

# NoCo Bloom

SUMMER 2018



LARIMER COUNTY  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION



THE GARDENS  
ON SPRING CREEK



City of  
Fort Collins

GET OUT AND ABOUT WITH A  
**garden road trip**

TIPS FOR  
**GARDEN  
SAFETY**

YES TO  
**HARDY  
ROSES**





**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](http://hortla.agsci.colostate.edu)



**CSU EXTENSION IN LARIMER COUNTY**  
1525 Blue Spruce Dr.  
Fort Collins, CO 80524-2004  
970-498-6000  
[larimer.org/ext](http://larimer.org/ext)



**THE GARDENS ON SPRING CREEK**  
**CITY OF FORT COLLINS**  
2145 Centre Ave.  
Fort Collins, CO 80526  
970-416-2486  
[fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens)



**NoCo Bloom**

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](http://weldgov.com/departments/csu_extension) or call directly to 970-400-2066 for assistance.

Cover image courtesy Treasuer Island Garden, Windsor.

## EXPLORE MORE

Summer for me means getting outside and exploring our natural spaces and new places in Colorado, especially gardens! The list of destinations is long so we are here to help offer some vibrant suggestions that aren't too far from home for your summer explorations. Berthoud, Windsor, and Fort Collins all have unique garden gems to offer that will inspire you with their beauty, environmental sustainability, and community gathering spaces.

In addition, we are offering some advice about hardy roses, staying safe and well in the garden, knockout annual combos, and we'll even be demystifying bluegrass. Our summer calendar is full too, so don't miss all those opportunities.

Here's to making the most of the long, hot days of summer! 🌻

**Korrie Johnston**  
*Editor, NoCo Bloom*

**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*

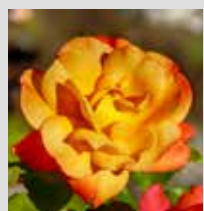
**Becca Henry**  
*Art Director, NoCo Bloom*





Roger Heins,  
Colorado State University  
Extension Master Gardener in  
Larimer County and Rosarian

Roses are considered the gold standard to have in your landscape, but you may have been avoiding them because of their perceived difficulty to grow. Genetics has made great strides in recent years and we now have easier-to-grow, hardy roses to choose from and enjoy, including diverse colors, fragrance and disease resistance. Colorado Rosarians have test grown and recommend many hardy cultivars such as:



#### HYBRID TEAS

Gemini, Fragrant Cloud, Veterans Honor, **Rio Samba**, Moonstone, Mister Lincoln



#### GRANDIFLORAS

**Queen Elizabeth**, Strike It Rich, Crimson Bouquet, Melody Parfumee



#### FLORIBUNDAS

**Julia Child**, Livin' Easy, Mardi Gras, Drop Dead Red, Hot Cocoa, Class Act, Betty Boop



#### SHRUBS

**Knockout**, Carefree Delight, Breeder Collections: Easy Elegance, Easy to Love, David Austin



#### CANADIAN

Winnipeg Parks, **Morden Sunrise**

You can ensure growing success if you follow these growing tips:

- Select a site that has at least seven hours of sun daily
- Roses should be planted with the bud union four inches below ground; roses grown on their own roots should be planted two inches below ground.
- Add 3-4 inches of mulch around the rose but not against the canes.
- Test soil moisture—don't over water. Water 2-3 times weekly with 1-2 gallons each time.
- Roses respond to a good organic fertilizer; select one for roses. Add one cup of fertilizer per rose in May, July and mid-September.
- Provide winter protection by burying the rose in mulch (up to 11 inches). Rose collars can also help. Remove mulch and collars in spring.
- Prune heavily only after last frost in May! NOT in the fall!
- Groom for shape and cut flowers throughout summer.
- Refer to CSU Extension Fact Sheet #7.404 at [extension.colostate.edu](http://extension.colostate.edu) for additional hardy cultivars, instructions and tips. 🌹

## FORT COLLINS

**CSU Larimer County Extension Native Plant Master Program Application** - Red Mountain Open Space: 8/12, 8/19, 8/26 or Reservoir Ridge Natural Area: 8/20, 8/27, 9/10, \$90 for program, [larimer.extension.colostate.edu/native-plant-master-program-larimer-county](http://larimer.extension.colostate.edu/native-plant-master-program-larimer-county)

