



Every Blooming Thing



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North Haven Gardens Newsletter March - April 2004

Now Is The Time



March

Plant ornamental trees and shrubs, roses, perennials, herbs, cool-season vegetables and annuals like geraniums, petunias, snapdragon and alyssum. Plant tomatoes after last frost and 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 root 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.

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.

Spray every two years Beneficial Nematodes on your lawn and Garden for Fleas, Fire Ants, Chiggers, Termites and other pests for a steady control. You can treat Fire Ant mounds with bait early in the morning or later in the afternoon when ants begin to forage if not using Beneficial Nematodes.

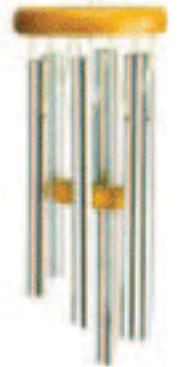
Check our website for more tips
and information
www.nhg.com.

Put some Pizzazz in your Garden

By Caryn Maqueria

Come in today and check out our garden decorations. We have some of the prettiest fountains in the Metroplex. When you add a fountain to your garden, you add movement and sound. We have birdbaths for our feathered friends and fun statuary, such as animals, angels and children. We also offer a wide selection of Woodstock wind chimes that are musically tuned with sounds that range from high pitched bells to low toned church bells; they make great gifts and add a beautiful sound to you patio or garden.

If you would like to decorate your patio or balcony we have a great selection of wrought iron plant stands, planters and window boxes. The window boxes can be mounted on walls, fences or balconies. These types of window boxes can use sphagnum moss around the inside of the planter to contain the soil and plants or you can put containers directly in them. These are fabulous planters for apartment dwellers and zero lot line owners or for those wanting to dress up their patio or pool areas. You can grow just about anything in these planters, such as petunias, begonias or herbs. For more information about these ideas and many others, come visit us today.



Growing Tomatoes in Spring Gardens

By Jennifer Long, Horticulturist

Picture your garden growing healthy plants loaded with plump ripe tomatoes bursting with flavor. It makes my mouth water, how about yours? Make North Haven Gardens your first choice in selecting tomato transplants to achieve the crop of your dreams.

The most important ingredient in a productive tomato crop is a sunny location that receives 6+ hours of sun per day. Sunlight produces carbohydrates that are necessary for the plant to set flower buds and also makes the fruit taste sweet. Plants will thrive in deep loamy soils enriched with compost to enhance nutrient and water holding capacity. If your soil is mostly clay, enriching with compost will improve the soil structure plus promotes better drainage.

Growing in Texas we don't have a long growing season, therefore plant early and grow plants fast. When planting early, protect young transplants with a protective layer-frost cloth, available by the yard or precut in our retail store. Varieties recommended for slicing tomatoes: Celebrity, Better Boy, Heatwave, Carnival, Early Girl and La Roma. Small fruiting types: Grape, Yellow Pear and Sweet 100.

Feed transplants with Superthrive, available at North Haven, to provide plants with an excellent start. When plants set fruit increase feeding with 3-1-2 nutrient ratio such as Osmocote for vigorous and healthy plants.

North Haven Gardens Calendar of Events March/April 2004

STORE HOURS

Monday through Friday - 9am to 6:30pm
Saturday - 8:30am to 6:30pm
Sundays - 10am to 5pm

Saturday and Sunday, March 6 - 7

"ROSE WEEKEND" 10am - 2pm

Meet Rose Society members from the Dallas area Historical Rose Society and the Dallas Rose Society. Pick up educational information about the best roses to grow in this area while shopping our new selections that have just arrived!

Saturday, March 13 - 1:30pm

"All About Roses - Selection and Care"

Bob McLaughlin, Consulting Rosarian
presented by First Men's Garden
Club of Dallas

SPRING FESTIVAL - March 27 and 28

Saturday, March 27 - 1:30pm

"Grow a Ton of Tomatoes"

John Walls and Tom Wilten
presented by the First Men's Garden
Club of Dallas

Sunday, March 28 - 1:30pm

"Getting Ready for Spring"

Jane Bartosiewicz, Master Gardener

**FREE Refreshments all day
Saturday and Sunday**

SPRING FESTIVAL - March 27 and 28

FREE GARDEN CONSULTATIONS

with Valley Crest Landscape/Garden Consultants
First-come, first-served for 15-minute free
garden consultations with their experts!

Bring photos, plot plan (if you have one), and
drawings or ideas that you want incorporated
into your landscaping.

