

NoCo Bloom

SPRING 2020



LARIMER COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION



THE GARDENS
ON SPRING CREEK

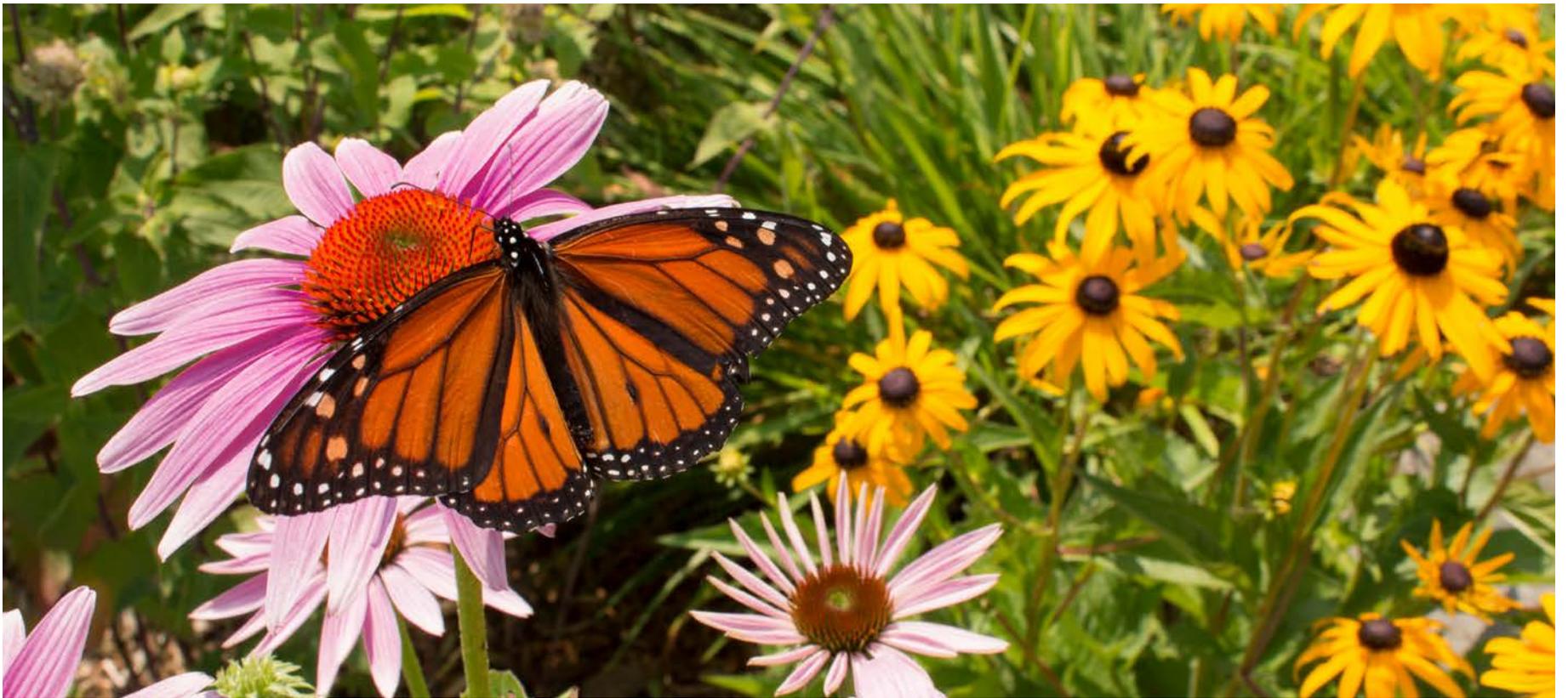


City of
Fort Collins

Applause for the
POLLINATORS

PLEASING
PERENNIALS

PROVEN
POLLINATOR PLANTING



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
Horticulture and Landscape Architecture
301 University Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80523-1173
Bldg. Shepardson 111
970-491-7019 | hortla.agsci.colostate.edu



CSU EXTENSION IN LARIMER COUNTY
1525 Blue Spruce Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80524-2004
970-498-6000 | larimerextension.org



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



PLEASE NOTE: If you are a gardener needing help and live in Weld County, visit the Weld Extension Office at weldgov.com/departments/csu_extension or call directly to 970-400-2066 for assistance.

