

NoCo Bloom

FALL 2020



LARIMER COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION



THE GARDENS
ON SPRING CREEK



FABULOUS FALL

WHY LEAVES
CHANGE COLOR

RISE OF THE 2020
VICTORY GARDEN



FABULOUS

Fall



Colorado State University

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



LARIMER COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

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

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.

Fall is a true reminder of why we call it “Colorful Colorado.” With the bounty of harvest time comes a burst of colors and flavors that we wait for all year long. We hope that this season is filled with beauty, plenty and prosperity as we head into the restorative time of winter. From saving seeds to preserving the harvest, we’ve provided a variety of suggestions for you to make the most of the months ahead.

This issue closes out the year for NoCo Bloom, and we are so grateful for the opportunity to share our passion for horticulture with you. We wish you a fabulous fall, happy holiday season and a strong start to the year ahead. We look forward to connecting in the spring for more gardening goodness. 🍂



Dr. Jessica G. Davis
*HLA Department Head
Colorado State University*

Dr. Alison O’Connor
*Horticulture Extension Agent
CSU Extension in Larimer County*

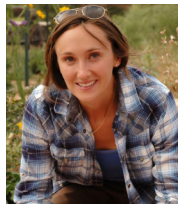
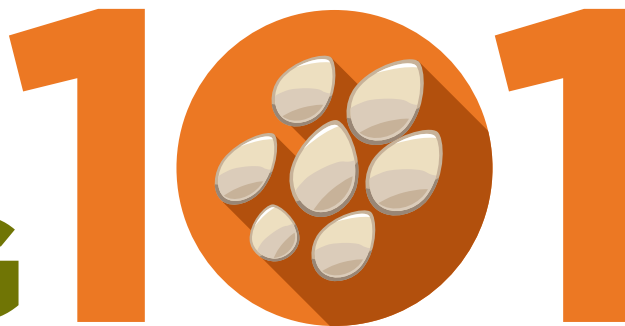
Michelle Provaznik
*Executive Director
The Gardens on Spring Creek*

Amanda Sammartino
Editor, NoCo Bloom

Grant Smith
*Creative Director
City of Fort Collins*



SEED SAVING



by Annie Ernest,
Colorado State University
Extension Master Gardener
in Larimer County

Perhaps you looked for seeds this spring only to find the seed companies were sold out! Perhaps you grew the most spectacular tomatoes this year and would love a repeat performance? Whatever your reason, seed saving is a fun and economical way to expand your gardening horizons.

There are a few tenants to keep in mind when beginning your seed saving project: maturity, timing, pollination and variety. Seeds of a fruit should be harvested after it has matured but before it starts to rot. For example, red tomatoes should be red and slightly soft if you intend to save the seed.

The timing component comes from knowing the plant's life cycle. Annual crops go from seed to seed in the same year. Biennial crops, such as carrots, parsley and onions, require two years to produce seeds.

The "pollination" and "variety" components are important if you want to save true seed. Depending on the pollination method of the crop, the saved seeds may contain the genetics of a nearby variety and won't be a true clone of the crop you are saving. "Self-pollinated" varieties give the home gardener the best chance of saving "true" seed. Similarly, the variety of seed you are planting is going to have a large impact on your success. "Open-pollinated" varieties lend themselves best to seed saving, while "F1 hybrid" varieties will not produce true seed.

Learning to save seeds will ensure you have plenty of harvest for years to come! Check out extension.colostate.edu for more information on this topic and many more. 🍂

Here are two easy crops to get you started:

PUMPKINS:

Put those Jack-o-Lantern innards to good use!

1. Scoop the pulp from a mature pumpkin and separate the seeds on a paper towel.
2. Dry at room temperature.
3. Store in a cool, dark, and dry place.

Note: You can treat ripe cucumbers, melons, squash, tomatoes, peppers, and eggplants the same as pumpkins.

CARROTS:

These roots produce a lovely, pollinator-friendly flower when they bloom the second year.