Saturday appointments: 10am - 3pm

Sunday appointments: 12 noon - 3pm

Saturday, April 10 - 1:30pm

"All About Daylilies"

Jerry Arledge, Hemerocallis Expert

HERB WEEKEND

Come meet the herbalists of the Herb Society
of America and the Heritage Herb Club!
Members will be available to 'talk herbs' with
you throughout the weekend - 10am - 3pm

Saturday, April 17 - 1:30pm

"Herbs for Use and Delight"

Kay Nelson, Herbalist,
Herb Society of America

Sunday, April 18 - 1:30pm - 2:30pm

"Herbs that Heal"

Dr. Judy Griffin, Author and Herbalist



How and When to Plant Roses

By Bob McLaughlin, Texas Certified
Nurseryman

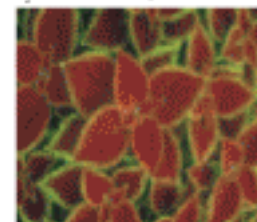
Winter days really whet your appetite
for gardening, don't they? If roses are
something you had on your gardening
agenda, then early March onward is a
great time to do it. You might end up
having to cover them once or twice, but
they are tolerant of light freezes.

The basics of rose planting are straight-
forward. You should have 6 or more
hours of sun, a rich, well-drained soil,
and easy access to water. Dig your hole
24" square and 18" to 24" deep. It is
advisable to dig the hole 4 to 6 weeks
ahead of the planting date. If your soil
is heavy clay, mix about a 1:3 ratio of
compost to soil or use the expanded
shale available at North Haven to mix
with the soil (follow bag directions).
Water in well after planting.

March 1st North Haven will have ready
for sale a huge array of roses from which
to select. This selection will include
modern, old garden, English, shrub,
miniature and climbing roses. There are
over 300 varieties to choose from. We
also have a Rose list on our web that
you can print off from home at
www.NHG.com, come for a visit today.

Plant Coleus for Drama and Contrast

By Don Miller, Horticulturist



Coleus, with their
colored foliage offer
the gardener a world
of effects, from
understated elegance
to shocking
explosions of color.

In mid March we will have several varieties of
this versatile plant. All varieties will grow in
shade and many will also tolerate full sun. To
prepare for your coleus mix organic matter,
such as Back to Earth, in the bed and provide
good drainage. Sometimes they will benefit
from cutting back or pinching the growth

tips, this will make your plants branch out and
become denser. Cutting of the flower buds
will also prevent flowering and encourage
branching. Here are some of the varieties that
we will carry.

'The Line' is a beautiful upright variety with
golden ochre leaves accented with a central
bright burgundy vein. Martha Stewart has
used this one in her container-planting seg-
ment, which is seen regularly on cable TV.
'The Line' will grow in sun or shade.

'Defiance' is a landscape type coleus. It has
light green leaves with a red center. There will
be more red in the leaves when it is grown in
full sun. In shade the light green edge will be

wider. This variety grows about 24" tall and
does very well in containers or landscape
beds. Mix it with flowering annuals in
containers for contrast and color.

'Tabasco' is a spicy variety with red, hot
pink, and cranberry rose colors on puckered
leaves, which have a scalloped leaf margin.
This coleus will create a dramatic explosion
of color and is not recommended for the
faint of heart.

So come out and explore the diversity of the
Coleus World.

Let Your Houseplants Enjoy Spring Fever!



By Tamara Pickard, Horticulturist

With warmer weather approaching, the sun shining, and the birds singing, it is time for some of our houseplants to enjoy the outdoors again. As soon as temperatures begin reaching forty to forty-five degrees consistently at night, bring your begonias, ferns, and other tropics out on the patio to benefit from this beautiful season. Come into our tropical greenhouse for a great selection of begonias, with such varieties as Norma Pfruder (a beautiful angel wing with orange-red flowers), Moreese (a new variety with chocolate swirled foliage), and our very own Don Miller begonia (striking silver foliage with bright pink flowers), you can brighten up your patio with tropical color. We also have a nice assortment of ferns in four inch and six inch pots, as well as hanging baskets.

Remember, when bringing your houseplants outside in spring, warmer temperatures increase both water and fertilizer requirements. Begonias respond very well to Peters 20-20-20 fertilizer as well as slow release Osmocote 19-6-12. For your ferns, try Maxicrop liquid seaweed or kelp meal to get a lush and healthy plant. With these, your houseplants are sure to enjoy spring as much as you do.

If you know someone who would like their own GROW CARD and Newsletter with valuable coupons; have them visit us on the web at www.nhg.com and download the form or they can pick one up at our Customer Service Desk inside the store.

Tiny Troopers Tackle Tough Troublemakers

By Chuck Goecke, Texas Master Certified Nursery Professional

Beneficial nematodes are an essential part of any organic gardening program. Even if your garden is not strictly organic, they make sense both for their effectiveness and their economy.