OUR FUTURE FLIES ON THE WINGS OF POLLINATORS

– the slogan of the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign – clearly articulates the important role that pollinators, including bees, butterflies, moths, bats, beetles and hummingbirds, play in our daily lives.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, animals pollinate approximately 75 percent of the crop plants grown worldwide for food, fiber, beverages, condiments, spices and medicines.

It has been calculated that one out of every three to four mouthfuls of food we eat and beverages we drink is delivered to us by pollinators.

We also know that due to varying factors, many pollinator populations are in decline. So, throughout this issue, we've worked to provide you with tips and insights on how to make your garden the most conducive to pollinators so that we can all play our part to support healthy and sustainable pollination. 🌸



- Dr. Jessica G. Davis**
*HLA Department Head
Colorado State University*
- Dr. Alison O'Connor**
*Horticulture Extension Agent
CSU Extension in Larimer County*
- Michelle Provaznik**
*Executive Director
The Gardens on Spring Creek*
- Amanda Sammartino**
Editor, NoCo Bloom
- Grant Smith**
*Creative Director
City of Fort Collins*

THE BEST VEGETABLES TO GROW THIS SEASON



Mary Miller,
Horticulturist and Community
Garden Outreach Coordinator,
The Gardens on Spring Creek

Often I am asked, “What are the best veggies to grow?” My answer is always - “The ones you most wish to eat!”

Generally, one is more inclined to take care of, show enthusiasm for and be excited to grow the foods one most wishes to eat and enjoy. To optimize your garden growing success, here are suggestions for varieties of veggies highlighted for their characteristics. Match them up with your taste priorities. While not an exhaustive listing, may it serve to introduce new tastes and success into the season.

It is also important to note that all these veggies – except for carrots, as they do not bloom in their first year – are beloved by pollinators.



ARTICHOKES:

- ‘Imperial Star’ is highly adapted for annual production for northern climates.



BEANS, BUSH:

- ‘Provider’, ‘Jade’ and ‘Strike’ varieties are reliable producers of green beans.
- ‘Dragon Lingerie’ is lovely yellow wax bean with mottled purpling.



BEANS, POLE:

- ‘Blue Lake’ is a forever favorite and steady producer.



CARROTS:

- ‘Bolero’ is an awesome storage carrot.



CUCUMBERS:

- ‘Diva cucumbers’ are seedless, thin-skinned and not bitter. This cultivar is best harvested at five to seven inches.
- Lemon cucumbers are round, pale yellow and citrusy.
- ‘Marketmore’ is a classic, reliable slicing cuke for northern growers.
- ‘Northern’, ‘H-19 Little Leaf’ and ‘National’ varieties are all workhorses of the picklers.



EGGPLANT:

- ‘Nadia’, ‘Traviata’, ‘Black Beauty’ and ‘Galine’ are all productive classic Italian teardrop types.
- ‘Orient Charm’ and ‘Orient Express’ are great Asian types; choose your color.



PEPPERS, BELL:

- ‘Islander’ is a stunning pepper, starting pale yellow with lavender striping to purple to red, getting sweeter all along.
- ‘Olympus’ is a giant, blocky bell pepper that ripens green to red.
- ‘King of the North’ is the first to ripen red.



PEPPERS, CHILIES:

- ‘Early’, ‘Jalafuego’ and ‘Mucho Nacho’ are great jalapeno cultivars.



PEPPERS, SWEET SPECIALTY:

- ‘Joe Parker’, ‘Highlander’, ‘Big Jim’, ‘Espanola Improved’ and ‘Sandia’ are some of my favorite Anaheim peppers, listed mild to hot.
- ‘Jimmy Nardello’ is a thin-walled Italian heirloom pepper and very versatile. Just grow it!
- ‘Round of Hungary’ is a ribbed, red “cheese” pepper and offers the best flavor of these types.



TOMATOES, CHERRY:

- ‘Sungold’, ‘Gardener’s Delight’, ‘Super Sweet 100’, ‘Black’, ‘Riesentraube’ and ‘Principe Borghese’ tomatoes are a medley of colors, sweet and bright.



TOMATOES FOR PASTE:

- ‘Amish’, ‘Roma’, ‘San Marzano’, ‘Speckled Roman’, ‘Opalka’ and ‘Paisano’ are classic and meaty varieties, perfect for sauce.



