

## TEXAS HIGHWAYS--ROSE INDUSTRY--"WHEN..."

The 62nd annual Texas Rose Festival salutes Tyler's rose industry October 19-22. Special activities for all four days include a rose show, art show, and rose field tours. An elaborate Queen's Coronation presents three performances Thursday and Friday (tickets required). The Queen's Tea on Friday in the Rose Garden is free to the public. Saturday brings the rose parade and a symphony concert in the park. Other events include square and round dancing, arts and crafts, and free seminars on rose growing.

Stop and smell the 30,000 rose bushes (400 varieties) at Tyler's 14-acre Rose Garden, located at 1725 West Front Street, next to the East Texas State Fair grounds. Always open except during periodic spraying for pests and diseases. No admission charge; wheelchair accessible to many rose beds. After Labor Day, bushes are trimmed to produce new blooms for the Rose Festival, so call to check bloom status before September visits; phone 903/531-1213.

Overlooking the Rose Garden, the new Rose Garden Center houses the Rose Museum, which features rose festival memorabilia and exhibits on the rose industry, as well as a gift shop. Open Tuesday through Friday 9 to 4, Saturday 10 to 4, and Sunday 1:30 to 4 (extended hours during the festival). Admission is \$3.50 for adults, \$2 for three to 11, free for under three. Wheelchair accessible. Located at 420 South Rose Park Drive, adjacent to the East Texas State Fair grounds; phone 903/597-3130.

For information and brochures on the festival, museum, or garden, contact the Tyler Visitors and Convention Bureau, 407 North Broadway Avenue, P.O. Box 390, Tyler 75710 (800/235-5712 or locally 592-1661; fax 903/593-2746).

Chamblee's Rose-Arama, located on US 69 three miles north of Loop 323, sells rose bushes (specializing in old roses and miniatures), fresh-cut roses, and rose-related gift items. Take a free tour of the nursery and attend periodic how-to demonstrations

on rose growing. Open 9 to 5:30 Monday through Saturday all year, and 9 to 5:30 Sundays in March, April, and May. Next door is the Bed of Roses Country Inn bed and breakfast, featuring rose-filled landscapes and continental breakfast with rose jelly. Rates are \$55 to \$65 per person. Chamblee's also sells rose bushes nationwide via mail-order. For information, mail order packet, and B&B reservations write 10926 US 69, Tyler 75706 or call 800/256-ROSE or locally 882-5153; fax 903/882-3597.

Another Tyler nursery offers retail mail-order service. Contact Tate Rose Nursery, 10306 Farm Road 2767, Tyler 75708 (903/593-1020) for a brochure or to order. For a list of other local retail rose nurseries, contact the Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce (listed above).