



# Dallas Arboretum

*Let nature nurture you.*

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## THE DALLAS ARBORETUM GENERAL INFORMATION

The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Society is one of the most beautiful display gardens in North America. With over 66 acres on the shores of White Rock Lake, this nationally recognized garden has changeable displays four times a year providing breathtaking color for visitors from March through November. The Holiday Show inside the historic Everette DeGolyer home provides a celebrated December activity while the grounds are being planted with over 500,000 bulbs for the springtime show, Dallas Blooms.

Over the course of the year, this urban oasis just minutes from downtown, Dallas will attract well over 500,000 visitors to its finely manicured grounds. Whether visitors come for a weekly respite or from locations around the country, and often around the world, they will find the garden areas listed below resplendent with seasonal plantings. The Arboretum is also a popular bridal photography spot with over 300 weddings held in the gardens and facilities each year.

### The Gardens

***The Jonsson Color Garden-*** This 6 ½ acre display area hosts our collection of over 3,000 azaleas, many of which are important cultivars from Asia. This garden also holds our largest color display, annually planted with tens of thousands of bulbs and bedding plants each year, with four display changes. The Jonsson Color Garden also hosts the *WaterWise* demonstration bed (donated by the Texas Nursery and Landscape Association) to demonstrate techniques of how a beautiful landscape can conserve water.

***The Palmer Fern Dell-*** Located at the southern end of the Jonsson Color Garden, the Fern Dell is a misty one-acre glade filled with more than 200 varieties of ferns, dogwoods and azaleas. A misting system developed by NASA provides a cooling break for those walking the property, and averages 5-10 degrees cooler than any other area on the Arboretum property during summer months.

***A Woman's Garden-*** A Woman's Garden opened in 1997 and is located on a 1.8-acre plot in the back of the historic Everette DeGolyer home. Overlooking White Rock Lake, this garden is dedicated to the spirit and essence of women by providing a tranquil and picturesque setting where visitors can relax and enjoy the view. Designed by Morgan Wheelock, the first aspect of the garden features seven garden rooms including the Poetry Garden, the Reflective Basin, the Majestic Allée, the Stepped Fountain, the Pulpit Garden, the Harmony Repose Garden and the Serenity Oak Garden. The second phase was completed in the spring of 2006 and includes the Genesis Garden, the Rockery, Dogwood Trace, the Acequia and the Grotto among others.

***DeGolyer Gardens*** – Landscape architects Arthur and Marie Berger designed the 4.5-acre DeGolyer Gardens in 1940. The gardens include the Indian Courtyard, Crape Myrtle Allee and other areas around the home including the Magnolia Allee and Pecan Grove. Nancy's Garden, once Mrs. DeGolyer's personal favorite gardening spot, is to the left of the home and includes child-sized benches and a sculpture of two little girls dancing.

***Boswell Family Garden*** – For Christmas in 2004, Dr. George Boswell surprised his family by giving them the gift of the Boswell Family Garden designed by landscape architect Warren Johnson of Fallcreek Gardens. As guests enter the garden from the octagonal fountain, an overlook provides a beautiful, unexpected view of the new space. A stacked wall provides the backbone of the garden, with a series of circular buttresses that are covered with trellises. Symmetrical, serpentine plantings mirrored by topiary hollies surround a circular lawn area. Cubed topiary hedges and a red and yellow-leafed barberry hedge in a double-helix configuration align the existing walk to the McCasland Sunken Garden. This garden holds the Arboretum's largest planting of roses.

***McCasland Sunken Garden*** – Since their first visit, Tom and Phyllis McCasland have considered the Dallas Arboretum a unique and special place, and is evident in their commitment to see the continued expansion of the Arboretum by funding the McCasland Sunken Garden, which opened in March 2006. The garden, designed by Warren Johnson of Fallcreek Gardens, is a renovation and upgrade of the original Sunken Garden. When entering from the DeGolyer south entry, visitors are greeted by a procession of English jardinières and geometric patterns shaded by towering trees. The central aisle steps down to the sunlit grass court's ample space.

***The Lyda Bunker Hunt Paseo de Flores*** - "The Walkway of Flowers" is a quarter mile long pathway that connects the main public entry on the south end of the property to the Lay Ornamental Garden on the north. The walkway is lined with majestic trees, sculpted shrubs and seasonal floral blooms. It is the perfect pathway for a leisurely stroll with family and friends.

***Martha Brooks Camellia Garden***- Located on the western edge of the Lyda Bunker Hunt Paseo de Flores, the garden was designed by Warren Hill Johnson. This 4,300-square-foot garden features more than 200 camellias of 30 different cultivars.