SLICER TOMATOES:

- ‘Dr. Wyche’ is a yellow, sweet and low-acid variety.
- ‘Brandywine’ and ‘Rose’ types are large, pink heirlooms.
- ‘Cherokee Purple’ has a tremendous and distinct flavor.
- ‘Mortgage Lifter’, ‘Mexico’, ‘Pruden’s Purple’, ‘Rosso Scilian’ and ‘Italian Heirloom’ varieties all offer red slices to cover a sandwich.

With these suggestions, come firsthand experience growing and eating them all. Have a great gardening season! 🌱

events 'n classes

PLEASE NOTE:

Many events are subject to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please check with each organization to ensure event details have not changed.

Check websites to confirm final event information

ALL COMMUNITIES

(Pending Updated Information - see website for current details)

Larimer County Colorado Master Gardener Office Hours

Every Monday, Wednesday & Friday Morning, 10am - 1pm,
CSU Extension in Larimer County, 1525 Blue Spruce Dr.,
Fort Collins, Free, larimermg@gmail.com,
970-498-6000, larimerextension.org

Weld County Colorado Master Gardener Office Hours

Every Monday, Wednesday & Friday Morning, 9am - 1pm,
CSU Extension in Weld County, 525 N. 15th Ave., Greeley,
Free, weldmastergardeners@outlook.com,
970-400-2089, weldmastergardeners.org

BERTHOUD

May 9 » Spring Festival and Plant Sale, Sponsored by the Berthoud Historical Society Garden Group

Little Thompson Valley Pioneer Museum Courtyard,
224 Mountain Ave., 9am - 1pm, Free admission,
berthoudhistoricalsociety.org/gardengroup

June 13 » Conservation Garden Fair

Northern Water, 220 Water Ave., 9am - 2pm, Free,
northernwater.org

FORT COLLINS

May 9 » Waterwise Landscape Design

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
10:30am - 12:30pm, \$10, fcgov.com/gardens

May 9 » Just Drip It!

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
1:30pm - 3:30pm, \$10, fcgov.com/gardens

May 9 » Giant Sequoia:

The Amazing Story of the World's Largest Tree

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 1:30pm -
3:30pm, \$18, fcgov.com/gardens



CALENDAR COORDINATOR

Kathleen Atkins, Master Gardener
Colorado State University Extension
Please submit your gardening classes &
events to nocobloomevents@gmail.com.



SPRINKLER START-UPS



Katie Collins,
Water Conservation
Coordinator,
Fort Collins Utilities

When should I turn on my irrigation?



The general recommendation in Northern Colorado is to wait until May 15 to turn on your sprinkler system. Mother Nature has usually provided enough moisture to make plants happy up to this point. If we have a rainy May, hold off on turning on zones until we dry out and heat up.

The system is on. Now what?

After you've booted up your sprinklers, make sure you have a map of your entire irrigation system. This will come in handy in the future when you are thinking about making changes to the system or when you need to make notes of broken equipment.

To make a map of your system:

1. Print an aerial view of your property (use Google Maps)
2. Note where zone 1 is located on the property, including what kind of equipment is used (i.e. spray heads, rotor heads, drip line, etc.)
3. Repeat for all zones

After completing your irrigation map, turn on each zone for two minutes to check for leaks, breaks or other issues.

What's the appropriate schedule?

Water your grass no more than two days a week so the grass develops deeper roots and uses moisture deep in the ground. During extreme heat and dry periods, water up to three days a week.

Native or other regionally adapted grasses may only need water once a week, or once every two weeks, during active growth.

If you've trained the roots to grow deeply, many shrubs and perennials with a low water requirement may be able to handle a deep watering once every two weeks or even less frequently than that.

Always check the soil with a finger or moisture meter before watering. You might find there's still moisture in the soil and you can hold off another few days. How low can you go? 💧

BRINGING BUTTERFLIES TO NORTHERN COLORADO



Michelle Provaznik,
Executive Director,
The Gardens on
Spring Creek

In February 2017, the Gardens on Spring Creek announced a new collaboration with Butterfly Pavilion to bring butterflies to northern Colorado as part of our botanical garden's expansion project. The excitement by the community was truly amazing.

The unique partnership showcases how both organization's missions align and overlap – simply, plants are dependent upon pollinators. Butterflies show us the relationship in the most beautiful of ways.

Over the next two years, Butterfly Pavilion staff joined The Gardens design and construction team to ensure the glass house would provide the ideal climate for both butterflies and plants. We looked at everything from type of glass used (did you know that butterflies need UV light to see?), the best humidification and temperature controls and many other items to ensure containment of the butterflies in the house.

