

Every Blooming Thing



Celebrating
50
Years of Service

March-April 2002

North Haven Gardens Newsletter



March

Plant ornamental trees and shrubs, roses, perennials, herbs, cool-season vegetables, and annuals like geraniums, petunias, snapdragons, alyssum. Plant tomatoes after last frost. Plant begonias now for best results. Plant tender herbs when danger of frost is past.

Fertilize now if you didn't do it in February. Use stimulator on all new plantings.

Repot and fertilize water garden plants with tablet fertilizers made for that use.

Prune fruit trees before bud break. Wait to prune spring-flowering shrubs and vines after flowering.

Purchase caladium bulbs while the selection is good! Plant them in May. Store them above 63 degrees.

Spray for pests on fruit trees. Use BT for caterpillars. Or **Release** Green Lacewings and Trichogramma wasps to control aphids, mites, thrips, and caterpillars.

Treat fire ant mounds with bait early in the morning or later in the afternoon when ants begin to forage.

April

Plant warm season annuals and vegetables, summer and fall flowering perennials. Repot houseplants.

Fertilize summer flowering shrubs.

Spray for fruit tree pests and black spot on roses.

Watch for aphids on new growth. Spray with insecticidal soap or release Ladybugs.

Use slug & snail bait or set out beer traps, if needed.

Release beneficial nematodes to control ticks, fleas, chiggers, and fire ants.

Check our website for more tips and information: www.nhg.com.

2002 is the 'Year of the Rose' by Bob McLaughlin

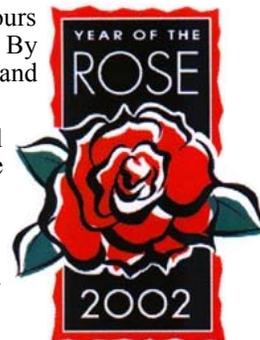
The U. S. Congress has proclaimed "2002: The Year of the Rose," according to the *American Rose Society* (www.ars.org). This is the year everyone will be sharing their beautiful roses with friends, neighbors, and those who can't get out in the garden. You, too, will want to share in this year-long event.

North Haven is proud to carry all the *Earthkind*TM rose varieties among its many selections. These have been thoroughly tested by Texas Agricultural Extension Service experts and proven to be disease resistant and insect tolerant (not needing harsh pesticides). They are beautiful, tough roses for our area and require a minimal amount of maintenance. You should have great success with these varieties especially.

These plants do well in almost any soil type. Roses do need 8 hours of sun during the day, good air circulation and well-drained soil. By working compost into the soil and fertilizing in March, June, and lightly in August, your rose garden should flourish.

Remember to use mulch in all your garden areas. Mulch will help keep moisture in the soil and protect the ground temperature from the hottest days of summer and the coldest days of winter.

Some of the *Earthkind*TM roses you might consider adding to your garden this spring are: *Sea Foam*, *Marie Daly*, *The Fairy*, *Caldwell Pink*, *Knock Out*, *Perle d'Or*, *Belinda's Dream*, *Else Poulsen*, *Katy Road Pink*, *Mutabilis*, and *Climbing Pinkie*.



The Versatility of Container Gardening by Judy Fender

Growing plants is one of life's greatest pleasures. Container gardening used to be for those with limited space or those who just wanted a spot of color for a dreary patio. Well, it's not like that anymore! If you can carry, push, pull, or drag an unusual container to where you want, you can plant it! You can plant in just about any type of container, adding a bit of whimsy and interest to an, otherwise, boring garden or patio.

There are a few basic principles you need to keep in mind. Placement of the container needs to be accessible for maintenance. Choose plants that will grow well under the same conditions for your containers — i.e., group all drought-tolerant plants in a container for a sunny location; put shade-lovers together to brighten or accent a dark corner with little or filtered sunlight. Use soil that will drain well, and be certain to check planters before watering to check the dampness of the soil. Overwatering causes more plant "deaths" than anything else. By setting smaller pots on a tray of gravel, you can easily wick the pots so containers don't dry out. If you use a "found" container, be certain there are drainage holes in the bottom — or add some yourself. "Soil Moist" granules added to potting soil will hold water and slowly release it. Fertilize most plants once a month — those plants that like dry conditions and neglect won't need much attention. Put large containers on wheels if you want to move them around on a patio. Set containers in the garden for added height, texture, and color accents.

