina Hasta Gro Lawn 12-4-8

**32oz RTS** by Mickie Chenault, NHG Staff

If your lawn is looking tired or bedraggled, we have a solution for you! **Hasta Gro Lawn Food** is like a lawn care kit in a bottle. It is a blend of natural lawn supplements plus Medina Soil Activator and Humate Liquid Humus. The hose-end applicator easily hooks up to your garden hose, making application easy. With it's quick reaction time, you'll have a great looking lawn in no time.





NOW is the TIME...



### JULY

- Plant: Tomatoes early in July for fall production and 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. 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 and squash early in the month; cucumbers, 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. 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.

#### DALLAS MANDATORY WATERING GUIDELINES

April 1 through October 31 watering of lawns or landscapes with an irrigation system or sprinkler is prohibited between 10am and 6pm. 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.

## Drought Tolerant Herbs

by Kay Nelson, TCNP, NHG Garden Coach

Fresh herbs will add something special to your favorite summer recipes! Many are tough and tolerant in summer. It is important to have good drainage in your soil. Amend with lots of compost and expanded shale. Lavender in a variety of sizes and textures are wonderfully fragrant and will bloom through summer. Lemon grass, lemon verbena and lemon marigold have a fresh, citrusy scent. Mexican mint marigold, or "Texas Tarragon," is a great substitute for French tarragon in the heat of summer. Greek oregano is evergreen and is a delicious addition to fresh tomato sauce. Rosemary is a proven winner year round! Sage 'Bergaarten' smells and taste wonderful and the flowers are pretty and fragrant in cut flower arrangements. Thyme grows great between stepping stones and smells amazing when crushed under foot. Read more about drought tolerant herbs on the Edibles page at [www.nhg.com](http://www.nhg.com). Kay Nelson is presenting 2 great herb programs this summer. "Drought Tolerant Herbs" at 1pm, July 25th and "Designing Your Herb Garden" at 1pm on August 16th.

## Starting Seeds for The Fall Vegetable Garden

by Christine Hensley, TCNP, NHG Nursery Coordinator

It's time to start seeds for your fall garden! There are two ways to handle your fall seeds, some you will plant directly into your garden, and others will need to be started indoors and transplanted into the garden. The seeds that you will need to start indoors are the cole crops - broccoli, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, kale, collards and cabbage. Plant in small pots of soil or in peat pots, place in a sunny area and keep consistently moist. Plant your seeds 6 to 8 weeks before you want to set them out into the garden. Many other cool season crops can be direct seeded into the garden. Carrots, beets, turnips, spinach, Swiss chard, cilantro, lettuce, radish, and peas can be planted in your garden as soon as the weather begins to cool. You will be able to harvest throughout the fall, then replant in late winter for your cool season spring garden. Attend one of 3 great programs this summer! August 1st at 1:30 is "Fall Veggie Seeds". Wednesday, August 12th at 10:30am and Sunday, August 23rd at 1pm, learn about the best cool-season veggies in "Fall & Winter Veggie Gardens".

## Houseplants: Bring The Garden Indoors

by Don Miller, NHG Staff

Many studies show that growing plants inside your home and office can improve air quality by removing chemicals and pollutants from the air. For example, Philodendrons remove formaldehyde from the air. All plants convert carbon dioxide into oxygen! Houseplants in the home also increase humidity and have a cooling effect. They also decreasing stress and increasing well-being. A few of our favorite indoor plants are:

- "ZZ" or *Zamioculcas zamifolia* have dark green leaves that grow in a vase-like shape for a simple modern look. Excellent low light plants. Allow to dry between waterings.
- **Philodendrons** come in many sizes and shapes, and are great for low light and are easy to maintain.
- **Aglaonema** or **Chinese Evergreens** leaves come in a variety of colors and patterns such as silver, green, white, and cream. This is another low light plant that likes to dry a bit between waterings.
- **Bamboo Palm** or **Chamaedorea hybrids** is a tall narrow palm that gives an Asian, contemporary look. It prefers medium light and to also dry a little between waterings.

All house plants perform best with a once a month feeding of Hasta Gro or another good houseplant fertilizer. Be sure to visit our tropical greenhouse through summer!

Visit our website for more tips and information [www.nhg.com](http://www.nhg.com)

# NORTH HAVEN *Gardens*

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GARDENER IN YOUR LIFE?  
NORTH HAVEN GARDENS Gift Cards  
make the perfect gift! Order online or in-store.



## Mini-Water Garden: Plants and Plans

by Jonathan McIntosh, *Garden Advisor*

Looking for a simple way to relieve the stress of the day? Plant a mini water garden! Just pick out a colorful pot at least 18" wide. If there is a drain hole at the bottom, just plug with putty. Fill the bottom with several inches of heavy garden soil mixed with a bit of sand and fertilizer. Fill pot with water and treat with a dechlorinator before adding plants. Or, let the pot with water sit out for a few days. Now, add plants! Here are some of our favorites!

**For Height:** Egyptian Papyrus, Horsetail Reed, Taro

**Low Growers:** Frog Fruit (a Texas native!), Fairy Moss, Parrot's Tail

**Bloomers:** Water Lilies, Iris

Read the full article on creating a mini-water garden on the *Garden Solutions* page at [www.nhg.com](http://www.nhg.com). We've also scheduled a FREE program on July 18 at 1:30 on "Mini Water Gardens" by North Texas Aquascapes.

## 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

#### **Greenbee Organic and Sustainable Club**

214-363-6715 ext. 326  
Meets first Saturday at 1pm

#### **Herb Society of America**

Meets the fourth Saturday at 10am

#### **Ikebana Creations**

Call Sue Smith 214-739-8285  
Meets the 2nd & 4th Tuesday  
from 12:30pm-3:30pm  
Call for a schedule.

#### **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

