

NoCo Bloom

MAY 2025



LARIMER COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION



THE GARDENS
ON SPRING CREEK



City of
Fort Collins

NOURISH & FLOURISH: CULTIVATING HEALTH


ERGONOMIC
GARDENING

HERB GARDENS

SPICE UP YOUR
TABLE


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Colorado State University

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Horticulture and Landscape Architecture
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Nutrien Building, Second Floor
970-491-7019 | hortla.agsci.colostate.edu 



CSU EXTENSION IN LARIMER COUNTY
1525 Blue Spruce Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80524-2004
970-498-6000 | larimer.gov/extension 



**THE GARDENS ON SPRING CREEK
CITY OF FORT COLLINS**
2145 Centre Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80526
970-416-2486 | fcgov.com/gardens 

NoCo Bloom

PLEASE NOTE: If you are a gardener living in Weld County and needing help, visit www.WeldMasterGardeners.org or email the Weld Garden Help Desk directly at weldmastergardeners@outlook.com.




Another Spring, ANOTHER GARDEN TO GROW!

It's that time of year we gardeners love! Time to get our hands in the dirt, our bodies in motion, and our minds free from the tumult of daily life. With each seed sown and each weed pulled, we cultivate more than just plants—we nurture our own well-being.

In our three 2025 *NoCo Bloom* issues, we'll be exploring the many ways gardening enhances our lives, from the physical benefits of movement and growing our own fresh produce to the mental and emotional rewards of being in nature.

You've likely felt these benefits yourself—the gentle stretch of muscles as you squat to plant seedlings, the calming rhythm of pruning, or the sheer joy of watching a garden come to life. Studies show that gardening can improve physical health by promoting daily movement and strengthening muscles, while also reducing stress by lowering cortisol levels and boosting mood.

As we step into another season of growth, let's dig deeper into gardening's power to heal, nourish, energize, and connect us to the world around us. 



Making a Case for Turf

events 'n classes

Lawns have a long history in the United States, dating back to colonial times, when landscapes were heavily influenced by European design. Lawns prior to the 1950s were generally a mix of species, including what we may consider weeds today (e.g., clover). In the early days, sheep were used to control growth, but in 1830, Edwin Budding patented the first lawnmower, which was inspired by a carpet-trimming machine. Notably, Budding's original design weighed hundreds of pounds, and larger versions were pulled by horses.

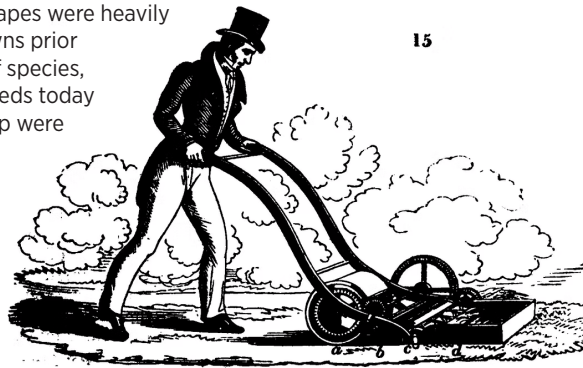


Image of a country gentlemen which was included with the patent.

Lawns get a bad rap for many reasons: they use too much water, require pesticide applications, and need fertilizer. While this is true, lawns—like all plants—can be maintained in various ways. A healthy, well-managed lawn typically requires less water, fertilizer, and pesticides than one that is neglected. One of the greatest benefits of turf is that it provides a space for recreation—after all, playing soccer on mulch or rocks isn't nearly as enjoyable as playing on soft grass.

From an environmental standpoint, lawns can help offset carbon emissions, provide oxygen, help cool the surrounding environment, and provide a pervious surface for stormwater to infiltrate. And lawns help keep people physically fit. Have you ever used a push mower and felt the effort it takes? Even walking behind a gas or electric mower can burn several hundred calories per hour. My dad loved mowing the lawn—he considered it as a way to be outside and stay active.

