



## Grow Your Best Tomatoes Ever

The countdown to getting your tomato transplants in the ground is underway! In north Texas, our window for success begins in mid-February and wraps up around the first week of April. While the mid-February early birds might have some covering to do for their earliest plantings, it's worth giving tomatoes the chance to establish an extensive root system and begin blooming and setting fruit before the hotter summer temperatures set in.

NHG's experienced Garden Advisors can help you troubleshoot any issues you've had in the past, and step up your game to ensure a bountiful harvest this year. As is our tradition, we'll have a wide assortment of both large and

small as well as heirloom and contemporary varieties to suit every taste and every garden. A few highlights include 'Crnkovic Yugoslavian,' an heirloom pink beefsteak that's proven a reliable, crack-resistant producer in our area. 'Yellow Pear' is an all-around staff favorite for the multitudes of golden-yellow, pear-shaped fruits that are remarkably sweet and easy to grow. If you haven't tried Espoma™ Tomato-Tone, we highly recommend it. It's a well-balanced organic granular fertilizer with the extra boost of calcium that tomatoes need. If your tomatoes have suffered from blossom end rot in the past, it's an extra precaution to help protect your crop.

First time growing your own tomatoes? Still feeling a bit lost? Plan to attend one of our FREE tomato success classes planned throughout the month of March. We'll cover all the basics for beginners and share tips, tricks and solutions for experienced gardeners, as well.

Give yourself a goal, and soak up some recognition for your awesome harvest! If you're an avid tomato grower, plan to show off your bounty at our **2<sup>nd</sup> annual Tomato Tasting event later in June**. Winners are based on popular vote and receive NHG gift cards and a shout-out on our social media channels.





'Boscobel' Photo courtesy David Austin® Roses

# Rose Highlights for 2017



Violet's Pride™

Roses evoke a sense of romance and old-world charm. Bred through crosses of antique and modern rose varieties to achieve graceful characteristics and fragrance, they're among the most beautiful flowers you can grow. We've increased our selection of varieties that we're growing on for our annual Rose Weekend, this year scheduled to open Saturday, March 4th. Edith's Darling™, a new addition to the popular series of roses inspired by Downton Abbey® characters, is a fitting tribute to Lady Edith and her beloved daughter Marigold. With a compact

and bushy habit, Edith's Darling™ is perfect for smaller spaces or large containers. Full, old-fashioned flowers are soft apricot-gold with long lasting coloration and a strong fresh cut apple and fruity perfume.

Lady Violet, the Dowager Countess of Grantham, inspired the rose Violet's Pride™ with the iconic shades of her lavender dresses. The blossoms are even more exquisite with a magenta-colored heart on the inner petals, and the dense foliage, disease resistance and fresh, grapefruit-tinged fragrance are worthy of any noblewoman.

These roses are a unique addition to any garden and wonderful in any collection. Along with our 200+ varieties of other rose types, the stage is set for a beautiful—and fragrant—rose weekend.

**Join us at 8am on Saturday March 4th!**



Edith's Darling™ Photos courtesy Weeks® Roses Downton™ and Downton Abbey® ©2017 Carnival Film & Television Limited. All Rights Reserved.



## The Bugs We Need

by NHG's Education and Outreach Coordinator, Rusty E. Allen

*An interview with Felicia English, IPM (Integrative Pest Management) Coordinator for Blue Label Farms in Wylie, Texas. Felicia has a Bachelor's Degree in Horticulture from Stephen F. Austin State University, and a love affair with insects and other living things that stretches back to her childhood.*

### What is a beneficial insect and how do they relate to urban gardening environments?

A beneficial insect is one that performs a human valued service such as pest control or pollination. These little guys can do a lot for us in our urban gardens by controlling pest populations and offering their pollinator services in places that don't see as many pollinators as a less developed space does. Some beneficial insects act as both pest control and pollinators by affecting different parts

of the garden during different parts of their life cycle.

### We all know you can buy several kinds of beneficial insects. What about those we cannot buy? How do we attract them?

The best way to attract native insects to your garden is to give them what they want, which is food, shelter, and a place to reproduce. The easiest way to ensure that you can offer all of those things is to plant flowering perennials. The pollen and nectar that are produced by these plants will help attract pest populations that beneficial insects can prey on, or the beneficials themselves will feed on these nutrient sources.

Join Felicia at NHG on Saturday, March 25th at 10am for **Bugs with Benefits** and again at 1pm on Saturday, April 29th for **Organic Garden Pest Control**

### What about those insects that are not considered beneficial?

All things have their place in the garden, even the things that get on our gardening nerves. It's always our first instinct to look at how this works from a human standpoint but if you cast your net a little wider you'll see that everything has its purpose in a healthy ecosystem. The trick is to find a balance between human, insect, and the plant's needs.