The Gardens horticulture staff visited several other glass houses in the region to learn about the types of plants grown, best management practices and where to procure appropriate plants. They also worked with Butterfly Pavilion horticulture staff to select plants that would provide appropriate food sources for the types of butterflies that would be in the house – we chose to focus on butterflies found in the continental United States.

After two years of planning and construction the Butterfly House officially opened to the public on November 16, 2019. For the first couple months, the House contained native butterflies, primarily monarchs and painted ladies, as we awaited a permit from the United

States Department of Agriculture. Last January, we received the permit and now several types of butterflies were introduced.

It is magical and peaceful to watch the Julia longwings “play” – they are really defending their territory; the many varieties of swallowtails basking in the sun on the living wall; and the monarchs feeding from the flowers and other food sources found throughout the house. Watching a butterfly emerge from its chrysalis in the chrysalis chamber is simply transformational – on many levels. Most recently, an exhibit was created to house caterpillars demonstrating the full life cycle of butterflies. Another new exhibit features moths – the Luna moth is stunning!

The Butterfly House is a beautiful and educational addition to our community botanic garden and we are honored to be working with such a wonderful partner, Butterfly Pavilion. 🦋



events 'n classes

FORT COLLINS (continued)

May 16 – May 17 » **Spring Plant Sale**

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 10am - 5pm,
Free admission, fcgov.com/gardens

May 19 » **Audubon Rockies Permaculture Workshop:
Regenerating Our Landscapes**

Drake Center, 802 W. Drake Rd., 5:30pm - 8:00 pm, \$20,
rockies.audubon.org/events/permaculture-workshop-regenerating-our-landscapes

May 20 » **Herbs for Colorado Gardens,
Offered by CSU Extension**

Poudre Library in Old Town Fort Collins, 201 Peterson St.,
12:30pm - 1:30pm, Free, poudrelibraries.org

May 23 » **Opening Day at the Farmers' Market**

Larimer County Farmers Market, 200 W. Oak St., 9am - 1pm,
Free admission, larimercountymarket.org

May 30 » **Yoga at the Farmers' Market**

Larimer County Farmers Market, 200 W. Oak St., 9am - 1pm,
Free admission, larimercountymarket.org

May 30 » **The Prairie Garden**

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
10:30am - 12:30pm, \$18, fcgov.com/gardens

May 30 » **Converting Your Irrigation System**

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
10:30am - 12:30pm, \$10, fcgov.com/gardens

May 30 » **Splendid Spring Soups**

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
1:30pm - 3:30pm, \$30, fcgov.com/gardens

May 30 » **The Frugal Landscaper:
When to Save and When to Splurge**

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
1:30pm - 3:30pm, \$10, fcgov.com/gardens

June 6 » **Pollinator Month Kickoff at the Farmers' Market**

Larimer County Farmers Market, 200 W. Oak St., 9am - 1pm,
Free admission, larimercountymarket.org

June 6 » **BRING ON THE HEAT! A Plant Select® Event**

Larimer County locations: Fort Collins Nursery, Gully Greenhouse, Harmony Gardens and Fossil Creek Nursery,
10am - 1pm, Free admission, www.plantselect.org

June 6 » **Plant-Based Me!**

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
10:30am - 12:30pm, \$30, fcgov.com/gardens

June 6 » **Forest Bathing**

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
1:30pm - 3:30pm, \$18, fcgov.com/gardens

(Continued on page 8)

Perennials & Annuals

for Pollinators



Kelly Kellow, Horticulturist, The Gardens on Spring Creek

One of the best sights to see in the springtime are active honeybees buzzing around, hopping from flower to flower and collecting pollen for their upcoming broods. It means that summer is coming, and the bountiful smells and brilliant colors of perennials await. Even the most novice gardener can help create foraging and nesting sites for many pollinators by selecting



plants that butterflies and moths, beetles, and even flies, love. When selecting the elements of your garden, it's best to include plants of varying shapes, sizes and species to cater to all pollinators.

Perennials are one of the more important plants to integrate into your garden to provide an ongoing source of food for pollinators. Sea holly (*Eryngium planum* 'Blue Cap') is a perennial that provides bountiful flowers for a long bloom season. Sea holly has open umbels of prickly steel blue flowers that can reach 36 inches in height. A very hardy species with a Hardiness Zone of 4-9, it's perfect for Northern Colorado gardens in that it tolerates hot, dry sites and poor soils, even those high in salts.