However, if you're planning to convert your lawn to something else (e.g., a different turf species, ornamental landscape, vegetable garden) or reduce the lawn area, always remember the other plants that benefit from lawn irrigation, especially trees and shrubs. Those conducting landscape conversions in hotter, drier areas of the U.S. have learned this lesson the hard way—turf conversions can end up killing mature trees due to drought stress. Some tree species can tolerate water reductions better than others—honeylocust can usually adjust to reduced water use while spruce cannot.

Finally, whether or not you have a lawn is a personal choice, but it's important to avoid "shaming" or judging others. Good lawn managers use best management practices with an emphasis on sustainability to reduce inputs while maximizing performance. At the end of the day, enjoy the mow—lawns have been a part of our landscape for centuries and will continue to have a place, even here in Colorado. 🌱

COMMUNITY WIDE RESOURCES

Grow and Give Program - Grow Food & Share The Harvest
Colorado State University Extension, growgive.extension.colostate.edu (includes vegetable growing tips)

Larimer County Colorado Master Gardener Q&A Booth at the Extension Office Every Tuesday and Thursday, to Oct. 16, larimermg@gmail.com or 970-498-6000, 1525 Blue Spruce Drive, Fort Collins, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., Free, LarimerExtension.org

Larimer County Colorado Master Gardener Q&A Booth at the Larimer County Farmers' Market Every Saturday, May 17 to Oct. 25, 200 W. Oak Street, Fort Collins, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Free, LarimerCountyFM.org

Master Gardener Q&A Booth at Milliken Market Days
Saturday May 17 and June 14, Union Pacific Depot, 1109 Broad St., Milliken, 3 – 6 p.m., Free

Master Gardener Q&A Booth at Greeley Farmers' Market
Every Saturday, May 10 to July 5, Union Pacific Depot, 902 7th Ave., Greeley, 8 a.m. – noon, Free, greeleygov.com/activities/fm

Master Gardener Q&A Booth at Windsor Farmers' Market
Every Saturday June 7 to July 5, 110 N. 5th St., Windsor, 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Free, recreationliveshere.com/213/Farmers-Market

Weld County Master Gardeners Help Desk
Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday until Oct. 31, Walk-ins welcome during Help Desk hours, 525 N 15th Ave., Greeley, weldmastergardener@gmail.com, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Free, WeldMasterGardeners.org

City of Loveland Farmers' Market Master Gardener Q&A Booth June 8, July 13, Aug. 10, and Sept. 14, 700 S. Railroad Ave., 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Free, lovgov.org/services/parks-recreation/events/farmers-market

Town of Berthoud Farmers' Market Master Gardener Q&A Booth June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, and Sept. 20, 200 N. 7th St., 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Free, berthoud.org/1430/The-Berthoud-Market

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)



by Tony Koski, Professor and Extension Turf Specialist, Colorado State University, Dept. of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

events 'n classes

COMMUNITY WIDE EDUCATION

Extension Gardening Webinars Archive

Recordings of previous gardening webinars are available at any time, Free, planttalk.colostate.edu/webinars

May 14 » **Top Trees for Colorado Presented by Eric Hammond from CSU Extension**, Extension Gardening Webinars, noon – 1 p.m., Free, registration required, planttalk.colostate.edu/webinars

June 11 » **Native Plants: Potting Media, Soil, and Tips for Transplanting Success Presented by Allisa Zurbuchen from CSU Extension**, Extension Gardening Webinars, noon – 1 p.m., Free, registration required, planttalk.colostate.edu/webinars

BERTHOUD

June 28 » **Conservation Gardens Fair** Northern Water Headquarters, 220 Water Ave., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., Free, See website for details, northernwater.org/conservationgardensfair

DENVER

June 26 » **Plant Select Annual Conference** Denver Botanic Gardens, 1007 York St., 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., \$90 until June 19, plantselect.org

FORT COLLINS

May 8 » **Down to Earth Speaker Series—Grounding Yourself: Nature's Influence on the Brain, Body and Mind** Center for Creativity, 200 Mathews St., Fort Collins, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., \$60, fcgov.com/gardens/speaker-series

May 10 » **Tai Chi** The Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, 9 – 10 a.m., \$15, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

May 10 » **Natural Lip Balms** The Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, 10 – 11:30 a.m., \$40, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