Visit [NHG.com](http://NHG.com) for class and event details and registration

# March - April 2017

### Roses: Superstars of the Garden

with Claude Graves, president of the Collin County Rose Society.

**Saturday, March 4**  
9:30-10:30am

**Free**



### A Year in the Life of a Rose

with Connie Reeve, past president of the Collin County Rose Society.

**Saturday, March 4**  
11-12pm

**Free**



### Watercolor Workshop with Wine: Roses

with artist Marian Hirsch

\$50 plus basic supplies.  
**Sunday, March 5**  
2-4pm



### Tomatoes!

Grow your best harvest.  
Sunday, March 12th,  
2-3:30pm

**Saturday, April 1**  
1-2pm

**Free**



### Bugs with Benefits

with Felicia English, IPM Coordinator for Blue Label Farms.

**Saturday, March 25**  
10-11:30am

**Free**



### Garden Walk: Spring Arrangements from Your Landscape

with NHG's Marilyn Hill and Paula Spletter.

**Saturday, April 29,**  
10:30-12pm

**Free**



### Kid's Painting Workshop: Cezanne's View

with artist Melanie M. Brannan

\$55 All supplies included.  
**Monday, March 13**  
1-3pm



### Stacking Rings Workshop

with artist Roma Buchanan

\$145. All supplies included.  
**Sunday, March 19**  
9:30-4:30pm



### Workshop with Wine: Modern Terrariums

\$35 All supplies included.

**Saturday, March 25**  
4-5:30pm



### Passionvines: Natives & More

with Passiflora collector and enthusiast Michael Cook.

**Saturday, April 29**  
9:30-10:30pm

**Free**



### Butterfly Gardening for North Central Texas

with Dale Clark, president of the Dallas Lepidopterist Society.

**Saturday, April 29**  
11-12:30pm

**Free**



### Organic Garden Pest Control

with Felicia English, IPM Coordinator for Blue Label Farms.

**Saturday, April 29**  
1-2:30pm

**Free**



### Birds Flight Show for Kids

\$15 All proceeds go directly to Window to the Wild.

**Saturday, March 18**  
1-2:30pm



### Spring Chicken Conference 2017

\$20 Presented by Urban Chicken Inc.

**Saturday, April 15**  
1-4pm



**Need help?**  
Make an appointment with our **Garden Coach** today!  
**214.363.5316**





# NORTH HAVEN Gardens



Garden Center + Art Gallery + Café

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## Rose Weekend

begins Saturday,  
March 4th at 8am.  
Visit [NHG.com](http://NHG.com) for details

7700 Northaven Road, Dallas, TX 75230 214-363-5316 [nhg.com](http://nhg.com)



Turning Point, oil on canvas by Shari Hornish

## Meet Local Artist Shari Hornish

When asked about the inspiration behind her vibrant paintings, Shari Hornish offers the following: "I paint birds and their surroundings because they fascinate me. I watch them from every window in my house, and I contemplate their lives in contrast to my own. They endure the storms of spring, the heat of summer, and the ice of winter. They give us their songs and their beauty and then die without a fuss. My poor paintings are the best tribute I can make to them at this point."

**"They say there is an element of autobiography in every piece of fiction, and, if that's true, then my paintings of birds are, to some degree, self-portraits."**

She adds: "I began painting trees about ten years ago because I love their shapes, textures, and colors. They're very willing sitters and never complain or ask to be compensated for their time. And all trees are dedicated environmentalists. What's not to admire about these gentle giants? With each new painting,

my focus zoomed in, moving closer and closer to the subject. The smallest branches and leaves began to appear. One day a bird asked to be included in the picture, and I reluctantly agreed. And soon there he sat - no, I sat - just as in many of my dreams, no longer a fading middle-aged woman but a vibrant creature surveying my leafy new world."

"They say there is an element of autobiography in every piece of fiction, and, if that's true, then my paintings of birds are, to some degree, self-portraits. You may not recognize me up there on those limbs, light as air and free as - well, as a bird. It's me, nevertheless. It's not The Picture of Dorian Gray, just the opposite. Down here in the flesh, I'm getting old. Physically limited. Absurdly cautious. Incurably lazy. But up there on canvas, I'm full of life, ready to lift off for another flight over the treetops. The leaves around me rustle. The sky is sunlit, the breeze ruffles my beautiful feathers, and I am master of my domain."

**Meet Shari and see her vibrant works in person at our Gallery Reception on Friday, March 17th from 5-7 pm.**