PEAK AZALEA SEASON HAS ARRIVED...EARLY!

PINE MOUNTAIN (03/01/2017) – Earlier in the year than anyone can remember ever happening before, Callaway Gardens’ famous azaleas are in bloom.

“In my 51 years at Callaway Gardens, this is the earliest in the year that I’ve ever seen azaleas in bloom,” said Callaway Gardens’ Director of Gardens Patricia Collins. “Traditionally, the later Easter occurs the later the azaleas bloom. That is not the case this year. This is unprecedented. It is amazing and something that we’ve never seen before. We just want to make sure that everyone is aware so they don’t miss seeing them.”

The Overlook Azalea Garden is nearing peak bloom! The Callaway Brothers Azalea Bowl is beginning to bloom but, as traditional, is later flowering than the Overlook Azalea Garden.

For a glance at what they look like, visit the Azalea Watch section of www.callawaygardens.com or visit the Callaway Gardens Facebook Fan Page.
A variety of Spring overnight packages, which include admission to the Gardens, are available in The Lodge and Spa at Callaway Gardens as well as the Southern Pine Cottages, Mountain Creek Villas, and a variety of vacation homes.

Admission to the Gardens is complimentary for Callaway Gardens annual passholders or $20 per guests age 13 and older; $10 for guests age 6 to 12; and complimentary for guests five and younger.

For more information, contact Callaway Gardens at 1.800.463.6990 or www.callawaygardens.com.

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**About Callaway Gardens**

For more than 65 years, Callaway Gardens has provided “a place of relaxation, inspiration and a better understanding of the living world” for millions of visitors. Owned and operated by the non-profit Ida Cason Callaway Foundation, Callaway Gardens includes a garden and resort on thousands of acres in Pine Mountain, Georgia. Highlights include a butterfly conservatory, discovery center, chapel, inland beach, nature trails, and special events throughout the year.

In addition, Callaway Gardens offers a spa, meeting space, restaurants, shops, golf, tennis, fishing, and more.

**Note to Editors:** Images, interviews and visits to the event can be arranged. Thank you.