

NEWS  
from  
LONDONWOOD GARDENS  
1308 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street (Har-Ber Road)  
Grove, Oklahoma 74344  
918-786-2938

April 29, 2008

Contact: Pauline Hale, 918-786-8375

### AZALEAS, RHODODENDRONS IN FULL BLOOM NOW AT LONDONWOOD GARDENS

Residents and visitors in the area should hurry to Lendonwood Gardens to enjoy a colorful display of azaleas and rhododendrons currently at their peak, according to Cindy Reynolds, president of the Lendonwood Board of Directors.

“I can’t remember seeing the garden so beautiful,” Reynolds said. “It would be a shame to miss this display right now. There are masses of azaleas of many different colors, both in the main garden and in the western part of the Lendonwood property, and the rhododendrons are simply breathtaking.”

She noted that many people come to Lendonwood for photo opportunities, especially in springtime. “The garden is a perfect place for special portraits like prom or graduation, but people should come take pictures now while these flowering shrubs are at their best.”

Lendonwood is home to more than 250 varieties of rhododendrons, one of the largest collections in the Southwest, as well as a sizable selection of azaleas. Rhododendrons have broad, leathery leaves, while most azaleas have smaller and thinner leaves. However, the two are related plants and share many of the same characteristics. Both like acidic soil and have shallow roots. Plants range from low-growing to tall, treelike shrubs.

Flowers are generally cup- or funnel-shaped and appear singly or in clusters at the end of branches. Bloom colors include white, pink, orange, red, mauve, and purple, among many others.

In the Grove area, rhododendrons and azaleas can prosper if they are planted in rich, organic, well-drained soils protected by mulch. Pine-needle mulch is especially helpful for both protection and acidic content.

Lendonwood is comprised of six distinct areas: the Display Garden, the Oriental Garden, the English Terrace Garden, Japanese Garden, the American Backyard, and the Angel of Hope Garden. Highlights include 25 varieties of dogwood and one of the largest collections of chamaecyparis (false cypress) in the United States. In addition, the garden features 500 varieties of daylilies, 75 varieties of Japanese maples and many selections of hostas.

There is no charge for admission to Lendonwood, although a \$5 donation per person is appreciated for continued maintenance of the garden. Lendonwood is located at 1308 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street (Har-Ber Road) in Grove.