May 10 » **Small Fruit Gems: Strawberries and Raspberries** The Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, 12:30 – 2 p.m., \$10, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

May 10 » **Forest Bathing** The Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m., \$30, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

May 17 » **Larimer County Farmers' Market** Every Saturday, May 17 to Oct. 25, 200 W. Oak Street, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Free admission, larimercountyfm.org

May 24 » **Tai Chi** The Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, 9 – 10 a.m., \$15, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

CULTIVATE COMFORT

with Ergonomic Gardening Tools

Gardening is fun and therapeutic for many, but let's face it—gardening is also hard work. Fortunately, there are ways to make this pastime less arduous and painful for those who don't want to give it up as they age.

TO MINIMIZE BENDING AND REACHING

- ▶ Use long-handled, lightweight tools, such as weeders, cultivators, rakes, and hoes. Those claw-type weeders that supposedly grab a weed and pull it out? They don't work in heavy clay soils. Use a sharp, triangle-bladed hoe instead.
- ▶ As for rakes, look at aluminum models with adjustable widths from about seven to 24 inches.
- ▶ Try a long-handled jumbo debris pan for sweeping up clippings. When it's full, just lift it off the ground, and the pan flips from horizontal to vertical so you don't lose any debris.
- ▶ Install raised beds. You can build or buy raised beds made of wood, galvanized steel, cinder blocks, and even hay bales.
- ▶ Pressure-treated lumber is generally safe for raised beds, but avoid using railroad ties.
- ▶ Many gardeners buy horse and sheep troughs for long-lasting, low-maintenance, and reasonably priced raised beds. Just be sure to drill holes in the bottoms for drainage.



TO MAXIMIZE HAND AND FOREARM STRENGTH



QUICK-CONNECT FITTINGS

- ▶ Use quick-connect fittings to attach your hose to your outdoor faucet without strenuous twisting motions. Also, use the same fittings to attach your sprayers and other devices to the end of your hose.
- ▶ Utilize ergonomic bypass pruners with padded handles for keeping your trees and shrubs in shape. Or invest in battery-powered pruners, some weighing as little as 1.5 pounds.
- ▶ Think about adding a compact reciprocating saw to your tool collection. These battery-powered gizmos make even quicker work of lopping off branches. They weigh only about 2.5 to 6 pounds, and some cost less than battery-powered pruners.
- ▶ Look into arm support cuffs with attachable tools, such as Peta Easi-Grips.

TO CONSERVE ENERGY

- ▶ Buy a rolling garden cart with seat and tool tray so you can sit while you work and have easy access to your tools.
- ▶ Try a lightweight, coiled garden hose for watering containers and garden areas close by.
- ▶ Insert a broad fork into your soil and rock it back and forth if a rototiller is too much to handle.
- ▶ Switch from a heavier, gas-powered lawn mower to a lighter electric one.



by Deb Courtner, CSU Extension
Master Gardener Volunteer in Larimer County



ROLLING
GARDEN CART

COMPACT
RECIPROCATING SAW

SUPPORT CUFF W/
ATTACHABLE TOOLS

LIGHTWEIGHT COILED
GARDEN HOSE

By using these tools,
you can increase your
comfort and preserve
your joy of gardening
for years to come. 🌱

events 'n classes

May 24 » **Simple Easy Cheeses: Homemade Cottage Cheese & Cream Cheese** The Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, 10 – 11:30 a.m., \$40, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

May 24 » **Embodied Climate Action Workshop** The Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. \$10, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

June 7 » **Beekeeping: Post Installation**
The Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave,
9:30 – 10:30 a.m., \$23, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

June 7 » **Create Your Reality Insight + Sound Workshop**
The Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave,
9:30 a.m. – noon, \$55, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

June 9 » **Xeriscape Bike Tour** Southeast Fort Collins,
5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Free, sign up on website required, [fcgov.com/
utilities/water-conservation-events](https://fcgov.com/utilities/water-conservation-events)

June 13 – June 15 » **Father's Day Tree Sale** Fort Collins Nursery,
2121 E. Mulberry St., 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. (Fri-Sat)/10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
(Sun), Free admission, fortcollinsnursery.com