All kinds of plants can be "containerized." Vegetables are great in containers — and so are small shrubs, such as camellias and junipers. Flowers, of course, are great in hanging baskets, window boxes, and all kinds of containers. Various succulents can make a stunning arrangement in a low terre cotta bowl. Raise hostas up and away from slugs by planting them in attractive containers and placing them in shaded areas of your garden. Try a fragrant rose in a large container as an accent to a patio area. You are only limited by your imagination!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

STORE HOURS

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

After daylight savings, we will stay open 1/2 hour later.

Saturday, March 2-3 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
“Rose Weekend!”

Meet the area Rose Societies and pick up educational information about the best roses to grow in this area!



Saturday, March 2 — 1:30 p.m.
“Rose Selection and Care” Field Roebuck, Author
presented by First Men’s Garden Club of Dallas

Saturday, March 9 - 1:30 a.m.
“Grow a Ton of Tomatoes” - John Walls
presented by First Men’s Garden Club of Dallas

Saturday, March 16 - 1:30 p.m.
“Growing Veggies in North Texas” - Jerry Holmes
presented by the First Men’s Garden Club of Dallas

SPRING FESTIVAL - March 23 and 24

Saturday, March 23—1:30 p.m.
“Bring on the Butterflies” - Judy Hominick
Author of “Grow Your Own Butterflies”
Judy will sign copies of her book after the lecture

FREE GARDEN CONSULTATIONS
with our Landscape/Garden Consultants

First-come, first-served for 15-minute free garden consultations with our experts!
Bring photos, plot plan (if you have one), and drawings or ideas that you want incorporated into your landscaping.

Saturday appointments: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sunday appointments: 12 noon to 3 p.m.

Saturday, April 6 — 1:30 p.m.
“All About Annuals” with Glen Nichols
“The Fox 4TV Garden Guy”
presented by First Men’s Garden Club of Dallas

Sunday, April 14 -- 1:30 p.m.
“Feng Shui in the Garden”
Laurel Schellinger, Feng Shui Consultant

Saturday, April 20 - 9 a.m. until sold out!
Daylily Sale!
presented by the Daylily Growers of Dallas



HERB WEEKEND

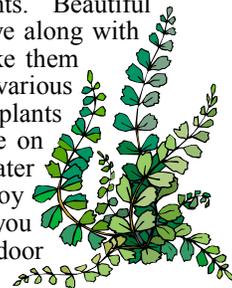
Saturday, April 27 - 1:30 p.m.
“Herbs & Habitats”

Marian Buchanan,
Herbalist and Master
Gardener



Have You Visited Our Greenhouse Recently?

Wow! What a delightful experience! Take a minute and wander into our “indoor gardens,” complete with all kinds of houseplants, fountains, and garden accessories. Bonsai, cactus and succulents will greet you upon stepping into this wonderland of tropicals and houseplants. Beautiful ferns and various flowering begonias will catch your eye along with violets and other gesneriads that will entreat you to take them home! Artistically created moss baskets filled with various indoor plants such as ferns, begonias, ivies, and other plants will be difficult to pass by without placing at least one on your garden cart. Listen to the soothing sound of water flowing from fountains and take a moment to sit and enjoy some of the comfortable garden furniture. Certainly you will find something in this beautifully-arranged indoor garden area that will brighten your home as well.



Butterflies and Hummingbirds will be Returning



Will you be ready? Remember to plan for these delightful flying jewels of our gardens when you plant this spring. Both butterflies and hummingbirds enjoy the many *salvia* varieties available, and *Flame acanthus* or any of the “butterfly bush” (*Buddleia*) varieties will keep them coming back! *Milkweed* is the favorite plant of the Monarch butterflies, so be certain to have at least one plant in your garden to entice them throughout the season! And if you enjoy watching butterflies develop from caterpillars, be certain to plant *dill*, *parsley*, and/or *fennel* somewhere in your gardens. Many butterflies lay their eggs on these herbs and develop into delightful caterpillars ... that will munch your plants probably to the ground before crawling off to metamorphosis into a chrysalis. So, be certain to plant enough for them *and* for you! (And, remember, don’t spray pesticides around your host and larval plants! Overspray can affect the caterpillars and butterflies.)

