

# Every Blooming Thing

NORTH HAVEN  
Gardens

Your Gardening Partner since 1951  
www.nhg.com  
214-363-5316

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### FREE LECTURES IN MAY 2005

All events are scheduled to begin at 1:30PM unless otherwise noted.

SUN MAY 8TH  
LANDSCAPING WITH DAYLILIES,  
by Binion Amerson, Daylily Growers  
of Dallas

### SAT & SUN MAY 14TH & 15TH PERENNIAL WEEKEND!

SAT MAY 14TH • 1:30PM  
INSECTS IN THE GARDEN,  
by Karin Forbes, sponsored by the First  
Men's Garden Club

SUN MAY 15TH  
CONTAINER GARDENING DEMONSTRATION

SAT MAY 21ST  
FERNS FOR EVERY GARDEN,  
by Judy Fender, Master Gardener

SAT MAY 28TH • 10:30 AM  
BEGONIAS AS HERBS,  
by Don Miller, sponsored by the Herb  
Society of America

### FREE LECTURES IN JUNE 2005

All events are scheduled to begin at 1:30PM unless otherwise noted.

SUN JUNE 5TH • 11 AM-4PM  
GARDENING 101,  
Reservation and class fee required.  
For more information see [www.nhg.com](http://www.nhg.com)

SAT JUNE 18TH  
IRIS GARDENING,  
by Ken Maxham, sponsored by the First  
Men's Garden Club

SAT JUNE 25TH  
OUTSTANDING ORNAMENTAL GRASSES,  
by Leslie Finical Halleck

### WEDNESDAY AT NOON with JUDY FENDER

Advance Registration and lunch selection  
required. Form available on line and in  
store. Phone reservations accepted  
with credit card.

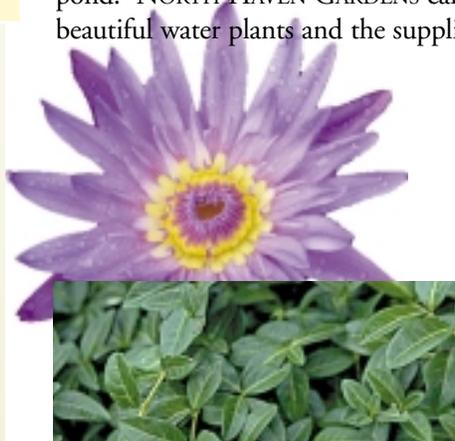
MAY 18TH • NOON TO 2PM  
"BUTTERFLY GARDENING"

JUNE 15TH • NOON TO 2PM  
"WATER CONSERVING GARDENS"

## Naturalize Your Pond

Chuck Goecke

So you've installed your pond, balanced the water, planted colorful water lilies, and even a few fish, but it still looks sparse and not as natural as you envisioned. Almost all natural ponds and waterways are banked by plants that thrive in the boggy conditions. They help filter and shade the water and provide habitat and hiding places for frogs and other mosquito eaters. Emerging plants are available in a variety of heights and textures, so it's a good idea to plant a variety in your pond landscape. Rushes, reeds, and papyruses all provide height and linear textures. Water arum, pickerel weed, *Thalia*, and cannas provide coarse tropical foliage. All of these should be kept in containers and planted in clay soil. The water depths tolerated varies, but 1 to 6 inches is typical. In addition to water and bog plants, low growing shrubs and perennials make nice border accents to a pond. NORTH HAVEN GARDENS carries a full line of interesting, healthy, and beautiful water plants and the supplies to help you succeed with them.



## Groundcovers: The Turf Alternative

Patrick Dickinson

Do you have an area in your yard where grass won't grow, or a slope that seems to drain away not only the water from your yard, but all the soil too? The solution to your problem area could be as simple as Asian Jasmine, or as attractive as the pinwheel blooms of *Vinca minor*. Groundcovers offer an assortment of textures, colors, and habits that are sure to turn a "problem area" into a "focal area" of your landscape. The term Groundcover encompasses more than just English Ivy and Liriope. Low growing shrubbery, perennials, ferns, and

even annuals can all be used as groundcovers. For sunny areas try creeping phlox, creeping thyme, or an assortment of sedums. For shaded areas and damp hard to establish areas, let wood ferns do the work. When selecting the groundcover that is right for you, consider the planting environment. Does the area stay wet or dry? Is it sunny or shaded? Is there an erosion problem? Most importantly, consider what appeals to you and you'll go from problem area to success with groundcovers.



## Creative Containers

Kato Dixon

Container gardens provide you with immediate gratification, as well as allow you to show off your most unique and colorful plants. Start by selecting several plants of different heights and growth habit. Tall plants for accent, medium sized plants for substance and trailing plants to complete the composition.