July 14 » **Dirty Dog Wash**, Bath Garden Center, 2000 E. Prospect Rd, \$10, [bathgardencenter.com/event/dirty-dog-wash-2](http://bathgardencenter.com/event/dirty-dog-wash-2)

July 14 » **Family Yoga in the Gardens**, Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, \$10 per child, geared for children 4 yrs+ and caregivers, [fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens)

July 14 » **Painted Pillows with Trish Murtha**, Gully Greenhouse, 6029 S. Shields St, \$37, [gullygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events](http://gullygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events)

July 14 » **Youth Showcase and Coloring Contest**, Larimer County Farmers' Market, 200 W. Oak St, Free, [larimercountyfarmersmarket.org](http://larimercountyfarmersmarket.org)

July 15 » **Miniature Gardening Class**, Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 E. Mulberry St, \$40, [fortcollinsnursery.com](http://fortcollinsnursery.com)

July 18 » **Container Gardening**, Bath Garden Center, 2000 E. Prospect Rd, Free, [bathgardencenter.com/whats-new/events](http://bathgardencenter.com/whats-new/events)

July 19 » **Water Bath Canning**, Larimer County Extension, 1525 Blue Spruce Dr, \$25 with registration, [larimer.org/ext](http://larimer.org/ext)

July 20-22 » **Summer Perennial Sale**, Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 E. Mulberry St, Free Admission, [fortcollinsnursery.com](http://fortcollinsnursery.com)

July 21 » **Food Truck Rally**, Bath Garden Center, 2000 E. Prospect Rd, Free Admission, [bathgardencenter.com/event/food-truck-rally-3](http://bathgardencenter.com/event/food-truck-rally-3)

July 21 » **Kokedama**, Gully Greenhouse, 6029 S. Shields St, \$30, [gullygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events](http://gullygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events)

July 21 » **Mobile Read & Seed and Morning Yoga**, Larimer County Farmers' Market, 200 W. Oak St, Donation based, [larimercountyfarmersmarket.org](http://larimercountyfarmersmarket.org)

## CALENDAR COORDINATOR

Kathleen Atkins, Master Gardener  
Colorado State University Extension  
Please submit your gardening classes & events to [nocobloomevents@gmail.com](mailto:nocobloomevents@gmail.com).





## july events

### FORT COLLINS

July 21 » **NoCo Urban Homestead Tour**, Loveland Youth Gardeners, \$20 (children under 12 free), [fcgov.com/gardens/special-events](http://fcgov.com/gardens/special-events)

July 22 » **Kokedama**, Gully Greenhouse, 6029 S. Shields St, \$30, [gullygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events](http://gullygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events)

July 25 » **Pressure Canning, Larimer County Extension**, 1525 Blue Spruce Dr, \$25 with registration, [larimer.org/ext](http://larimer.org/ext)

July 28-29 » **"At the Beach" Miniature Garden**, Gully Greenhouse, 6029 S. Shields St, \$35, [gullygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events](http://gullygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events)

July 28 » **City of Fort Collins Recycling Program**, Larimer County Farmers' Market, 200 W. Oak St, Free, [larimercountyfarmersmarket.org](http://larimercountyfarmersmarket.org)

July 28 » **For the Love of Dahlias!**, Bath Garden Center, 2000 E. Prospect Rd, Free admission, [bathgardencenter.com/event/for-the-love-of-dahlias](http://bathgardencenter.com/event/for-the-love-of-dahlias)

July 28 » **Yoga in the Gardens**, Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, \$10, [fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens)

### LOVELAND & GREELEY

July 19 » **Northern Co Beekeepers Association: Colony Health**, Larimer County Ranch, McKee Building, 5280 Arena Cir, Loveland, \$5, non-members, [nocobees.org](http://nocobees.org)

July 25-29 » **100th Anniversary of the Weld County Fair**, Island Grove Regional Park, Greeley, [weldcountyfair.com](http://weldcountyfair.com)

July 29 » **Weld County Extension Demonstration Garden Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**, Island Grove Regional Park, Greeley, [weldcountyfair.com](http://weldcountyfair.com)