If you have areas that are rich and moist, Joe Pye weed (*Eupatorium maculatum*) and swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) are also great selections. As Colorado native plants, both create a naturalistic look to any garden. Joe Pye weed can grow up to six feet tall with strong stems that hold crowned clusters of bright pink flower in late summer and are magnets for dozens of species of butterflies. Swamp milkweed grows upright about two to three feet with slender, willow-like leaves topped with round, pink-to-rose-colored flower clusters. This perennial variety is known to attract many native butterflies and bees and is important in feeding Monarch caterpillars.



Annuals and herbs are season extenders for many gardens and can be planted among perennials and in containers. When selecting annuals to attract pollinators, consider sweet alyssum, torch tithonia (also called Mexican sunflowers), zinnia, *Verbena bonariensis* and cleome. These annuals perform best in full sun and well-drained soil.

Herbs are not only great culinarily plants, but their long-lasting flowers provide a great food source for pollinators. Add sage, different types of mint, oregano and dill into a perennial herb garden. Dill is great for pickles and is also a food source for swallowtail caterpillars.



Basil, lemon verbena and pineapple sage are tender annual herbs that provide long bloom times and abundant flowers for extended foraging periods. While these species will over winter, but they could be dug up and brought inside for winter color and flavor.

There are many more annuals, herbs and perennials that pollinators love – especially those with bright flowers. By working to intentionally incorporating these into your garden, you will create a long season of blooms for pollinators of all kinds. 🌸



events 'n classes

June 13 » **Making Homemade Butter**

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
10:30am - 12:30pm, \$30, fcgov.com/gardens

June 13 » **Garden in the Box - Pickup Event**

Front Range Community College, 4616 S. Shields St.,
11 - 2pm, Confirm pickup date in your *GardenInfo@resourcecentral.org* email, ResourceCentral.org

June 13 » **Fort Collins Notable Tree Bike Tour**

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 9am - 12pm,
\$18, fcgov.com/gardens

June 13 » **Knit in Public Day at the Farmers' Market**

Larimer County Farmers Market, 200 W. Oak St., 9am - 1pm,
Free admission, larimercountyfarmersmarket.org

June 13 » **Vegetable Troubleshooting:**

Managing Pests and Diseases

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
1:30pm - 3:30pm, \$18, fcgov.com/gardens

June 14 » **Miniature Gardening Class**

Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 E. Mulberry St.,
11:00am - 12:30pm, \$40, fortcollinsnursery.com

June 20 » **Welcome Summer Celebration**

Larimer County Farmers Market, 200 W. Oak St., 9am - 1pm,
Free admission, larimercountyfarmersmarket.org

June 20 » **Gorgeous Spring Salads**

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
10:30am - 12:30pm, \$30, fcgov.com/gardens

June 20 » **Maximizing and Extending your Vegetable Harvest**

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
10:30am - 12:30pm, \$18, fcgov.com/gardens

June 20 » **The Themed Gardens**

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
1:30pm - 3:30pm, \$18, fcgov.com/gardens

June 21 » **Father's Day FREE Tree Planting Sale**

Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 E. Mulberry St., 10am - 5pm,
Free admission, fortcollinsnursery.com

June 25 » **Rock Garden Concert featuring The Samples (Benefit for The Vegetable Connection)**

Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 E. Mulberry St., 6:30pm - 8:30pm,
\$20, fortcollinsnursery.com

June 27 » **Junior League of Fort Collins Garden Tour**

Le Jardin Neighborhood, 8:30 am - 1:00 pm,
\$20 General Admission, \$35 VIP, jlfortcollins.org

July 4 » **Buy \$50 in Market Bucks, get \$5 in Market Bucks**

Larimer County Farmers Market, 200 W. Oak St., 9am - 1pm,
Free admission, larimercountyfarmersmarket.org



BEE FRIENDLY LAWN CARE



*Tony Koski, Turf Specialist,
Colorado State University
Department of Horticulture
and Landscape Architecture*

Growing interest in the honeybee and native pollinators gets people thinking about how the management of their home landscapes can increase pollinator numbers and health. If asked, most people would almost certainly believe that lawns provide little benefit to pollinators – unless the lawn is full of clover and dandelions. But scientists who study pollinators and how lawn care affects their health have found that you can have a nice lawn without harming our pollinator friends.