### Salute the Scenteds

Marian Buchanan

“It smells like Comet cleanser to me,” declared a visitor to my garden. I had just handed her a sprig of Sweet Marjoram, expecting to hear praise for the slightly bitter perfume I had come to love. And so I learned an important lesson about fragrance in the garden: that the perception of scent is a purely personal affair. Since the sense of smell is so closely tied to memory and emotion, an aroma that thrills one person can convey unpleasant associations to another. No discussion of fragrant herbs can neglect mention of “the Scenteds”; scented geraniums belonging to the genus *Pelargonium*. Popular in Victorian England, the Scenteds became part of the romance, language and customs of the age. They were used in finger bowls, teas and tussie-mussies. The complex oils in these charming plants can mimic the aromas of lemon, rose, peppermint, orange, apple, camphor, eucalyptus, nutmeg and more. Perfect for warm-season borders and walkways, containers and hanging baskets, the Scenteds practically beg to be touched. Invite them to your garden today!



	TALL	MED	TRAILING
SUN	Phormium	Pentas	Wave Petunia
	Ornamental Grass	Zinnia	Ornamental Potato
	Salvia	Dusty Miller	Dahlberg Daisy
	Rose	Cosmos	Creeping Thyme
	Sun Shrubs	Rosemary	Purslane
SHADE	Dracenea	Impatiens	Torenia
	Fern	Begonia	Dichondra
	Plectranthus ‘Mona Lavender’	Dragon Wing Begonia	Lysimachia
	Acalypha	Japanese Painted Fern	Vinca Major Variegated
		Persian Shield	Mint
			Lamium

Choose textures and colors that compliment or contrast your existing outdoor décor. Container gardens also allow you to change with the seasons and keep your look updated. To help conserve moisture during the summer months, add polymer to your soil or use a soil like Schultz Moisture Plus and apply 1 to 2 inches of mulch to the surface of the soil. Hanging baskets will need special attention when it comes to watering, as they will dry more quickly. Don't forget to feed your container plantings once or twice a month with a liquid fertilizer such as Medina Hasta Gro, or apply Osmocote granules for a 3-month slow release feed.



## Shade Garden Quandary?

Judy Fender

Shady gardens can be quite a dilemma – or they can be filled with the excitement of texture, color accents, and unusual plants. Ferns such as Japanese holly fern, Autumn fern, East Indian holly fern and Korean rock fern keep their foliage in most winters. The deciduous Beautyberry, both American and the smaller Japanese, add color interest to fall and winter gardens by producing brilliant magenta berries. Use evergreen shrubs such as mid-winter blooming camelias and early spring color displays with azaleas. Leatherleaf Mahonia welcomes spring with colorful yellow blooms and produces clusters of stunning eggplant-colored berries for a summer show. Evergreen Fatsia (Japanese Aralia) adds an exotic leaf texture, while ‘Gold Dust’ Aucuba provides splashes of yellow to brighten up shady areas even in winter. Hellebores, the 2005 Perennial Plant of the Year, are evergreen and produce blooms for a period of about two months in winter to early spring. Hostas, which are available in numerous colors and sizes, produce tubular flowers on tall stems during early summer. At a loss for what to do with your shady spots? We’ve got a lot more ideas! Come talk to one of our garden advisors who will assist you with exciting solutions to ‘boring shade’.



## Ornamental Grasses Go the Distance

Leslie Finical Halleck

Ornamental grasses are a beautiful addition to any home landscape, especially a sunny one. Available in numerous sizes, shapes and colors, ornamental grasses provide interest year-round in a variety of garden settings. While grown primarily for their foliage, ornamental grasses produce wonderful flower and seed heads that emerge in late summer and persist through the winter months. Taller grasses can be used as visual screens or windbreaks in larger landscapes, while the medium and small sized grasses make wonderful massed plantings or groundcovers. For large areas, giants such as Maiden Grass, *Miscanthus sinensis* are impressive features in the garden. Solid green or variegated varieties are available and can reach 8- to 10-feet tall. For *Miscanthus* on a smaller scale, consider the upright variegated variety of *Miscanthus* called ‘Morning Light’, or the sturdy dwarf green-leafed form called ‘Adagio’. For extra contrast, try the striped foliage of *Miscanthus* ‘Zebrina’. When it comes to smaller spaces or containers you can’t beat *Pennisetum alopecuroides*, or Fountain grass. These beauties stay below 3-feet and produce feathery plumes to accent the summer and fall garden. ‘Hameln’ will keep to only 2-feet and ‘Moudry’ sports deep purple flower spikes. Provide a sunny spot and good drainage and your ornamental grasses will steal the show!

# Now is the Time...



## M A Y

**Plant:** *Caladium* bulbs and summer bedding plants such as *lantana*, *marigolds*, *purslane* and *zinnia*; perennials, herbs, warm-season vegetables.