## august events

### FORT COLLINS

Aug 4 » **Bug Day**, Bath Garden Center, 2000 E. Prospect Rd, Free admission, [bathgardencenter.com/event/bug-day-3](http://bathgardencenter.com/event/bug-day-3)

Aug 4 » **Garden a'Fare Wine Tour**, Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, \$75, food & wine pairings, [fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens)

Aug 4 » **Music at the Market with Danny Feig-Sandoval**, Larimer County Farmers' Market, 200 W. Oak St, Free, [larimercountyfarmersmarket.org](http://larimercountyfarmersmarket.org)

# KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS DEMYSTIFIED



Tony Koski, Turf Specialist  
CSU Department of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture



You've read it. You've said it. You probably believe it? Kentucky bluegrass is a "water hog." Other claims made against Kentucky bluegrass is it's not native, and it isn't drought resistant. But like many things that people read and repeat and believe, there is a difference between what we believe to be "fact" and the truth.

First, for hundreds of years, Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*... meaning "meadow grass") was believed to have been introduced to North America by early colonists. Now, there is evidence (and debate among botanists) this grass could be a native of North America, Europe, Asia, and northern Africa—a cosmopolitan species. This is an interesting thought to consider, you may actually have a native lawn!

As for being a water hog? We have plenty of research on turfgrass water use rates for most of the grass species used throughout the U.S. for lawns—research shows Kentucky bluegrass has a relatively low water use rate. The "water hog" reputation is the result of overwatering. After all, the grass doesn't control the irrigation system—you do! Most people irrigate their lawns excessively because they are afraid to adjust their irrigation controllers—so leave them on "autopilot," regardless of weather. And many irrigate excessively to account for poor coverage, sunken or crooked heads, plugged nozzles, and other irrigation system problems that cause brown spots. The grass doesn't cause the brown spots, but poor system design and maintenance do.

As for drought resistance, bluegrass does require weekly watering to keep it green, but it can go dormant and survive months (or years!) without supplemental irrigation (remember in 2001-2002, some bluegrass lawns survived almost two growing seasons without irrigation).

The negative myths and beliefs about Kentucky bluegrass are unfounded. If people did a better job of managing irrigation and maintained their system and heads to avoid overwatering, we'd have very few reasons to disparage the character of what might be—if some botanists are correct—one of the most commonly planted native grasses in our landscapes!

If you are City of Fort Collins water customer and need information on rebates or to schedule a sprinkler audit visit [fcgov.com/sprinkler-audits](http://fcgov.com/sprinkler-audits).

To schedule a visit by CSU Extension to diagnose lawn problems, visit [lawncheck.colostate.edu](http://lawncheck.colostate.edu) or call the Larimer County Extension office at 970-498-6000. ☘





Kwik Kombos™ Pink Patio™ Mix

## Winning Combinations for Containers

James E. Klett, Professor and Extension Landscape Horticulturist Colorado State University



As you refresh your container plantings for the 2018 season, consider planting some of top performing combinations from the 2017 Colorado State University Annual Trials.

We had over 27 different annual flower combinations trialed in 2017, and the top five combinations are stellar.

### KWIK KOMBOS™ SHOOTING STAR™ MIX

Our top combination, now two years in a row! It is a combination of yellow lantana and purple angelonia. It was given the highest rating and comments from evaluators included it being a great mix of texture and color. The great number of vibrant flowers and vigorous growth were attributes that assisted in its high ranking.



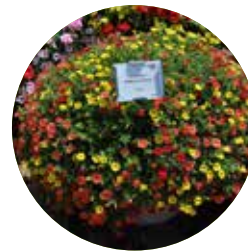
### KWIK KOMBOS™ PINK PATIO™ MIX

This was a mix of pink petunia and trailing verbena. It was a vigorous grower but still uniform in growth habit with vibrant pink flower color.



### MIXMASTER™ TROPICALI

By mixing three colors of calibrachoa including cabaret orange, yellow and red, a unique color combination is created and will result in an outstanding flash of color throughout the growing season.