Dr. Dan Potter, entomologist extraordinaire at the University of Kentucky, has shown that insecticides used for lawn care pose little threat to bees if the lawn – and any clover or dandelion flowers growing there – is mowed the day that the insecticide is applied, and it is watered in after application. Mowing off the flowers of clover and other weeds temporarily discourages pollinator visitation and almost totally eliminates exposure to the bees. Dr. Potter also found that water secreted by grass leaves during the early morning hours – called guttation fluid – doesn't appear to contain insecticides

applied to the lawn. Guttation fluid (often confused with dew) can be an important source of water (and maybe a little sugar and protein) for thirsty pollinators – a benefit that even a weed-free lawn can provide to bees. (Search guttation at csuhort.blogspot.com to learn more from my blog.)

Finally, as I wrote about here last year (July 2019 edition, located at fcgov.com/gardens/newsletters), it's fine to introduce a little clover grow in your lawn to provide a summer-long food source for bees and other pollinators. So, in summary, to make your lawn pollinator friendly: mow tall, let a little clover and dandelions grow in it, mow off the flowers before any pesticide application and water fertilizer and pesticide applications in thoroughly immediately after application.

For answers to questions about all parts of your landscape, visit extension.colostate.edu/garden for research-based information on all aspects of home gardening. In Larimer County, Colorado Master Gardeners will answer your gardening questions by email: larimermg@gmail.com 🐝





COMMUNITY
SPRING
PLANT SALE

We are excited to bring you the 2020 plant sale, re-imagined to meet the current needs of our community. Plant orders placed through our online store will be fulfilled by our staff, packaged for you and can be picked up curbside at the Gardens.

The Gardens on Spring Creek and our partners from Colorado State University are hard at work growing plants and getting our online shopping experience ready for you. Stay tuned for our online sale dates, details on priority access for our members, and other important sale information.

 **THE GARDENS**
ON SPRING CREEK

 Colorado State University

 City of Fort Collins

events 'n classes

LOVELAND

May 2, May 16, May 30 » **Native Plant Sale Pickup Dates For Online Shopping**

High Plains Environmental Center, 2968 Bluestem Willow Dr., 9am - 3pm, Online purchase, suburbitat.org

May 12 » **Chapter FL PEO Plant Sale**

Faith Church, 2707 N Wilson Ave., 1 pm - 5pm,
Free admission, Preorders and information:
maryella@qwestoffice.net

May 28 » **Garden in the Box - Pickup Event**

Loveland Water & Power, 200 North Wilson Ave.,
4pm - 7pm, Confirm pickup date in your
GardenInfo@resourcecentral.org email, ResourceCentral.org

June 13 » **Loveland Garden Tour & Art Show**

Benefiting Loveland Youth Gardeners, 8am - 2pm, \$20,
Children 12 & under free,
lovelandyouthgardeners.org/Loveland-garden-tour

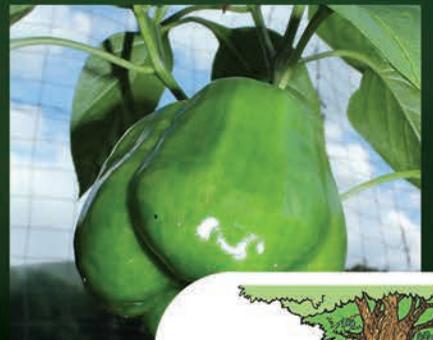
WINDSOR

May 6 » **Zoom Presentation: Summer Blooming Bulbs**

Clearview Library, 720 3rd St., See website for details, Free,
larimer.extension.colostate.edu/classes-and-workshops



Fashion & Function



Fort Collins
NURSERY

2121 E. Mulberry St., Fort Collins, CO 80524 • 970-482-1984 • www.FortCollinsNursery.com





TREES AND SHRUBS TO ATTRACT POLLINATORS



*Khursheed Mama,
Master Gardener, Colorado State
University Extension*

While most of us are familiar with bumble bees, an essential pollinator for old world plants and many food crops, Colorado has many species of native bees that depend on native plants for pollen and nectar. Insects, including moths and butterflies, depend on plants for food during various life stages. Hummingbirds and bats also have a role in pollination. There are shrubs and trees that may be used to enhance pollinator habitat (which should include food, water, and shelter) while also adding beauty to the garden.