1. Leave a few carrots behind after harvest, the tops will die back over the winter.
2. Come spring, your carrot will send up new tops.
3. Allow the flowers to go completely to seed.
4. When the seeds start turning brown, bring inside to finish drying.



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

COMMUNITY WIDE RESOURCES

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

CSU Extension Gardening Webinars via Zoom

Free to the public, registration required, limited to first 300 applicants, see csuhort.blogspot.com ("Gardening Webinars") for ongoing class listings

COMMUNITY WIDE EDUCATION

September 18 » **17th Annual Virtual Rare Plant Symposium Colorado Native Plant Society**, 8:00am-2:30pm, \$10 Registration required, conps.org

September 18 - 20 » **2020 CoNPS Virtual Annual Conference, Peaks to Prairies: Plants in A Land of Extreme Colorado Native Plant Society**, See website for time information, \$30 members/\$35 non-members, Registration required, conps.org

September 23 » **Alternative to Pesticides Webinar People and Pollinators Action Network**, 12:00pm-1:00pm, peopleandpollinators.org/pollinator-calendar

October 29 - November 1 » **Fundamentals of Horticultural Therapy Online live classes with CSU credit**, See website for time & cost information, htinstitute.org

November 5 » **5th Annual Colorado Pollinator Summit (Virtual) People and Pollinators Action Network**, 8:00am-2:30pm, \$20, butterflies.org/copollinatornetwork

CALENDAR COORDINATOR

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



GREEN & GOLD

GRASSES



by Tony Koski,
Extension Turf Specialist,
CSU Department of
Horticulture and
Landscape Architecture

Colorado is a dry place to garden. Some years – like this one – can be REALLY dry. Whenever we have a “drought year,” I get a lot of questions about changing lawns from bluegrass (a cool-season grass) to buffalograss or blue grama (warm-season grasses).

As their names imply, cool-season grasses like growing in the spring and fall, while warm-season grasses grow best when it’s hot in the

summer. Buffalograss and blue grama require much less irrigation to stay green in the hot summer months than does bluegrass – 50 percent or even less.

So why aren’t there more buffalograss lawns grown in Colorado? Availability and higher cost of sod and seed are important reasons. But the main “marketing” problem with buffalograss is its shorter green growing season (only four to five months), compared to bluegrass or the fescues (eight to ten months). It seems that people are convinced that they will find dormant buffalograss unattractive. But those who have embraced buffalograss find the dormant fall and winter color of a buffalograss lawn quite attractive, with its blend of gold, tan, reddish-brown,

and mauve hues. Just as the leaves of our deciduous trees turn beautiful colors in the fall, buffalograss does the same. If you consider water, fertilizer, and time (mowing) savings – and the bonus of great fall lawn color – buffalograss might be worthy of consideration.

If interested in converting to buffalograss or blue grama (or both, as they mix well), take the fall and winter to do your homework and prepare – because the best time to plant buffalograss is May - July. Contact me (tony.koski@colostate.edu) or your county Extension office for more information on planting buffalograss/blue grama lawns. 🌱

The Fort Collins lawn shown in this photo (taken mid-September) was in its second growing season, and had not been irrigated, fertilized or mowed a single time that year.



PROTECTING TREES AGAINST WINTER SUNSCALD

sun-scald [suhn-skawld] n.

Injury to the leaves, bark, or underlying tissues of woody plants due to the combined effects of heat, humidity, and intense sunshine.



Bryan Fischer, Horticulturist,
The Gardens on Spring Creek

Recently planted trees in our region are subject to many stressors, including those that result from warm, sunny, winter days and chilly winter nights. The extreme temperature swings, combined with the sun's low angle and a smaller tree canopy, results in sunlight directly on the bark of a young tree's trunk, which can lead to scarring, cankers or splitting of the living wood. Not surprisingly, this can contribute to tree stress or death.

A traditional method used to attempt to minimize the long-term damage associated from this phenomenon is simply to wrap the trunk of a young tree with a paper-based wrap from the garden center for the first two to three years of its life. While existing evidence is mixed on both how effective and safe this tactic is for the tree, the negative consequences of tree wrapping are generally the result of improper use. Wrap used appropriately, however, probably does no harm and may do good.