June 14 » **Exploring the Seasons with Meditation & Breathwork: Summer Solstice** The Gardens on Spring Creek,
2145 Centre Ave, 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m., \$50,
fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

June 14 » **Trees of the Gardens Tour** The Gardens on Spring
Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, 9:30 a.m. – noon, \$30,
fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

June 14 » **NOCO Native Plant Swap at The Xeriscape Garden
Party at EcoFest** 300 Laporte Ave., 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., Free,
vhub.at/noconative

June 14 » **Forest Bathing** The Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145
Centre Ave, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., \$30,
fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

June 14 » **Artist Conversation: Melanie Yazzie**
The Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, 2 – 3 p.m.,
\$25, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

June 18 » **Concert w/The Samples (Benefit for Project
Self-Sufficiency)** Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 E. Mulberry
St., 6:30 p.m., \$32 ADV/\$37 Door/Kids 12 & Under Free,
fortcollinsnursery.com

June 21 » **Watercolor Journaling: Cacti**
The Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave,
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., \$70, in person, fcgov.com/g

June 21 » **Embodied Climate Action Workshop** The Gardens
on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m., \$10, in
person, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)



by Maggie Switzer, Farmers Market
and Food Systems Coordinator, CSU
Extension in Larimer County

Spice UP YOUR TABLE:

Fresh Picks from NoCo Farmers and Chefs

Reiden Leslie is a Fort Collins-grown local farmer, now growing nutritious vegetables for the Fort Collins community. Reiden operates Little Sun Farm, which produces a wide variety of cooking and salad greens, roots, culinary herbs, snap peas, tomatoes, onions, cucumbers, and your classic favorite vegetables. Reiden got her start as a farmer in Fort Collins in partnership with the Northern Colorado Foodshed Project, an area nonprofit dedicated to supporting local farmers and food systems.

Reiden loves growing vegetables in part because it connects her to her Native American roots. According to Reiden, "My mom's family is Native American, and there's a long sad history there with health problems and chronic diseases that stem from the swift and forced adoption of non-traditional and nutrient-poor foods. For me, growing vegetables means I'm surrounding myself with the ingredients and inspiration for a much healthier and nutrient-dense lifestyle than I'd have otherwise." One of Reiden's favorite vegetable varieties to grow include

spicy peppers: "I'm addicted to spicy food, so growing hot peppers is a must." Her favorites include habanero, cayenne, and scotch bonnet. For seed purchasing, Reiden tries to support Native Seed Search as much as possible and is "obsessed" with a variety called Fatalii from Siskiyou Seeds, and a sweet pepper called Gypsy Queens from Adaptive Seeds.

You can find Reiden's favorite spicy peppers and more on Saturdays, May 17 – Oct. 25, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Larimer County Farmers' Market in Old Town Fort Collins. The LCFM, the oldest farmers' market in northern Colorado, is celebrating its 49th anniversary in 2025. Part of its long history is connecting farmers to food businesses that appreciate sourcing fresh, locally grown ingredients, such as Reiden's peppers. One such business is Sunny Sky Pies, operated by Erin Margenau. Erin's vintage, sky blue pie truck has been a staple at the LCFM for years, where Erin has been able to source local quiche ingredients, such as peppers from Reiden. According to Erin, "Supporting my local community by using the freshest produce possible while highlighting local produce in my pies and forming solid relationships with growers, is my passion. It really is a win, win, WIN for everyone in our community. It's what supporting local is all about." 🍷

While Reiden's super spicy cayenne and scotch bonnet peppers may turn up the heat in a quiche, there are plenty of milder varieties that will work just fine. Find many options grown by local farmers, including Reiden, at the Larimer County Farmers' Market. Sunny Sky Pies' Erin provided one of her favorite quiche recipes to help you get started in the kitchen:

LOADED VEGETARIAN *Quiche*

Step 1

Gather all ingredients. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C).

Step 2

Bake pie crust in preheated oven until firm, about 8 minutes. Remove crust from oven and set aside. Reduce oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).

Step 3

Heat olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add onion, bell pepper, mushrooms, and zucchini and cook, stirring, until softened, 5 to 7 minutes. Remove vegetables from skillet and set aside.

