

## Nursery Pre-Tour:

We will head southwest from Hamilton for this full day tour on Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> to visit three unique nursery operations: Hillen Nursery in Mount Brydges, Canadale Nurseries in St. Thomas, and Norview Gardens in Norwich.

**Hillen Nursery** is located 20 minutes west of London, Ontario in the quaint agriculturally rich town of Mount Brydges, Ontario. Situated on a picturesque 250 acres and producing roughly one million plants annually, Hillen Nursery Ltd. Was founded by Peter and Ellie Hillen in 1983. Hillen's production includes, but is not limited to, ornamental grasses and perennials, broadleaf and spreading evergreens, flowering shrubs, vines and container grown ornamental and shade trees.



## Canadale Nurseries



Canadale Nurseries Ltd, a family operated business since 1955, has both a wholesale and retail division. The wholesale operation, situated on 30 acres of containers, specializes in top grafted ornamentals, unique plants and a full line of woodies for their garden centre customers in Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes. The retail facility services the London-St. Thomas market with the same lineup of plants, as well as a wide assortment of perennials and annuals from suppliers in Ontario and abroad.

A popular destination within the garden centre is a Design and Inspiration Centre featuring 15 themed gardens (*photo above*) to provide inspiration in design to our customers. Canadale President Tom Intven states they are pleased to welcome the IPPS Eastern Region members for lunch in a Jurassic setting with life sized animatronic dinosaurs!

## Norview Gardens

Norview Gardens began in 1996 on a small farm purchased near the town of Norwich in southern Ontario by owner Paul Scharringa. Paul's son Jeff is now a partner in the business which is focused exclusively on ornamental grasses. The company has grown to produce more than 200 cultivars of grasses both in various plug / liner sizes for growing on and in various finished potted sizes for the retail and landscape trades. Norview Gardens Ltd. prides itself on their excellent working and business relationship with many of the wholesale plant nurseries in Southern Ontario.