I wrap many of my transplants (especially those with thin bark like in the genera Malus, Pyrus, Prunus, Gleditsia and Acer), taking great care to wrap by mid-November and unwrap in mid-April. Easiest when performed from the bottom up, I overlap each new layer of paper over about one

third the layer prior to allow for some shifting. Wrap from the bottom to one pass above the lowest branch, pulling the wrap over the branch and then back down to tighten it before securing with electrical or duct tape. Be sure to tape on the paper, as tape should never contact the tree's bark directly, and around the entire circumference of the trunk. Stick to a light-colored wrap; dark wraps are said to absorb enough light from the winter sun to heat up and lose effectiveness.

Should one choose not to wrap, evidence suggests that keeping transplants well-watered during establishment can be beneficial in prevention of sunscald. Remember, too, that woody plants in our region require regular watering whenever daytime temperatures regularly pass 40 degrees Fahrenheit – even in the depths of winter if soil is not frozen solid.

Conservative pruning, aimed at leaving large, lower branches on the transplant to shade the trunk, has also been suggested to help prevent sunscald development. If one chooses this tactic, simply avoid pruning the lower portion of a transplant's canopy for the first two or so years. Do not postpone pruning any longer, as early pruning is essential for healthy tree structure later in life.

So, while it's not entirely clear whether tree wrap is all bark or some bite, be sure to take action this fall, winter and spring to manage preventable sunscald damage to your recently transplanted trees. 🌻

events 'n classes

RECURRING EVENTS

Greeley Farmers' Market

Every Saturday until October 31st, Union Pacific Depot – 902 7th Avenue, Greeley, 8:00am - 12:00pm, Free admission, greeleygov.com/activities/fm/home

Larimer County Farmers Market

Every Saturday until October 31st, Larimer County Farmers Market, 200 W. Oak St., Fort Collins, 9:00am - 1:00pm, Free admission, larimercountyfm.org

September 25 » Frederick Farmers' Market

Crist Park, 105 5th St., Frederick, 4:00pm - 8:00 pm, Free admission, frederickco.gov/241/Finale-Fridays-Frederick-Market

FORT COLLINS

September 15 » Twilight Garden Series:

Attracting Wildlife to your Garden

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 6:00pm - 7:30pm, \$10, hortla.agsci.colostate.edu

September 19 » Walking Tree Tour of the Gardens

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

September 19 » Watercolor Journaling:

Capturing the Fall Gardens

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 9:30am - 12:30pm, \$60, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

September 22 » Garden to Fork: Zoodles of Squash

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 5:30pm - 8:00pm, \$65, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

September 26 » Fort Collins Notable Tree Bike Tour

Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 9:00am - 12:00pm, \$18, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

September 26 » Composting 101

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

September 26 » Prairie Gardens

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

September 26 » Preserving the Harvest

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

October 3 » Preparing your Vegetable Garden for Winter

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

October 3 » Plant Based Me!

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

Fall Splendor



by Andrea Dunn, Colorado State University
Extension Master Gardener in Larimer County

Mother Nature provides a show for each season of the year, and one of the most spectacular is fall with its dazzling array of yellows, golden, reds and purples. In Colorado, this display occurs generally from late September through October.



YOU BETTER BE-LEAF IT



As the days shorten and temperature cools, the leaves of trees begin to lose their chlorophyll, the photosynthetic pigment that gives leaves their green color. Chlorophyll is essential for absorbing sunlight and transforming carbon dioxide and water into carbohydrates, providing energy for the survival of the plant. As the chlorophyll subsides, other pigments like carotene and xanthophyll are revealed. These pigments provide the orange and yellow colors that we see in our brilliant aspen trees and are on full display across the mountains of Colorado. The red and purple colors are the result of red anthocyanin pigments and these also can sometimes be seen in aspen groves. As a child, I loved seeing the red in a stand of aspen trees. It was a surprise encore to the show of yellow and oranges.