### MIXMASTER™ I HEART PINK

This mix includes pink verbena, pink purple calibrachoa and a light pink petunia. This combination resulted in many flowers on all three plants. This combination resulted in full color way late into the fall season.



### TRIXI™ MULTILINER OLD GLORY

This is a favorite combination for a patriotic party. This is a combination of three colors (red, white and blue) of mini famous calibrachoa. Judges like the many flowers, uniform growth habit and great foliage. 🌸



## FORT COLLINS

Aug 4 » **Rock Garden Concert with HONEYHONEY**, Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 E. Mulberry St, \$15, [fortcollinsnursery.com](http://fortcollinsnursery.com)

Aug 4-5 » **Succulent Wall Hanging**, Gulley Greenhouse, 6029 S. Shields St, \$35, [gulleygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events](http://gulleygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events)

Aug 7 » **Watershed Bus Tour**, Meet at Utilities Administration Building, 222 Laporte Ave, Free, [fcgov.com/utilities/community-education/adults/bus-tours](http://fcgov.com/utilities/community-education/adults/bus-tours)

Aug 11 » **2nd Annual Produce Party**, Larimer County Farmers' Market, 200 W. Oak St, Free, [larimercountyfarmersmarket.org](http://larimercountyfarmersmarket.org)

Aug 11 » **You Be The Judge, Consumer Day @ Colorado State University Annual Flower Trial Garden**, 1401 Remington St, Free, [flowertrials.colostate.edu](http://flowertrials.colostate.edu)

Aug 15 » **Jams, Jellies and Fruit Spreads**, Larimer County Extension, 1525 Blue Spruce Dr, \$25 with registration, [larimer.org/ext](http://larimer.org/ext)

Aug 15 » **Veggie Garden Troubleshooting**, Bath Garden Center, 2000 E. Prospect Rd, Free, [bathgardencenter.com/whats-new/events](http://bathgardencenter.com/whats-new/events)

Aug 16 » **Pizza, Pesto & Pistou Cooking Class**, Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, \$45, [fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens)

Aug 18 » **Food Truck Rally**, Bath Garden Center, 2000 E. Prospect Rd, Free admission, [bathgardencenter.com/event/5927](http://bathgardencenter.com/event/5927)

Aug 18 » **Mobile Read & Seed and Morning Yoga**, Larimer County Farmers' Market, 200 W. Oak St, Donation based, [larimercountyfarmersmarket.org](http://larimercountyfarmersmarket.org)

Aug 18 » **Staghorn Fern Mounting**, Gulley Greenhouse, 6029 S. Shields St, \$35, [gulleygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events](http://gulleygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events)

Aug 18 » **Yoga in the Gardens**, Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, \$10, [fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens)

Aug 19 » **Staghorn Fern Mounting**, Gulley Greenhouse, 6029 S. Shields St, \$35, [gulleygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events](http://gulleygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events)

Aug 20-22 » **School's Still Out Day Camp**, Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, \$55 per child, [fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens)

Aug 22 » **Pickling Vegetables**, Larimer County Extension, 1525 Blue Spruce Dr, \$25 with registration, [larimer.org/ext](http://larimer.org/ext)



# GO ON A GARDEN roadtrip

## Get Out and About!

Take a road trip to these three demonstration garden gems this summer. All gardens are open during daylight hours and offer free admission.



## Conservation Gardens at Northern Water

220 Water Avenue, Berthoud  
(located behind Northern Water headquarters)

[northernwater.org/WaterConservation/ConservationGardens](http://northernwater.org/WaterConservation/ConservationGardens)

### HIGHLIGHTS

The Conservation Gardens is a proud Plant Select® demonstration garden that contains many varieties of plants and turf grasses that thrive in Colorado's semiarid climate and use less water. Our xeriscape plaza has eight "Colorado-friendly" and water-wise landscapes, including a native plant garden, yucca and prairie landscapes. The signage contains detailed garden descriptions with planting design layout.



DON'T MISS

Our adjoining Colorado-Big Thompson Project Interpretive Area. This area is a small-scale replica of the C-BT Project and includes a recirculating water feature with 12 reservoirs and the 13.1-mile Alva B. Adams Tunnel.