**Fertilize:** Tomatoes, annual flowers and potted plants, and azaleas after blooming. Use root stimulator on all new plantings. Add compost and slow-release fertilizer to new planting beds.

**Prune:** Spring-flowering shrubs, vines and climbing roses after they are finished flowering.

**Pest Control:** Use BT for caterpillars, blast aphids with water and release ladybugs; use horticultural oil or insecticidal soap for thrips, scale, spider mites, and mealybugs.

**Disease Control:** Spray Neem oil for control of black spot, powdery mildew and other fungal diseases.

## J U N E

**Plant:** Warm-season annuals such as *periwinkle*, *copper plant*, vegetables, tropicals, fall-flowering perennials; re-pot houseplants.

**Fertilize:** Summer-flowering plants; potted plants.

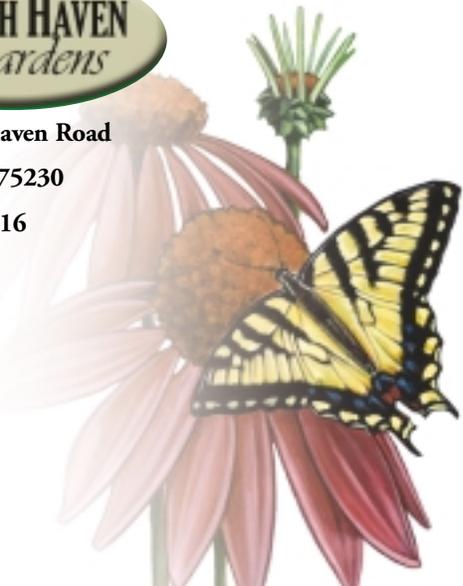
**Pests:** Spray horticultural oil or orange oil for spider mites, lace bugs, thrips, and scale.

**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](http://www.nhg.com)



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## Summer Watering Tips

*Bob McLaughlin*

The single most critical factor in the life of a newly planted landscape is proper watering. Without adequate water most of the vital life processes of plant growth are lost. In the form of rain or irrigation, excluding xeriscape plants, most plants need approximately 1" of water per week. Water should be applied deeply; usually 4" to 6" is deep enough to soak the soil. Watering deeply will help reduce the frequency with which you have to water by encouraging deep root systems on your turf, shrubs and trees. Frequent light watering causes plants to set shallow roots that are more susceptible to drying out in summer and cold damage in the winter. If you don't have an irrigation system, a soaker hose will do an excellent job. It's best to water your plants early in the morning; this practice will help your plants survive the heat of the day and also cut down on disease problems.



## Organic Fire Ant Control

*Christine Hensley*

If you are, or want to be an organic gardener, and you find your garden dotted with fire ant mounds fear not. There are organic solutions to the problem of fire ants. The first solution is the quickest fix; Gardenville Soil Conditioner. Soil Conditioner is a mixture of concentrated humate, molasses, and orange oil. Mix 4 - 6 oz. of concentrate with a gallon of water and pour directly on the mounds. It will kill the ants instantly. The second solution is pelletized bait called Come and Get It, which contains spinosad. Spinosad is a bacterial metabolite that infects the fire ants and kills them within 2 - 3 days, but has little effect on most other animals and insects. It can be slightly toxic to fish, so care should be exercised in the use of spinosad around ponds. The third solution, beneficial nematodes, is the best long-term solution. Beneficial nematodes are microscopic worms that live in the soil and prey on insects that have a larval form in the ground. Fire ants, fleas, flies and grubs are all preyed upon by nematodes. Nematodes are applied by mixing with water and applying to the soil; once applied they will begin their life cycle and colonize an area. Nematodes are not a quick fix; they are a long-term solution that will keep your yard from being colonized over a long period of time.



## SOCIETY

MEETINGS  
 at NORTH HAVEN GARDENS

**BEGONIA SOCIETY**  
 214-363-6715 x 340  
*Meets the third Thursday at 7:00 PM*

**BONSAI SOCIETY**  
 214-357-3048  
*Meets the first Thursday at 6:30 PM*

**BROMELIAD SOCIETY**  
 972-699-4013  
*Meets the fourth Saturday at 3:00 PM*

**DALLAS ROSE SOCIETY**  
 214-350-7023  
*Meets the fourth Friday at 7:00 PM*

**DAYLILY GROWERS OF DALLAS**  
 972-279-2019  
*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**  
 972-517-7219  
*Meets the third Sunday, 3:00 - 5:00 PM*

**NORTH TEXAS WATER GARDEN SOCIETY**  
 972-386-7787  
*Meets the second Tuesday at 7:00 PM*

**SOUTHWESTERN FERN SOCIETY**  
 214-544-7288  
*Meets the second  
 Sunday at  
 3:00 PM*