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF ANTHOCYANIN

In addition to shortened daylight and temperature, additional weather events like water and early frosts influence the vibrancy of the colors that we see. For example, low temperatures that are above freezing will influence anthocyanin formation for red colors. An early frost will reduce the intensity of the color. Moisture also allows the colors to maintain their intensity for a longer period.

LOCATION, LOCATION

In Colorado, the peak viewing times for fall colors generally fall between the end of September to mid-October and there are some amazing views of brilliant aspen trees in Rocky Mountain National Park and the Peak to Peak Highway, an easy afternoon or morning drive.

Even closer to home, a walk around your neighborhood will reveal some of the most amazing colors that include Western sandcherry that turns orange

and red; golden currant that turns purple-red, and burning bush that turns crimson red. Bigtooth or Wasatch maple, Ohio buckeye, ornamental pears, and mountain-ash turn orange to red. Some of the oaks also have great fall color, like Shumard and Texas red. Hackberry and native birch turn yellow to gold. There are even ornamental grasses that join the show, such as little bluestem, switchgrass, and prairie dropseed. And don't forget about 'Angelina' sedum whose lime-green summer color turns copper in cooler weather.

AS THE DAYS GET SHORTER AND WE BEGIN TO FEEL A CHILL IN THE AIR, WE CAN EAGERLY ANTICIPATE THE COLORFUL UPCOMING SHOW PROVIDED BY MOTHER NATURE. 🌻



The Chemistry Behind Fall Colors



CHLOROPHYLL

Chlorophyll is responsible for helping trees and plants turn sunlight into food. For most months, it is the dominant color seen in most leaves until it fades away. As many trees shut down their food production, they turn to stored sugars to survive the winter.

ANTHOCYANIN

Unlike other leaf colors that exist within the leaf, anthocyanins are produced as the chlorophyll is broken down. As sugar concentration in the leaves increases, sunlight initiates anthocyanin production.

The anthocyanins are often seen in leaves named for their autumn splash of red, including Red Maples, Scarlet Oaks and Red Sumacs.

CAROTENE

Carotenoids like beta-carotene also contribute to the orange color we see in changing leaves. Carotene in leaves begin degrading at the same time as chlorophyll, but they do so at a much slower rate.

As the name implies, carotene is also responsible for the color of carrots.

XANTHOPHYLL

Xanthophyll is a subclass of carotenoids, which are always present in leaves but are broken down in the autumn.

The resulting yellow leaves can be seen throughout the fall in trees including beeches, ashes, birches, aspens and some oaks.

events 'n classes

October 10 » **Watercolor Journaling: Capturing the Harvest**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 9:30am - 12:30pm,
\$60, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

October 10 » **Paper Quilling**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 1:30pm - 3:00pm,
\$35, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

October 17 » **Magical Moonlit Gardens**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
10:30am - 12:30pm, \$10, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

October 17 » **Planting Fall Bulbs for Spring Flowers**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 1:30pm - 3:30pm,
\$10, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

October 24 » **Makin' your own Bacon**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 10:30am - 12:30pm,
\$10, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

November 7 » **Watercolor Wreath Holiday Cards**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 10:30am - 12:00pm,
\$35, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

November 14 » **Natural Lip Color and Lip Balm**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 10:30am - 12:30pm,
\$15, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

November 14 » **Watercolor Journaling: Holiday Inspiration**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 9:30am - 12:30pm,
\$60, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

December 5 » **Holiday Wreath Making: Family Class**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 10:30am - 12:30pm,
\$30, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

December 5 » **Holiday Wreath Making**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 1:30pm - 3:30pm,
\$30, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

December 5 » **Holiday Wreath Making: Family Class**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 10:30am - 12:30pm,
\$30, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

WINDSOR

October 14 » **Pumpkin Succulents**
Clearview Library, 720 3rd St., 12:30pm - 1:30pm,
Free, no registration necessary, clearviewlibrary.org

November 11 » **Showcasing Plant Select**
Clearview Library, 720 3rd St., 12:30pm - 1:30pm,
Free, no registration necessary, clearviewlibrary.org

December 9 » **Making Pumpkin Succulents**
Clearview Library, 720 3rd St., 12:30pm - 1:30pm,
Free, no registration necessary, clearviewlibrary.org

THE RISE OF THE 2020 VICTORY



by Michelle Provaznik,
Executive Director,
The Gardens on Spring Creek

Due to recent events surrounding the novel coronavirus, there has been a resurrection of Victory Gardens during this time of crisis. Whether due to an abundance of free time or uncertain food supplies, we are seeing a return to the garden like never before.