***Martin Rutchik Concert Lawn and Garden***- Located behind the historic Camp House, on a lush, sloping hill, the Concert Lawn is the ideal setting for outdoor weddings, receptions and luncheons. During the spring and summer and it is also a prime location for musical entertainment. The concerts appeal to all musical preferences and range from swing bands and rhythm & blues to big band orchestras and symphonies.

***Lay Ornamental Garden***- This 2.2-acre garden was designed as a Texas Cottage Garden, with more than 75 varieties of woody plants and 200 species of perennials. The native limestone cascading walls feature free-flowing water windows for a unique view of the garden. The Dipping Well Court and Entry Gate greet those that enter. This garden also contains the Hardy Palm and Tropical Collection. This tropical oasis, located behind the "Water Walls", contains a Wollemi Pine, a tree once thought to be extinct for millions of years. The Dallas Arboretum was the first botanical garden in the United States to be publicly presented with this plant. Throughout the garden, visitors will find interesting sculptures representing animal's native to Texas and descriptions of their habitats.

***The Trial Gardens'*** creation allowed the Arboretum to expand its research efforts and provide information to not only the public but also the horticulture industry. It is considered by breeding companies worldwide as the premier place to test for heat tolerance. More than 3,000 varieties of plants are tested each year, including annuals, perennials, bulbs, shrubs and trees. The garden is open year-round and offers new visibility for plant selections currently on the market and those soon to be available. Growers, retailers, and home gardeners can visit the trial garden and observe many different plants and how they perform in our climate. You can access the plants promoted by our trial program at [www.dallasplanttrials.org](http://www.dallasplanttrials.org).

***The Texas Pioneer Adventure*** is a national award winning 2.5-acre exhibit featuring seven gardens that introduce the importance of plants for pioneer survival. It includes an authentic sod house, two replica cabins, a covered wagon, Native American tepee and interactive exhibits. This is a popular area for seasonal crafts, petting zoos and wagon rides.

***Pecan Grove*** – Located off of the Paseo de Flores and blanketed with large pecan trees, this area offers visitors the perfect place to picnic with friends and family.

*Toad Corners* is located at the end of Crape Myrtle Allee' and has a quartet of giant bronze toads spouting 20-foot streams of water.

## History

The Dallas Arboretum was founded upon the dreams of a few visionary Dallasites. Though the gardens themselves are comparatively young, the work that went into creating the current gardens began long ago:

- In the early 1930's, Everette DeGolyer was the chair of a committee to find a location for an arboretum. Sixty years later, a botanical preserve is a reality—on the very land he once owned.
- In 1974, the Dallas Arboretum & Botanical Society (DABS) adopted bylaws, elected officers and incorporated as a non-profit organization.
- In 1977, the City of Dallas Park Board recommended that the grounds of the DeGolyer Estate, purchased from Southern Methodist University, be the official location of the botanical garden. The City encouraged DABS to raise funds for the initial costs.
- By 1980, DABS had raised over one million dollars, increased its membership and corporate support and purchased the twenty-two acre Camp Estate, which is adjacent to the DeGolyer Estate.
- In 1982, the City of Dallas and DABS signed a contract creating an arboretum and botanical garden on the combined 66 acres of the DeGolyer and Camp properties. The gardens opened to the public for the first time in 1984.
- The Dallas Arboretum owes its existence to the diligence of community leaders committed to having a botanic garden in Dallas led by members of the North Dallas Garden Forum, Nell Denman, Ralph Pinkus and others.

## Facilities

- DeGolyer Home:** This 21,000-square-foot home was built in 1940 for petroleum geologist Everette L. DeGolyer and his wife, Nell. Mr. DeGolyer, who pioneered new methods of locating petroleum, acquired thousands of books in his lifetime. His impressive library held 15,000 volumes and is a featured attraction of the home today. When Mrs. DeGolyer died in 1972, the estate was given to Southern Methodist University, which later sold it to the City of Dallas. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The home is open for tours starting at 10am with the last tour beginning at 4pm.
- Camp House:** This 8,000-square-foot home commands a stunning view of White Rock Lake from atop a gently sloping hill. It was built in 1938 for Alex and Roberta Camp, by John Staub of Houston. Though Mr. Camp did not live to see its completion, Mrs. Camp continued to live in the home until her death in the early 1970s. Ownership was then transferred to several charitable organizations until it was purchased by the Dallas Arboretum, through the immeasurable help of Ralph B. Rogers and restored by the Eugene McDermott Foundation. The home is closed to the public, but the downstairs is available for rental.
- Rosine Hall** The **Trammell Crow Visitor Education Pavilion** opened to the public in 2003 as the official entry to the garden. Composed of six structures housing offices, classrooms, an orientation theater and gift shop, it also is the site of the 5,000 square foot Rosine Hall, available for meetings and outside rental.

