



## BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Glorious Gardens Features Seven Stunning Gardens

**BIRMINGHAM, AL**—Birmingham Botanical Gardens' biennial Glorious Gardens Tour returns to Birmingham on Mother's Day weekend. Five residential and two public gardens comprise this year's tour, each with its own celebrity, whether it is an array of horticultural gems, architectural complexity or stunning views. The two-day event is slated for Saturday, May 8 from 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday, May 9 from noon–5 p.m.

Glorious Gardens offers the public a unique glimpse into gardens that offer tranquility, privacy and clever use of limited space. Not only is the popular tour an opportunity for sightseers to learn about plants, art, gardening and various aspects of landscape design, but it also benefits Birmingham Botanical Gardens' educational mission. The popular tour allows

Tickets to Glorious Gardens are \$25 for all seven gardens, or \$10 for each individual garden. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org), or in person at Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Leaf & Petal at The Gardens or any of the individual gardens the days of the event. Sponsors include Landscape Workshops, Inc., *Birmingham Home & Garden* and Leaf & Petal at The Gardens. For more information contact Shelly McCarty at 205.414.3965 or [smccarty@bbgardens.org](mailto:smccarty@bbgardens.org).

### **HOST GARDENS**

#### **Catherine & Doug Coltharp**

The Coltharp's country estate has something for everyone. The yard, complete with pool, is a child's fantasy, while the garden is tidy and precise. Climbing vines and boxwoods frame the garden and its plethora of flowers. Though the garden is very structured, it remains open and inviting.

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## **Joy & Beau Grenier**

The Grenier's garden provides a surprising rural escape in the heart of Redmont. Stone walkways wind throughout, showcasing a variety of fruit trees while dividing the garden itself into a sequence of "rooms."

## **Pam & Mike Hales**

The Hales' garden is a quintessential "gardener's garden," whose centerpiece is a stunning waterfall that trickles down into a koi pond. Figurines scatter the property, creating an almost whimsical feel that is most striking in the must-see fairy garden.

## **Leslie & Elton Stephens**

The Stephens' country home uses minimalistic garden designs that draw attention to the true star of the estate: the awe-inspiring views of the city. The expansive property includes a newly planted arboretum, where plants were selected to accentuate the noble trees in the collection.

## **Kim & Peter Weinheimer**

The Weinheimer's seven acres, located three miles from Crestline Village, is a serene haven from city life. Beautiful natural rock formations, stacked stone walls with perennial beds, vegetable gardens, hydrangea gardens and a nature trail with many native plants are just some of the charms of this scenic property.

## **Southern Environmental Center**

Birmingham-Southern College's Southern Environmental Center (SEC) is the largest educational facility of its kind in Alabama and is especially active in the community through its award-winning Interactive Museum and Community EcoScape Program. The SEC's first EcoScape was established in 1996. More information is available at [www.myecoscapes.org](http://www.myecoscapes.org).

## **Birmingham Botanical Gardens**

Birmingham Rose Society's annual Rose Show at The Gardens features tours of the Dunn Formal and Ireland Old-fashioned Rose Gardens.

### **About Birmingham Botanical Gardens**

Birmingham Botanical Gardens is Alabama's largest living museum with more than 10,000 different plants in its living collections. The Gardens' 67.5 acres contains more than 25 unique gardens, 30+ works of original outdoor sculpture and miles of serene paths. The Gardens features the largest public horticulture library in the U.S., conservatories, a wildflower garden, two rose gardens, the Southern Living garden, and Japanese Gardens with a traditionally crafted tea house. Education programs run year round and more than 10,000 school children enjoy free science-curriculum based field trips annually. The Gardens is open daily, offering free admission to more than 350,000 yearly visitors.