Victory Gardens began in World War I when governments in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada and others encouraged citizens to plant food gardens in their yards and public areas as a means to supplement the food supply as well as to boost morale.

Victory Gardens came back strong during World War II as noted in the 1944 Combined Annual Report of County Extension Workers for Larimer County. "The County Extension Agents conducted an extensive Victory Garden Campaign in 1943, which resulted in estimated increase of Gardens from 2500

to 5000. As a result, the interest in Victory Gardens in 1944 was sufficient enough that the program did not require much urging." (hdl.handle.net/10217/189477)

Local resident, Robert Pike, attended Fort Collins High School during World War II. Feeling part of "the war effort" was central to everyday life in Fort Collins. Rationing of food, gasoline and clothing, observing the "blackouts," saving paper, scrap metal and cooking fat, growing a "Victory Garden," all were part of the hometown contribution. (Fort Collins History Connection)

The first signs of the growing 2020 Victory Garden movement occurred in late March/early April as seed companies across the country began reporting rapidly increasing sales. Our local seed company, Botanical Interests, paused online sales in April to catch up with purchases while allowing staff to practice social distancing to safely fulfill orders. Local nurseries reported increased interest and sales of fruit and vegetable crops as well, both plants and seeds. At our own Spring Plant Sale, we sold more vegetable plants than in the history of the sale.

The benefits of Victory Gardens today are many:

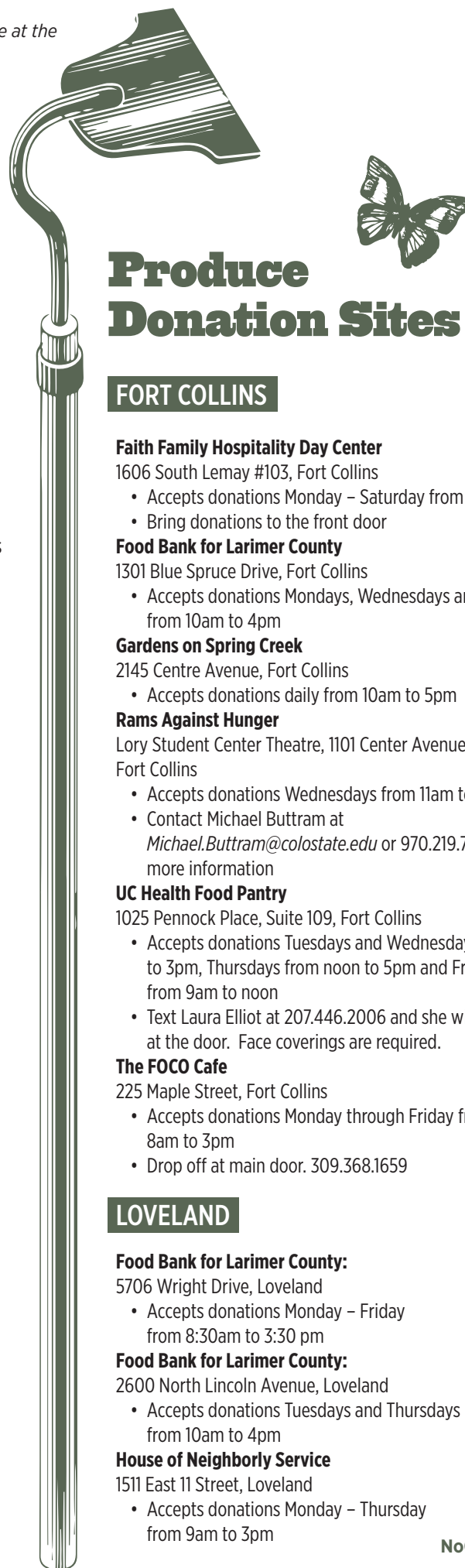
Health Benefits of Gardening

Whether you have an urban homestead with an acre-wide vegetable patch, or just a few pots on a sunny balcony, gardening has a number of health benefits -

- It encourages you eat more fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Gardening is a natural stress reliever and way to stay active while social distancing.