If you need a little guidance on what to plant in the sunny areas of your garden to entice these winged wonders to visit, pick up a copy of our 2002 Perennial List, which has small icons indicating what plants to choose.

Feng Shui in the Garden

You’ve heard people talk about it. Feng Shui (pronounced Fung-Shway) is all about balance. The Chinese believe there are two opposing, yet complimentary, energies that shape the universe and everything in it. If you are curious about how these energies and principles can be implemented into the garden, come visit with Laurel Schellinger to hear the basics! Laurel has taught for SMU-Plano, Gabbert’s, or you might have seen her on TV’s “Designing Texas” with Jocelyn White. Hope to see you April 14th!

Water-Wise Plantings for Your Garden

This is the year that new watering regulations will be enforced in many Metroplex communities. In Dallas, fines will be assessed after one warning to those who water between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. (Check your water bill for information about these new regulations.) We all need to conserve this precious resource and can do so by watering properly and planting water-wise landscapes and gardens. [For proper watering techniques see <http://aggiehorticulture.tamu.edu/extension/homelandscape/water/water/>.]



Stop by and pick up our **2002 Perennial List** that indicates the “water-wise” plants we carry. Using these plants in groupings in your garden will eliminate heavy water usage and, hopefully, cut down on your water bills this summer.

An Ounce of Prevention: Spring Lawn Care

by David Reznik, Horticulturalist

It's that time again. Spring lawn care in North Texas usually brings two things to mind: Pre-emergent weed control and fertilization.

Pre-emergents create a chemical barrier that kills germinating weed (and grass) seed at the soil line. Once applied, do not disturb the soil or you will break the barrier in that area. Pre-emergents have a fairly short period of effectiveness. That's why timing is so important. In North Texas, the best time to apply pre-emergents is from mid-February to mid-March. Too early, and the weeds win; too late, and your lawn loses. The types of Pre-emergents we recommend are Betasan, Portrait, and Treflan. An organic alternative is Corn Gluten, when applied at 20 pounds per 1000 sq. ft., it is an excellent organic method of weed prevention and offers some fertilization value (NPK 9-1-1).

As for **fertilizers**, wait until your lawn begins to turn green, which usually happens when soil temperatures warm to about 60 degrees (mid- to late March).

North Haven Gardens recommended fertilizers include our own 6-3-0 Organic, Bradfield, and Texas Tee.

A little work now, when the weather's nice, will save a lot of work later. The benefits? Sitting back with a nice cool drink in a lush weed-free lawn.

What's New Organically? by Carolyn Oldham

In our effort to offer you the latest organic products, here's what's new for 2002.

OSA Mushroom Compost -- This is the same medium in which your favorite mushrooms have been growing. You can either mix the compost into your soil (3" or more turned into about 6" of native soil), or use it as a top dressing for lawns, trees and shrubs. It is a fully-composted mixture of wheat straw, peat moss, chicken and turkey litter and cottonseed meal. Remember, your garden success starts with healthy soil enriched by mushroom compost!



Liquid Fence Animal Repellent — Have rabbits been eating snacking in your garden? This all-natural product may be the solution. It can be sprayed directly on and around your plants and remains effective for a 3-4 week period (depending on rainfall). Its strong odor quickly dissipates but is very noticeable to the rabbits. It even comes with a money-back guarantee!

Earth's Fortune Plant Food — This water-soluble powder contains micronized volcanic minerals and humates absorbed easily by plants. Its mineral content stimulates root and top growth, increases absorption and enhances tolerance to stress. It can be applied dry around plants or mixed with water as a liquid fertilizer.

We have *all* the products you need to "go organic" in 2002! Come check 'em out!

Get Your Roses Off to a Good Start by Bob McLaughlin, Rosarian

Early spring is the time to set the groundwork your roses will need for the remainder of the growing season. You have probably pruned your shrub roses in February (not the climbers — prune them *after* they bloom later in the season), and now you are ready to apply your first fertilization as soon as the rose shows some new growth. A fertilizer which includes a slow-release nitrogen will give them a good start. Then, applying a rose fertilizer monthly until October will ensure strong roses throughout the season. Roses are heavy feeders and need that extra help. By applying 3-4" of mulch, you can keep weeds down, retain moisture, and keep the soil temperature a bit lower around your plants. During the summer months, roses will need 1-2" of water a week to keep them in their best condition. Soaker hoses keep water from splashing on the leaves. Remove old fallen leaves also to prevent disease. Pick up our new *2002 Rose List*.