## Treasure Island Demonstration Garden

13500 Laku Lake Road, Windsor  
(located 1.5 miles south of Windsor off Seventh Street)

[windsorgov.com/1153/Treasure-Island-Demonstration-Garden](http://windsorgov.com/1153/Treasure-Island-Demonstration-Garden)

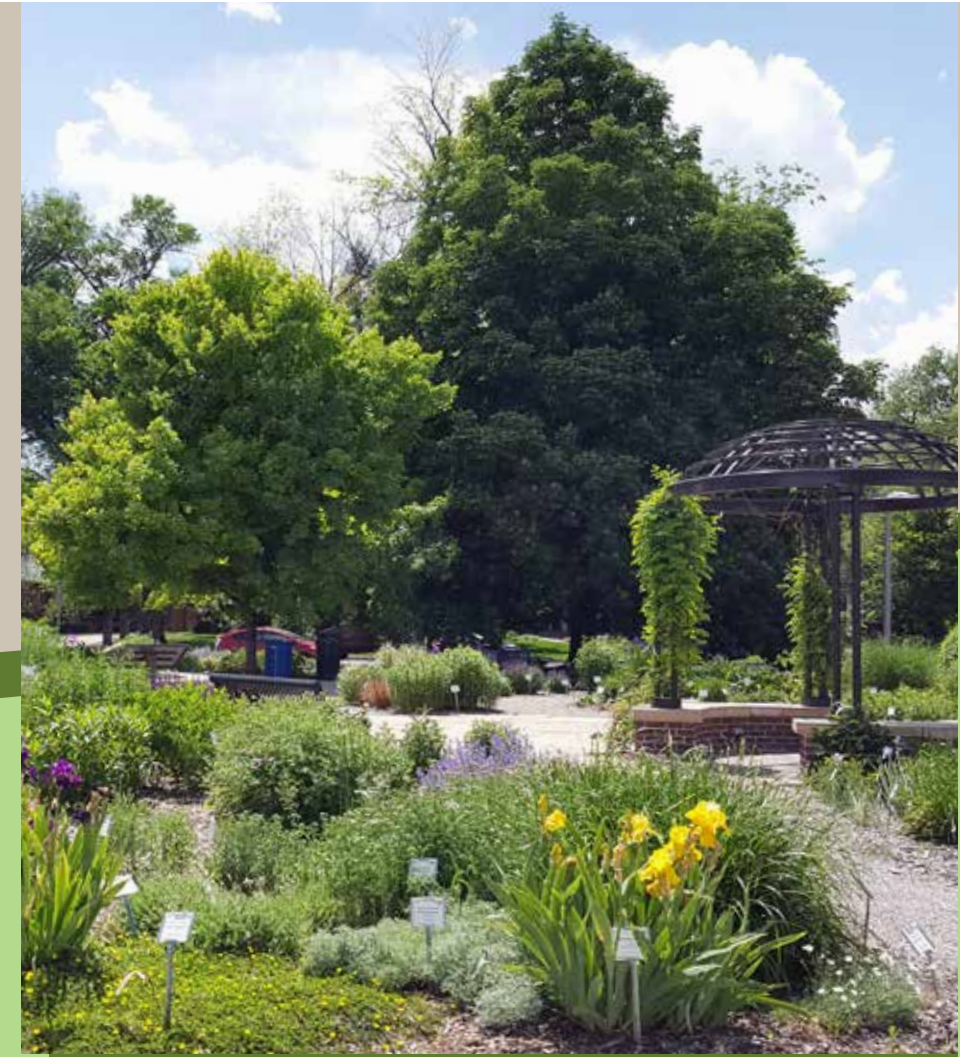
### HIGHLIGHTS

Supported by the Town of Windsor Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture, this garden was established by Master Gardeners and volunteers who continue to provide daily maintenance, harvest vegetables, conduct tours, and host classes. Treasure Island is proud to be a Plant Select® Demonstration Garden. The garden covers slightly more than one acre devoted to flowers, ornamental grasses, trees, shrubs, and xeric plants. There is also an area devoted to growing vegetables for Windsor Food Pantry. Education, gardening mentoring sessions, and storytelling programs for children are all offered.



DON'T MISS

Now through September, don't miss the diverse education opportunities on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.