Many thanks to staff at the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery, the Agricultural and Natural Resources Archive at the Colorado State University Libraries, and Colorado State University Extension for contributing to this story.

GARDEN



Produce Donation Sites

FORT COLLINS

Faith Family Hospitality Day Center

1606 South Lemay #103, Fort Collins

- Accepts donations Monday – Saturday from 9am to 4pm
- Bring donations to the front door

Food Bank for Larimer County

1301 Blue Spruce Drive, Fort Collins

- Accepts donations Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to 4pm

Gardens on Spring Creek

2145 Centre Avenue, Fort Collins

- Accepts donations daily from 10am to 5pm

Rams Against Hunger

Lory Student Center Theatre, 1101 Center Avenue Mall, Fort Collins

- Accepts donations Wednesdays from 11am to 2pm
- Contact Michael Buttram at Michael.Buttram@colostate.edu or 970.219.7165 for more information

UC Health Food Pantry

1025 Pennock Place, Suite 109, Fort Collins

- Accepts donations Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9am to 3pm, Thursdays from noon to 5pm and Fridays from 9am to noon
- Text Laura Elliot at 207.446.2006 and she will meet you at the door. Face coverings are required.

The FOCO Cafe

225 Maple Street, Fort Collins

- Accepts donations Monday through Friday from 8am to 3pm
- Drop off at main door. 309.368.1659

LOVELAND

Food Bank for Larimer County:

5706 Wright Drive, Loveland

- Accepts donations Monday – Friday from 8:30am to 3:30 pm

Food Bank for Larimer County:

2600 North Lincoln Avenue, Loveland

- Accepts donations Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 4pm

House of Neighborly Service

1511 East 11 Street, Loveland

- Accepts donations Monday – Thursday from 9am to 3pm

- Vegetables left to ripen on the vine can have more nutrients than some vegetables sold in stores that must be picked early.



Have a Positive Environmental Impact

In addition to the health benefits of gardening, growing your own food reduces your carbon footprint. Additionally -

- Plants prevent soil erosion and replenish nutrients in the soil.
- Even container gardening can help reduce noise pollution and support pollination.
- Gardening helps naturally clean the air and ground.

Help Others in Our Community

Several programs exist for gardeners to donate extra produce to support others in our community:

Plant it Forward

Did you know that the Gardens on Spring Creek grows more than 7,000 pounds of food annually for the Food Bank for Larimer County? In addition to supporting The Gardens, you can use your own backyard to help fight hunger in our

community this growing season.

Through our Plant It Forward program in conjunction with the Food Bank for Larimer County, consider donating produce from your garden to help those in need. As demand for services continues to grow at the Food Bank, Plant It Forward donations can directly help local children, families and seniors in need of food assistance.

Drop off your garden produce at The Gardens or at the Food Bank for Larimer County. As the current situation continues to evolve, please visit our websites for more information about produce harvesting and drop-off.

Grow and Give

Developed by Colorado State University Extension, the modern Victory Garden project provides education resources for growing your own food as well as resources for how and where to donate. Over 50 people have signed up to participate in Larimer County.

Learn more and register to participate at cmg.extension.colostate.edu/grow-give. 🌱





by Amber Webb, Family Consumer Sciences Extension Agent of Larimer County

Gardening season is in full swing! Whether you are a beginning or experienced gardener, shopping the farmer's market or visiting the region's local farms stands, the seasonal bounty is upon us! With an abundance of fresh produce available, why not try preserving the harvest?