Step 4

Sprinkle chopped tomato with basil, cook in the skillet over medium heat for 1 minute per side. Set aside.

Step 5

Whisk eggs, milk, salt, and pepper together in a small bowl.

Step 6

Spread 1 cup cheese in the bottom of pie crust. Layer vegetable mixture over the cheese, then top with tomato. Pour egg mixture over top and sprinkle with remaining ½ cup cheese.

Step 7

Bake in the preheated oven until a knife inserted near the center comes out clean, 30 minutes.

Step 8

Cool 5 minutes before serving.

Servings: 8

Ingredients:

- 1 (9 inch) deep dish pie crust
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- ½ cup sliced onion
- ½ cup chopped green bell pepper
- ½ chopped zucchini
- 1 large tomato, chopped
- 2 teaspoons dried basil
- 4 large eggs, beaten
- ½ cup milk
- ½ teaspoon of salt
- ½ teaspoon of ground black pepper
- 1 ½ cups shredded Colby-Jack cheese

events 'n classes

June 25 » **Twilight Garden Series: Treemendous Trees**
CSU Trial Gardens, 1401 Remington St., 5 – 8 p.m. (informal
tours are 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.), \$15,
fcgov.com/gardens/twilight-garden-series

June 28 » **Junior League of Fort Collins Annual Garden Tour**
City Park Neighborhood, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., \$30,
jlfccollins.org/jlfc-events/junior-league-garden-tour

June 28 » **Notable Tree Bike Tour** The Gardens on Spring
Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., \$30,
fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

July 5 » **Exploring the Seasons with Yoga & Breathwork:**
Winter Solstice Workshop The Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145
Centre Ave, 9:30 a.m. – noon, \$55,
fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

GREELEY

May 15 » **Master Gardener Presentation: Gardening for Birds,
Bees, and Butterflies Hosted by LINC Library**, 501 8th Ave.,
6 – 7 p.m., Free, registration required, in-person,
mylibrary.us/cvrl

June 12 » **Master Gardener Presentation: Sustainable
Gardening Techniques Hosted by LINC Library**, 501 8th Ave.,
6 – 7 p.m., Free, registration required, in-person,
mylibrary.us/cvrl

LOVELAND

Native Plant Sale (April – September) High Plains
Environmental Center, 2698 Bluestem Willow Dr., 180+ species
of native plants available, Order online, pickup in person,
suburbitat.org

May 10 » **Guided Trail Walk with Restoration Ecologists**
High Plains Environmental Center, 2698 Bluestem Willow Dr.,
9 – 10:30 a.m., Donation, suburbitat.org

May 17 » **Restoration Ecology Class**
High Plains Environmental Center, 2698 Bluestem Willow Dr.,
9 a.m. – noon, Donation, suburbitat.org

June 7 » **Bird Banding & Bird Walk**
High Plains Environmental Center, 2698 Bluestem Willow Dr.,
9 – 11 a.m., Donation, suburbitat.org

June 14 » **21st Annual Loveland Garden Tour & Art Show** 8
a.m. – 2 p.m., See website for details, lovelandyouthgardeners.org/garden-and-art-tour

June 14 » **Guided Trail Walk with Restoration Ecologists**
High Plains Environmental Center, 2698 Bluestem Willow Dr.,
9 – 10:30 a.m., Donation, suburbitat.org

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9)

Herb Gardens

Herb gardens make a splendid first foray into horticulture. They're incredibly useful—providing for both plate and pantry; they're easy to grow—tolerating cultivation in a pot or garden bed; and they take up little space. Many herbs are also attractive, gracing patios and garden beds with their understated, easygoing forms and flowers. Most herbs grown in gardens in our area hail from the Mediterranean region, so expect them to prefer full sun and well-drained

soils with low to moderate irrigation unless noted otherwise. In fact, thyme, sage, and lavender, are downright drought-tolerant. One exception worth noting—basil is from the tropics and prefers more soil moisture. For those interested in finding out if their thumb might be “green,” or just zhuzhing up their patio space or existing herb collection with a few easy-to-care-for additions, read on for a selection of dual-purpose herbs as appealing on a plate as they are in a pot.