## CSU Perennial Demonstration Garden

1400 Remington Street, Fort Collins  
(just north of Prospect Road)

[landscapeplants.agsci.colostate.edu/perennial\\_garden](http://landscapeplants.agsci.colostate.edu/perennial_garden)

### HIGHLIGHTS

This garden was transplanted in 2016 after several decades of living at the Colorado State University Plant Environmental Research Center. You will find specimens of over 1,000 different varieties, most of which were donated by nurseries across the country or taken from the 3-Year Perennial Trial Garden. Data collected includes flower time span, quality of bloom, mature size, and winter survival. The garden is used as a teaching tool for classes, such as Herbaceous Plants. Several dozen varieties are added each year making it a substantial collection with some plants over 35 years old. The garden includes a water feature, gazebo, dwarf evergreen collection, and vine collection and is open year round.



DON'T MISS

This summer, don't miss Consumer Day on August 11 at 9 a.m. to learn about flower trial evaluation and choose your favorites!



# august events

## FORT COLLINS

Aug 24 » **Garden a'Fare Beer Tour**, Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, \$65, food & beer pairings, [fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens)

Aug 25 » **"The Gnome's Farm" Miniature Garden**, Gulley Greenhouse, 6029 S. Shields St, \$35, [gulleygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events](http://gulleygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events)

Aug 25 » **Music at the Market with The Seers**, Larimer County Farmers' Market, 200 W. Oak St, Free, [larimercountyfarmersmarket.org](http://larimercountyfarmersmarket.org)

Aug 25-Sept 3 » **Yard Sale**, Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 E. Mulberry St, Free admission, [fortcollinsnursery.com](http://fortcollinsnursery.com)

Aug 26 » **"The Gnome's Farm" Miniature Garden**, Gulley Greenhouse, 6029 S. Shields St, \$35, [gulleygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events](http://gulleygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events)

Aug 29 » **Dehydrating Foods, Leathers and Jerkies**, Larimer County Extension, 1525 Blue Spruce Dr, \$15 with registration, [larimer.org/ext](http://larimer.org/ext)

Aug 30 » **Celebrating Tomatoes Cooking Class**, Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, \$45, [fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens)

## LOVELAND & WINDSOR

Aug 3-7 » **Larimer County Fair**, The Ranch, 5280 Arena Cir, Free admission, Loveland, [larimercountyfair.org](http://larimercountyfair.org)

Aug 14 » **Ask the Experts: A Garden Panel Discussion**, Clearview Library, 720 3rd St, Free, Windsor [clearviewlibrary.org](http://clearviewlibrary.org)

Aug 16 » **Northern Co Beekeepers Association Harvest Picnic**, At a local park, see website for details, \$5 non-members, Loveland, [nocobees.org](http://nocobees.org)

Aug 29 » **Loveland Library Fall Gardening Series: Tree Selection**, CSU Extension, Loveland Library, 300 N. Adams Ave, Free, Loveland, [lovelandpubliclibrary.org](http://lovelandpubliclibrary.org)



## CONGRATULATIONS

*Treasure Island Demonstration Garden is the recipient of the 2018 Plant Select® "Showcase Garden Award" in recognition of its excellence in design, vision, and educational outreach for a demonstration garden in the Plant Select® territory of Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Utah, and north Texas. Photo courtesy Treasure Island.*

# sept events

## FORT COLLINS

Sept 1 » **Calendula Salve Making**, Gulley Greenhouse, 6029 S. Shields St, \$35, [gulleygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events](http://gulleygreenhouse.com/upcoming-events)

Sept 1 » **CSU Blender Bike at the Market**, Larimer County Farmers' Market, 200 W. Oak St, Free, [larimercountyfarmersmarket.org](http://larimercountyfarmersmarket.org)



SAT, JULY 21  
8 A.M. - 2 P.M.  
\$20

Tickets at  
[fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens)

## GET INSPIRED AND LEARN

about growing edibles, raising chickens, bees, fruit trees, greenhouses, and repurposed garden structures. This event is self-guided, family friendly, and fun!