Learning how to preserve food can be a great skill to have to avoid food waste and to be able to utilize plenty. There are many delicious ways to preserve food, like freezing, dehydrating, pickling, fermenting and canning. And many types of fresh produce can be preserved in more than one way. For example, hot peppers can be great for canning or pickling, then used as a condiment. They can be dehydrated and ground, then used as chile flakes. Or frozen roasted or blanched peppers make a delicious addition to chilis and soups. Having these ingredients in your freezer and pantry can spice up any meal and bring back the tastes of summer even in mid-winter.

The best way to determine which preserving method is right for you and for what you'll be preserving is to have a safe, tested recipe

for your elevation and know what equipment you'll need to get started. **A great place to find this information is through a website and app called Preserve Smart**, developed by Colorado State University Extension.

THERE ARE MANY DELICIOUS WAYS TO PRESERVE FOOD, LIKE FREEZING, DEHYDRATING, PICKLING, FERMENTING AND CANNING.

It was created to provide a trusted way to find and use tested food preservation recipes and instructions for any elevation from sea level. Just enter your elevation, find the type of produce you want to preserve, and safe detailed instructions are immediately available at your fingertips. **It includes important considerations when choosing a preservation method and the steps you'll need to take for a successful final product.**

For example:

1. Selection of Ingredients
2. Equipment needed
3. How to prepare the produce
4. How to preserve safely for each method
5. Researched and tested recipes
6. How to store and use the final product

Following these guidelines will ensure a safe enjoyable, and delicious preservation project that you and your family will be able to enjoy for months to come!

Please visit apps.chhs.colostate.edu/preservesmart or download Preserve Smart on your mobile device. For more information on food preservation, visit Food Smart Colorado at foodsmartcolorado.colostate.edu 🌱





Fall is a Great Time to Plant



**Fort Collins
NURSERY**

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



Larimer County CSU Extension

where university meets community

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

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Nutrition and Food Safety

Health, Wellness and Family Well-being

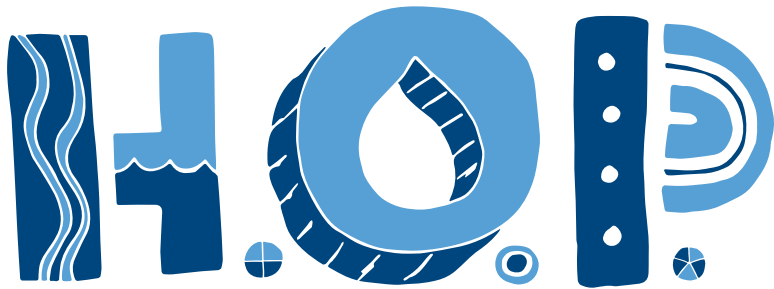
Yard and Garden, Colorado Master Gardeners

4-H Youth Development

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



HORSETOOTH OUTLET PROJECT



Working Together to Protect Our Water

The Horsetooth Outlet Project (HOP) is an important maintenance project planned by Northern Water and the Bureau of Reclamation to repair and upgrade the Soldier Canyon Dam outlet, a key component of our water delivery system.

Safety is top priority. We are monitoring water quality and quantity for wildfire impacts and other issues that can arise at any time.

For the latest updates on the project and potential water use restrictions:

fcgov.com/HOP

HOP@fcgov.com, 970-416-8040 or V/TDD 711



HELP DURING HOP

NOW: Reduce outdoor water use to save water during this dry season.

OCT. 1: Stop lawn watering and other outdoor water uses during HOP.

To meet the needs of our community we're asking all residential and commercial customers to reduce water use to winter (indoor) levels a little early this year.

OTHER WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- Prepare to winterize your system early this year.
- Water trees and shrubs deeply by hand or drip irrigation prior to Oct. 1.
- Avoid pressure washing and spraying outdoor surfaces with hoses – use dry methods like sweeping and leaf blowers instead.
- Limit car washing.
- Track your water use and get leak alerts (fcgov.com/mywater).

Small actions can make a big difference.



Aids and services are available for persons with disabilities. Esta información puede ser traducida, sin costo para usted, 970-212-2900.