GROWCARD

North Haven Gardens is eager to please our customers and we have initiated our very own 'Grow Card' for you — to "grow" your savings! When you are in the store, please take a moment to fill out an application so you can begin to reap more benefits! We will have 'Grow Card' Specials posted in the store, and you will accumulate 'Grow Card' reward points with each purchase you make. To simplify things for you, we can also attach a sticker to another card you already carry (that will not impair the use of that card), and it will serve as your Grow Card.



Highlights Inside

www.nhg.com

Sales, Gifts, Events!



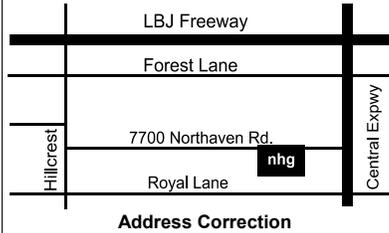
Year of the Rose
 Versatility of Container Gardens
 Wild About the Greenhouse
 Plants for Butterflies &
 Hummingbirds
 Feng Shui
 Water-Wise Planting
 Lawn Care
 New Organic Products
 Grow Card Savings
 Gift Ideas and Books
 Gift Certificate Ideas



IT'S FINALLY SPRING!
Come Visit to See What's New

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SOCIETY MEETINGS AT NORTH HAVEN GARDENS

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

Begonia Society 214-363-5613
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
Meets the fourth Saturday at 1:00 p.m.

Daffodil Society 214-526-5379
Meets the last Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

Dallas Organic Garden Club
972-761-0517
Call for Nov/Dec meeting information.

Dallas Rose Society 888-617-1001
Meets the fourth Friday at 6:30 p.m.

Daylily Growers of Dallas
972-279-2010
Meets the third Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

First Men's Garden Club of Dallas
972-907-9911
Meets the third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Hosta Society 214-363-6715 x333
Call to confirm meeting date and time.

Southwestern Fern Society
972-243-4027
Meets the second Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

The Gardener's Gift Corner by Betty Hargrave

Spring is in the air and the "newness" of this wonderful season is evident in our gift department, too. We now have the ultimate "dream container" for happy African Violets! These self-watering ceramic containers make caring for your African Violets a breeze — no more over or under watering! They come in a variety of colors and styles.

With the spring showers, what could be more wonderful than a pair of gardening shoes! For men and women, we have several different waterproof styles and four colors — red, yellow, black, and green — from which to choose.

Do you want to add a bit of whimsy to your garden? Many of our wonderful customers have requested small garden markers. Our buyers found some really attractive ones for herbs — and there are many with whimsical sayings to add some spark to your garden.

Tired of getting "stuck" in the rose garden? Treat yourself or a friend to a pair of "rose" gloves. They have long "sleeves" and will protect your forearms from scratches, while you are doing your spring pruning. For those with water gardens, consider a pair of the long aqua gloves we carry to keep your hands and arms dry when tidying your pond in the chilly spring water. They're also great for protecting your hands and arms while grabbing those water lily pots from the pond when it's time to report!

The brilliant colors of our new butterfly baths and feeders are certain to tempt you as well as our fine flying friends. The designs are beautiful lily-shaped blossoms wrapped in copper coils and supported with copper rods. We also have incredibly beautiful gazing globes to add a spot of glorious color to your garden.

And have you seen the new style of vertical Eco Sphere fountains that have just arrived? They are truly stunning! They are made of fiberglass with a rough finish. These vertical contemporary designs are great to accent a small garden area, or you might place one on the patio where the delightful sound of water will relax and soothe away the day's cares.

And don't neglect the entry to your home! Treat yourself to an attractive, new welcome mat this spring. Twenty-one different themes are included in our new collection to welcome everyone arriving at your home.

Send an Herb Basket Designed by Our Floral Designers!

You don't have to wait for a special occasion to show your appreciation. Our floral designers are extremely imaginative and have been designing unique and beautiful herb baskets that will always be remembered by those who receive them. They can create cut flower arrangements that will also take your breath away! So, don't wait for a holiday or specific occasion — send your best wishes on a "common" day to surprise that someone special! Contact our Floral Designers at 214-691-6751 to create a unique floral gift for the people who are special in your life. You'll be glad you did!