Benefitting



THE GARDENS  
ON SPRING CREEK



Loveland Youth Gardeners  
Planting Seeds • Growing Youth • Nourishing Community  
[www.LovelandYouthGardeners.org](http://www.LovelandYouthGardeners.org)

Thank you





# THERE'S A FREE APP FOR THAT! PRESERVE SMART

Elisa Shackelton, Extension Specialist, Colorado State University



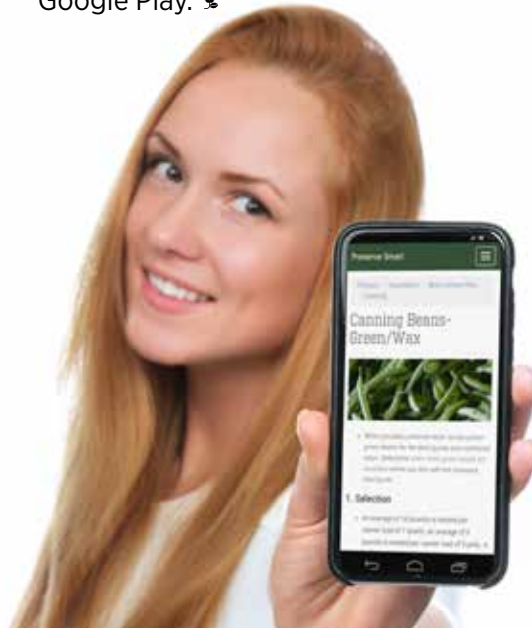
Ever have questions on the go for preserving or canning your favorite garden harvest? We are excited to bring you CSU Extension's new PRESERVE SMART, a web-based app to help gardeners find high elevation canning, freezing, and drying directions and recipes for a wide variety of fruits and vegetables.

## Five great ways to use PRESERVE SMART:

- Use it on the go to determine ingredients and equipment for home food preservation.
- Find out when fresh fruits and vegetables are in season.
- Find the elevation of your kitchen to ensure safe processing times, pressure requirements, and blanching times.
- Explore and use tested preservation recipes with instructions for your elevation.
- Get timely tips and social media updates.



This one-stop app for preservation in Colorado is easy and free. Download from Apple's App Store or get it on Google Play. 📱



## sept events

Sept 6 » **Wraps, Rolls and Dumplings Cooking Class**, Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, \$45, [fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens)

**Colorado Master Gardener & Food Safety Booth**, Larimer County Farmers' Market, Every Saturday, 200 W. Oak St, Free entry, [larimercountyfarmersmarket.org](http://larimercountyfarmersmarket.org)

**Colorado Master Gardener Office Hours**, every Mon, Wed & Fri morning, CSU Extension in Larimer County, 1525 Blue Spruce, Free, [colostate.edu/Depts/CoopExt/Larimer](http://colostate.edu/Depts/CoopExt/Larimer)

**Read and Seed**, every Mon & Tues, Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave, \$3, [fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens)

## LOVELAND & BERTHOUD

Sept 4 » **Berthoud Historical Society Garden Group: Bulbs and Fall Planting**, McCarty-Fickel Home Museum, 645 7th St, Free, [berthoudhistoricalsociety.org/gardengroup](http://berthoudhistoricalsociety.org/gardengroup)

Sept 5 » **Loveland Library Fall Gardening Series: Lawn Care**, CSU Extension, Loveland Library, 300 N. Adams Ave, Free, [lovelandpubliclibrary.org](http://lovelandpubliclibrary.org)

**Plant Flowers for Bees!**

**Fort Collins NURSERY**  
2121 E. Mulberry St., Fort Collins, CO 80524 • 970-482-1984 • [www.FortCollinsNursery.com](http://www.FortCollinsNursery.com)





Be safe, be well  
in the  
**Garden.**



*Katie Collins, Water  
Conservation Coordinator,  
City of Fort Collins Utilities*

*Skip the "no pain, no gain"  
mantra and fully enjoy the  
fruits of your gardening  
labor with these safety  
and wellness tips.*