Thymes are excellent starter herbs, as they are among the easiest to grow in-ground. They also culture well in pots. When given the chance to stretch, these herbs are perfect for bed edges, patios, and, in the case of mat-forming varieties, between flagstone pavers or as groundcovers. Once harvested, thyme is known for its versatile, herby profile which subtly combines well with many different kinds of flavors without being overpowering. Conveniently, it also dries well. As far as species and cultivar options go, choices abound. Of particular note is common thyme (*Thymus vulgaris*). The plant reaches about eight inches tall in a rounded shape and is known for its versatility in dishes. Creeping thyme species (including *T. pseudolanuginosus*, *T. serpyllum* and others) are best for surface-carpeting applications, scarcely passing two inches in height. Between the two is a six-inch-tall spreading lemon thyme (*Thymus x citriodorus*), with yellow-variegated leaves and a refreshing lemon scent.

A perennial favorite, lavenders can be trickier than thyme to grow on the Front Range. By understanding that lavender despises wet winter soil and isn't very cold-hardy makes it easier to cultivate. Spanish lavender (AKA French lavender, or *Lavandula stoechas*), and hybrid lavender (*Lavandula x intermedia*) can make great patio additions as potted plants. If creating an herb garden or using lavender in your ornamental landscape, stick to the hardier English lavender (*Lavandula angustifolia*); the most reliable cultivars in our area include 'Hidcote' and 'Munstead'. Both are mounding and quite dense, only reaching 12 to 18 inches with a bevy of royal-purple flowers above. Even these proven cultivars suffer winter dieback occasionally, but any dead plant material can be brushed off (in the case of leaves) or cut back (in the case of stems) in late spring before flower buds form and plants green-up. Be sure to avoid planting lavenders where winter snows are pushed from sidewalks and driveways, or in low lying, poorly draining soils.

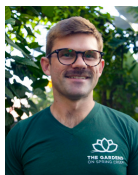


Other perennial herbs to consider include sage, which is nearly as easy growing as thyme, as well as the equally unfussy chives and oregano. You may have noticed that mint has been omitted. While it is refreshing in your glass, this tenacious plant spreads by running along the soil surface and by seeding, making it a nightmare to contain. Spreading aggressively year-over-year, it will smother most other plants in its vicinity. Keep it in a large pot if you choose to grow it at all.

A good number of herbs are best treated as annuals, being reseeded or replanted every year. This group includes most herbs in the carrot family, including parsley, cilantro, and dill. Basil can also be included in this annual group. These selections are among the easiest herbs to grow so long as they receive regular watering, and in the case of basil, no exposure to temperatures below 50 F. Though most rosemary should be considered an annual for us, the cultivar 'Arp' will survive our winters with mentionable frequency. Just don't expect it to look pretty by March!

Most herbs can be started easily from seeds (sow in spring on the soil surface and scratch in, watering daily), cuttings (if you're a more experienced grower), or can be purchased as starts. The latter may be the best option for new gardeners; starts are more forgiving.

Virtually all herbs transplant easily when young, though woody herbs, like lavender and sage, do not transplant as well once mature. If you are still looking for ideas of herbs to grow, or how to use them in your landscape or on your plate, consider visiting The Gardens on Spring Creek to see our Herb Garden in action, or sign up for a cooking class in the Outdoor Kitchen. After all, gardening should be rewarding and satisfying—if occasionally dirty—work! 🌿



Bryan Fischer, Curator of Plant Collections at The Gardens on Spring Creek

events 'n classes

June 16 – June 20 » **Rugged Research Nature Camp** (ages 7-12) High Plains Environmental Center, 2698 Bluestem Willow Dr., 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., \$250/week, ruggedresearch.org/hpecamps

June 21 » **Bird Walk at Chapungu Sculpture Park** Chapungu Sculpture Park, 6105 Sky Pond Dr., 9 – 11 a.m., Donation, suburbitat.org

June 28 » **Garden Tour at Chapungu Sculpture Park** Chapungu Sculpture Park, 6105 Sky Pond Dr., 10 a.m. – noon, Donation, suburbitat.org