Nematodes are a group of microscopic worms species that attack either plant roots or soil insect pests. Beneficial Nematodes are the latter of the two, going primarily after the soft-bodied insects in moist soil. They are effective against Fire Ant larva, soil and Flea Grubs, Gnat larva, and Termites. They do not harm earthworms.

Control of Fire Ants occurs after several weeks, as the colonies become depopulated. Beneficial Nematodes do not completely rid your lawn of any pest, however, it will control pest insect species for up to two

years. It controls the populations just enough to leave a small amount of the pests to keep up the nematode population.



Nematodes work best on Fire Ants and Fleas in moist shady confined places, such as near the foundation and cracks, where other control techniques such as baits and poisons do not work well. One application of nematodes will cover an average size yard and remain effective for two years. They are best applied in mild moist weather (mid-Spring or early Fall) using a hose end sprayer, with very liberal over-spraying of plain water to wash them into the soil.

For more information please come by and speak to one of our professional sales staff.



The True Meaning of Flowers at Easter

By Kelli McGaughey, Floral Manager

Remember the Easter Bunny is on the way. Send someone special an Easter Bouquet. One of our designers will be happy to assist you in making that perfect bouquet with the perfect meaning you are trying to convey. Just call us today and we will take care of the rest.

Meaning of Easter flowers

- Daffodil – Regard; Unrequited love; You're the only one.
- Forsythia – Anticipation.
- Gladiolus – Love at first sight.
- Heather, Lavender – Admiration; Solitude.
- Heather White – Protection; Wishes will come true.
- Hyacinth – Blue- Constancy; Purple – I'm Sorry; Red or Pink – Play; White – Loveliness
- Iris – Faith; Hope; Wisdom.
- Larkspur – Fickleness.
- Calla Lily – Beauty.
- Lily – White – Purity.
- Lily – Yellow – I'm walking on air.
- Orchid – Love; Beauty.
- Peony – Happy Marriage.
- Snapdragon – Gracious Lady.
- Stock – Bonds of affection.
- Tulips – Perfect lover.

You can have several different flowers in one arrangement to make that special person in your life feel wonderful. Weather it is for a parent, spouse, grandparent, child, friend or anyone else in your life that you want to make them feel special. We can build that perfect arrangement to put a smile on their face. **Visit the Floral Shop at www.shopnhg.com**



Don't forget your **LAWN**

The easiest weed control for your lawn is fertilizer. Vigorous turf makes it difficult for weeds to grow. We stock a full line of Organic and Synthetic lawn fertilizers including...

Greensense
NHG-21-7-14
NHG-6-3-0
Texas Tee and more

**SOCIETY MEETINGS
AT NORTH HAVEN GARDENS**

Be certain to call the clubs to confirm their meetings in event of a schedule change.

Begonia Society 214-363-6715 x340
Meets the third Thursday at 7:00 pm

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

Bromeliad Society 214-691-6691
Meets February, 4th Saturday, 3 to 5 pm

Dallas Rose Society 972-234-5184
Meets the fourth Friday at 7:00 pm

Daylily Growers of Dallas
972-241-1726
Meets the third Saturday at 10:00 am

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

Iris Society
972-231-9594
Meets the third Sunday, 3 to 5 pm

Southwestern Fern Society
214-544-7288
Meets the second Sunday, 3 to 5 pm

Lectures, Events and Sales
information.

See our Ad at www.nhg.com

Updated each week or See our Ad each
Friday in the Dallas Morning News
"House & Garden" section

Add Texture and Color to Your Garden with Japanese Maples



By Debbie Jackson, Texas Master Certified
Nursery Professional

Japanese Maples are a wonderful addition to a shade garden. We carry over 25 varieties to choose from ranging in height at maturity from 6ft to 20ft. Choose a site for planting that is well drained and protected from drying winds. These slow growing trees need protection from our afternoon sun.

One of the larger growing varieties, **'Bloodgood'** obtains a height of 15-20ft. The spring foliage is

a deep red color that retains well into the summer months. The large leaves form a broad canopy as wide as the tree is tall.

'Fireglow' grows to the height of 9-12ft. This upright variety has beautiful spring foliage that is purple red, holding its red color into our hot summer weather. This variety puts on a great fall show of scarlet and crimson.

'Orangeola' is my personal favorite with its lacy leaves and great cascading branches. It will obtain the height of 6-8ft making it great candidate for being grown in a large container at least for its early years. Its fall show of orange red foliage is breathtaking and makes it worth growing for just that.



Nature's Guide®

- Corn Gluten Meal • Organic Vinegar •
- Compost Tea • Orange Oil • Molasses •
- Alfalfa Meal •

Results you wanted and safety you expect.

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