- **Don't wait, hydrate.** Consider wearing a hydration backpack during garden work.
- **Get an early start.** Deadhead first thing in the morning, when the sun is less intense. Your body and your plants will thank you for it.
- **Grab a seat.** Sit or kneel in positions that prevent your back from rounding.
- **Preserve it right.** Don't spoil all your hard-earned tomatoes with poor canning practices. Use USDA and Colorado State Extension fact sheets as resources for safe canning processes in our area.
- **Save sandals for the pool.** Protect your feet from shovels, biting insects and grimy toenails. Instead, opt for a hard-soled shoe or boot. Sock tans are in this year!
- **Pass the hori-hori.** Falling behind on the dandelions this year? Phone a friend to help knock out those weeds. Score extra wellness points for laughter.
- **And don't forget to stop and smell the hyssop!** 🌿



# Get to know Your H<sub>2</sub>O!

*Katie Collins, Water Conservation Coordinator, Fort Collins Utilities*

**Q: WHERE DOES FORT COLLINS GET ITS WATER?**

**A:** Fort Collins Utilities water comes from two main sources: the Colorado-Big Thompson (C-BT) Project and the Cache la Poudre River basin.

**Q: WHAT IS THE C-BT PROJECT?**

**A:** Operated and maintained by Northern Water, this project collects Colorado River snowpack and delivers it to nearly one million people in eight Front Range counties via 12 reservoirs, including Horsetooth, plus miles of tunnels and canals. On its way down the mountain, water passes through power plants to produce hydroelectric power. Visit [northernwater.org](http://northernwater.org) to learn more about the C-BT project.

**Q: IS OUR WATER SAFE?**

**A:** Wait, so our water comes from a reservoir filled with power boats all summer? Is that safe? It sure is! Raw water goes through a series of carefully monitored treatment processes before it arrives at your tap. Whether you're boating on Horsetooth or



walking your dog along the Poudre Trail remember to leave no trace, because it all flows downstream.

**Q: HOW MUCH WATER DO WE USE?**

**A:** Fort Collins Utilities delivers an average of 24,000 acre-feet each year (nearly 8 billion gallons!). About 40% is used in June, July and August alone. The average single-family household uses approximately 80,000 gallons of treated water annually, and typically uses 3-4 times more water per day during the summer. About 3,000 acre-feet of raw water, rather than treated water, is used annually to irrigate parks, golf courses, cemeteries, green belts and schools.

**Q: WHAT IS AN ACRE-FOOT?**

**A:** An acre-foot of water is equal to one acre of water in area, one foot in depth. It is equal to 325,851 gallons of water or approximately one football field filled with a foot of water (and a soaked football team).

Learn more at [fcgov.com/water](http://fcgov.com/water) and check out Community Education for upcoming events. ♻️

## WHY I VOLUNTEER



“Ever since I was young, it has been a passion of mine to leave a ‘footprint in the sand’ by making a difference in the lives of those around me and in my community.”

—Mandy Morgan  
*Commission on Disability Member*



Auxiliary aids and services are available for persons with disabilities.

18-19822



# DESIGN WITH WATER IN MIND

## VISIT OUR XERISCAPE GARDEN



PLAN & DESIGN



IMPROVE THE SOIL



LIMIT TURF AREAS



IRRIGATE EFFICIENTLY



SELECT APPROPRIATE PLANTS



USE MULCH

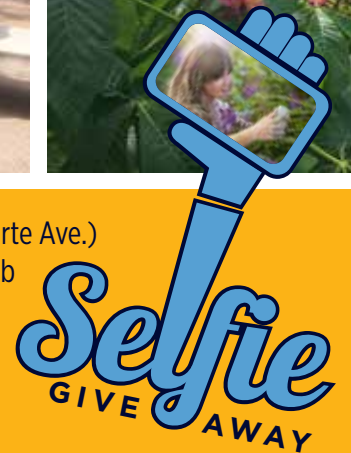


MAINTAIN IT



Check out our Xeriscape Demonstration Garden at City Hall (300 Laporte Ave.) in Downtown Fort Collins for ideas, inspiration or a relaxing break! Grab a free plant list at the entrance to keep notes on your favorite plants.

Post a selfie (before Sept. 7) at the garden and tag @fcutilities and #TheXericLife for a chance to win some garden prizes and t-shirts!



Visit [fcgov.com/water-smart](http://fcgov.com/water-smart) to learn more about the demonstration garden and xeriscaping.

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