July 5 » **Bird Banding & Bird Walk** High Plains Environmental Center, 2698 Bluestem Willow Dr., 9 – 11 a.m., Donation, suburbitat.org

WINDSOR

May 11 » **Mother's Day Tour** Treasure Island Demonstration Garden, next to the Eastman Wetlands Experience at 1524 7th St., 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., Free, recreationliveshere.com/248/Treasure-Island-Demonstration-Garden

May 21 » **Tree Planting Class, presented by Weld County Master Gardeners** Treasure Island Demonstration Garden, next to the Eastman Wetlands Experience at 1524 7th St., 10 a.m. – 11 a.m., Free, recreationliveshere.com/248/Treasure-Island-Demonstration-Garden

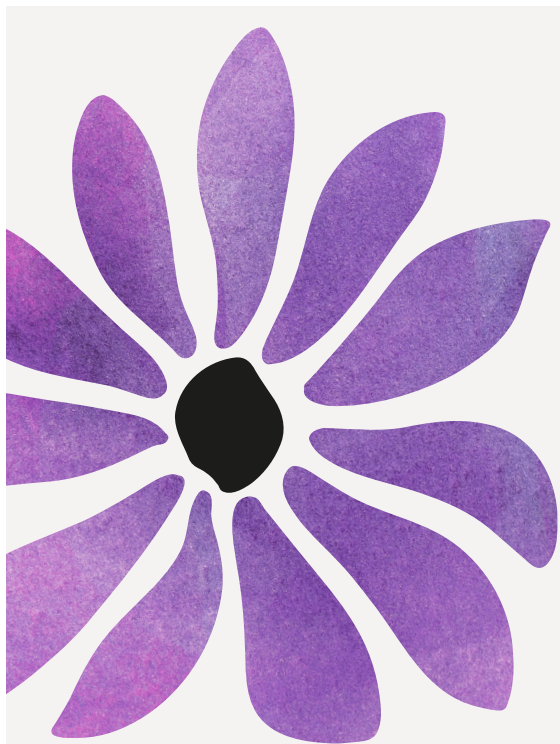
June 15 » **Father's Day Tour** Treasure Island Demonstration Garden, next to the Eastman Wetlands Experience at 1524 7th St., 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., Free, recreationliveshere.com/248/Treasure-Island-Demonstration-Garden

June 18 » **Color Through the Seasons Class, presented by Weld County Master Gardeners** Treasure Island Demonstration Garden, next to the Eastman Wetlands Experience at 1524 7th St., 10 – 11 a.m., Free, recreationliveshere.com/248/Treasure-Island-Demonstration-Garden



Compiled by Kathleen Atkins, CSU Extension Master Gardener
Event information is welcome at nocobloomevents@gmail.com





SPRING PLANT SALE

Load up on annuals, perennials, vegetables, and herbs at The Gardens' annual Plant Sale. This free, ticketed event features over 35,000 unique finds and beloved favorites.

SATURDAY, MAY 17 & SUNDAY, MAY 18



THE GARDENS
ON SPRING CREEK



Learn more fcgov.com/gardens/spring-plant-sale

melanie yazzie

peace walking

paz andante

This summer, explore *Peace Walking* at The Gardens on Spring Creek. This stunning exhibition organized by Denver Botanic Gardens features six large-scale sculptures by contemporary Diné (Navajo) artist Melanie Yazzie, and is on display through Aug. 17.



THE GARDENS
ON SPRING CREEK





LARIMER COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION



LarimerExtension.org

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LET'S PARTY!

XERISCAPE

GARDEN PARTY IS BACK!



LEARN

Learn about water-wise landscaping from the experts – local professionals, non-profits, City staff and Colorado Master Gardeners will all be on hand.



PARTY

Celebrate the art of landscaping with family-friendly activities, live art demonstrations, live music, a prize drawing, food trucks, and more!



SWAP

Participate in the Native Plant Swap! We welcome donations of any pollinator plants grown free of chemicals, but you don't have to donate to take some home.

JOIN US AT THE XERISCAPE DEMONSTRATION GARDEN!

Saturday, June 14 • 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. • 300 Laporte Ave.



Learn more at fcgov.com/garden-party

25-27575