## General Visitor Information for The Dallas Arboretum

**Address:** 8525 Garland Road, Dallas, Tx on the southeastern shore of White Rock Lake, Mapsco 37U

**General Admission:** Adults, \$10, Seniors 65 and over, \$9. Children, ages 3 – 12, \$7. Children 2 and under, free.

**Hours:** The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Gardens is open to the public year-round 9am to 5pm except for Christmas, Thanksgiving and New Year's Day.

**Parking:** On-site, \$7. Free off-site shuttle during peak visiting seasons

**Gift Store:** The Hoffman Family Gift Store is 1,750 square feet of great gifts, horticultural items and books. Located to the left of the entry to the garden.

**Rental:** Both the DeGolyer Home, the Camp House and Rosine Hall are available for rental. In addition, we have 11 unique garden sites that may be rented for weddings or other occasions.

**Food Service:** Seated food service is available outside at the Lula Mae Slaughter Dining Terrace and inside at DeGolyer Garden Café year around.

**Other Amenities:** Food Service, Meadows Orientation Theater, Hoffman Family Gift Store, Information Booth, Doctor's Hospital One-Mile Fitness Trail, shaded porches, plazas and the Gisela H. Rodriguez Gazebo

**Yearly Festivals:** **Dallas Blooms:** March-April This 6-week festival from early March until mid-April is the largest outdoor floral display in the south. The showcase of this event is over 500,000 spring-blooming bulbs; including tulips, as well as daffodils, Dutch Iris and Hyacinth, flowering in symphony with over 80,000 pansies, violas and poppies and thousands of other spring-blooming annuals and perennials. The finale of this celebration of spring is the mass flowering of our collection of over 3,000 azaleas.

**Summer at the Arboretum featuring The Flower Village:** May-July Starting on May 1<sup>st</sup> the Dallas Arboretum completely changes out the color beds of the garden with over 80,000 colorful spring blooming annuals. The Crape Myrtle Allee turns into an awning of pink when the Crape Myrtle trees bloom. Experience the four lavish topiary flower houses under a canopy of shaded Pecan trees and picnic under the shade, read a book and relax.

**Autumn at the Arboretum:** September-October The Dallas Arboretum is a rich tapestry of color for this tribute to fall. For six weeks the already lush plantings of over 150,000 summer flowers in full bloom is complimented by an additional planting of 6,000 chrysanthemums and thousands of other fall annuals. The centerpiece of this festival is The Tom Thumb "Pumpkin Patch" filled with over 25,000 pumpkins and the striking "Pumpkin House". This 15-ft. tall house is completely covered in over 200 pumpkins, and surrounded by a garden of over 40 varieties of pumpkins and gourds.

**Holiday at the Arboretum:** November- December During December when the beds are being planted with bulbs for our spring display, the Everette DeGolyer home hosts a Holiday exhibit from the day after Thanksgiving to December 31<sup>st</sup>. Ranging from Nativity Scenes to Doll Collections; from Fairytale Vignettes to Nutcracker Collections; it always promises to hold delight for all family members as all public rooms are decorated. It is open daily excluding Christmas Day.

### **Concerts in the Garden Series:**

**Twilight Tuesdays:** April- May Our new Twilight Tuesdays concert series includes six concerts compiled of the best swing and jazz bands in the metroplex. Pack a picnic Tuesday evenings and enjoy the gardens at twilight and dance the night away at the Martin Rutchik Concert Stage & Lawn overlooking White Rock Lake.

**Cool Thursdays Concert Series:** April-July, September-October The Arboretum hosts evening concerts on the Martin Rutchik Concert Lawn and Stage on Thursday evenings beginning in April. The concert dates and schedule are on line at [dallasarboretum.org](http://dallasarboretum.org). With everything from big band sounds to cover band music of favorite artists, it is a popular location for the city. As most concerts sell out, it is important to purchase tickets early.

**Information:** Call 214.515.6500 or visit our website at [www.dallasarboretum.org](http://www.dallasarboretum.org).

**Partners:** *The Dallas Morning News* is the Principal Partner of the Dallas Arboretum. The Arboretum is supported in part by the City of Dallas Park & Recreation Department. WFAA is the media sponsor for the Dallas Arboretum.