For early spring flowers, consider adding a multi-stemmed serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*), considered a large shrub or small tree, or one of the ornamental *Prunus* (e.g., *Prunus virginiana*)

varieties to complement early flowering fruit trees (apricots, peaches, pears). Early blooming shrubs that attract pollinators include low growing manzanita (*Arctostaphylos coloradoensis*) with its glossy foliage and small white-pink flowers, or for a larger area, creeping Oregon grapeholly (*Mahonia repens*), Pawnee Buttes sandcherry (*Prunus besseyi*) or the yellow flowering currant (*Ribes aureum* or *Ribes odoratum* 'Crandall').

As the season progresses, trees such as crabapple, honeylocust, linden and redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) will serve to attract pollinators. Native additions such as the wafer-ash (not a true ash, *Ptelea trifoliata*) and the bigtooth maple (*Acer grandidentatum*) provide





viable alternatives. Shrub options are numerous and include the fragrant Cheyenne mockorange, Cliff fendlerbush (*Fendlera rupicola*), lilacs, three-leaf sumac (*Rhus trilobata*), leadplant (*Amorpha canescens*) and sulfur buckwheat (*Eriogonum*).

To attract pollinators in late summer and fall, consider goldenraintree (*Koeleruteria paniculata*), or seven sons flower (*Heptacodium miconioidis*), considered a small tree or large shrub. Small to medium shrubs include blue mist or dark knight Spirea (*Caryopteris* sp), Russian sage, the native flowering rabbitbrush

(*Chrysothamnus*), Boulder raspberry (*Rubus deliciosus*), and desert four O'clock (*Mirabilis multiflora*). For a larger area, consider fernbush (*Chamaebatia millifolium*) for its lilac-like flowers and olive green foliage.

These suggestions should largely provide pollen and nectar throughout the entire growing season. It's also worth remembering to be cognizant when using pesticides to help maintain pollinator populations. When possible, consider using alternatives, or use only when a plant is not flowering and at a time of day when insect activity is limited. 🌱



For additional resources, please refer to Colorado State University Extension fact sheets 7.421 and 7.422 on native trees and shrubs for Colorado landscapes; and 5.615 and 5.616 which discuss Attracting Native Bees to Your Landscape and Creating Pollinator Habitat. These can be found at extension.colostate.edu. Additional information on pollinator friendly plants may be found at xerces.org/pollinator-conservation/pollinator-friendly-plant-lists



Larimer County CSU Extension

where university meets community

Learn from experts who share research-based information from Colorado State University

- Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Nutrition and Food Safety
- Health, Wellness and Family Well-being
- Yard and Garden, Colorado Master Gardeners
- 4-H Youth Development

Discover how Extension can help you.
www.LarimerExtension.org



Spring

INTO SPRINKLER SAVINGS

It's the time of year to start thinking about charging up the sprinkler system.



SCHEDULE

Reduce runoff with cycle/soak scheduling by splitting your total runtime into increments, with time in between to allow water to soak in. For example, an 18-minute total run time may be split into two nine-minute cycles with an hour to soak in between.



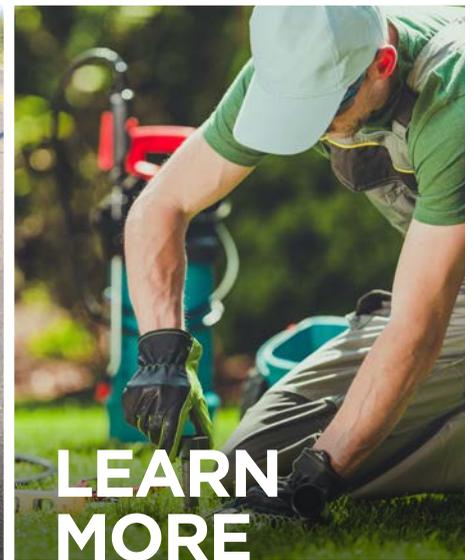
MAKE REPAIRS

Straighten up crooked heads and replace broken nozzles. Using efficient equipment like drip and rotary nozzles? You may be eligible for rebates. fcgov.com/sprinklerrebates



KEEP TRACK

Keep track of your water use and catch sneaky leaks faster by signing up for WaterSmart. fcgov.watersmart.com



LEARN MORE

Improve your sprinkler efficiency by signing up for a free sprinkler audit. fcgov.com/sprinkleraudit

Visit fcgov.com/save-water for more tips to keep your yard healthy all year long.

Auxiliary aids and services are available for persons with disabilities.
20-22159

City of
Fort Collins
Utilities