



*Texas,*  
*Texas,* HOW DOES YOUR  
**GARDEN**  
**GROW?**

GARDENS OF EARTHLY  
DELIGHTS CREATED FOR  
BEAUTY AND INSPIRATION

LADY BIRD JOHNSON WILDFLOWER CENTER



It's true that New Jersey is officially The Garden State, but with these four (and many other) gorgeous public gardens beckoning visitors in all of Texas's four corners, can't we claim the title, too? Do yourself a favor and make it a priority to visit one or more of these fabulous floral habitats and get inspired to create your own earthly delight.



## Dallas Arboretum & Botanical Garden **DUTCH TREAT**

If you're in Dallas this spring and looking for a welcome burst of color after a relatively drab winter season, look no further than the amazing Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden. Located about five miles east of downtown Dallas on the shores of White Rock Lake, the 66-acre display garden is owned by the Dallas Parks & Recreation Department and privately managed and maintained. Visitors to the Arboretum will learn that its gardens comprise two former luxury estates—the Alexander Camp House and the DeGoyer estate, both of which are still maintained on the

property and open to visitors. The facility opened its doors for the first time as the Dallas Arboretum in the mid-1980s.

Since then, the park has increased its appeal and its attendance considerably, carefully designing and cultivating 19 distinct gardens, all of them seamlessly interconnected along easily walkable (and handicapped-accessible) paths. In 2014, the park and its attractions were host to nearly a million visitors. "You can get lost in all the spaces, nooks and crannies," said Dave Forehand, vice president of gardens and visitor services for the Arboretum.

Every spring, from early March through mid-April, the Dallas Blooms Festival is one of the Arboretum's signature annual events, when tens of thousands of blooming Dutch bulbs show off their phenomenal colors. "There are so many tulips, you would think you were in Holland,"

Forehand says. In addition to numerous varieties of tulips, other species on display for the springtime event include Dutch irises, daffodils, and hyacinths... "all the bulbs you can imagine would be on the list if you were ordering from a Dutch bulb supplier, which is what we do."

### ON YOUR OWN

Thinking of going Dutch in your own garden? Forehand recommends planting varieties of tulip bulbs that are "early season, mid-season and late season" to maximize the overall bloom time. Add to them clustered plantings of early-blooming hyacinths and some crocus bulbs for a delightful combination of Dutch-inspired plantings. "There's even a variety of tulip called species tulips, which are the bulbs that all the Dutch tulips started from that are quite hardy and will even rebloom for home gardeners," Forehand says. "They tend to be pink, yellow and orange and bloom really beautifully year after year if you maintain them properly." [dallasarboretum.org](http://dallasarboretum.org)