

NoCo Bloom

SEPTEMBER 2021



LARIMER COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION



THE GARDENS
ON SPRING CREEK



CHAMPION TREES


CHAMPION
TREES

TIPS FOR
TREE PLANTING

TREE
MAINTENANCE

WINTER
WATERING

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 **LARIMER COUNTY**
**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION**

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 **THE GARDENS
ON SPRING CREEK**

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**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.

CHAMPION TREES

The tree is one of the most powerful figures in our lives. Since the beginning of time, we have looked to trees for sustenance, shelter, tools, shade and fuel. Not only are they essential to the prosperity of the human race, but as the longest living species on earth, they give us a link between the past, present and future. Symbolically, trees represent interconnectedness, physical and spiritual nourishment, growth, individuality, transformation, liberation, union and fertility.

As children we are drawn to the strength and safety of trees as we build forts and play with friends. As adults, we know the importance of stabilizing the soil, generating oxygen, storing carbon and creating habitat for animals.

Thus it is only fitting that our last issue of NoCo Bloom of the season would be dedicated to the largest plants on the planet, providing you with insights on how to select and care for the trees in your life. We hope you enjoy this selection and look forward to connecting with you again in the spring.

“The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit.”

- NELSON HENDERSON



TREE SELECTION FOR THE FRONT RANGE



WHEN SELECTING NEW TREES FOR YOUR LANDSCAPE, TAKE TIME TO CONSIDER A FEW KEY POINTS TO ENSURE THE ESTABLISHMENT AND LONGEVITY OF YOUR NEW PURCHASE.

PLACEMENT

The cultural needs of your tree (light, soil, moisture) should be considered when deciding on placement. Take time to research your choice and compare and contrast the plant's needs against the site. Species in the Willow (*Salix*) or Birch (*Betula*) genus require wet, well-drained soil and will perform poorly in dry conditions. A Colorado Blue Spruce (*Picea Pungens*) planted close to a foundation will likely need to be removed before it reaches mature size. Matching the right tree to the right place is a great first step and a key component for the tree's survival.

NATIVE / DROUGHT TOLERANT

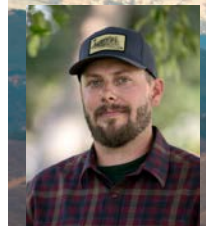
Choosing species that are native and/or drought tolerant will give you an advantage in the dry, arid conditions prevalent in this region. With annual precipitation amounting to only 15 inches per year, and periods of deep freezes during the winter, our choices for trees can become limited. Native trees are adapted to these conditions and will have a higher chance of establishment. Species that can handle long periods of drought are becoming more popular with homeowners that have water conservation on their minds. Ask for natives at your local nursery!

CHOOSING NURSERY STOCK

It's easy to get overwhelmed with the selection of plants available to homeowners. Large nurseries can have hundreds of species available in all shapes, sizes and colors. Most (if not all) trees will have plant identification tags attached to them with a description of the plant, as well as its cultural needs. Check this information against your list of needs.

Additionally, inspect the tree for defects/damage such as wounds, poor structure and co-dominant stems (when two lead branches compete, forming a fork). Check the base of the trunk for girdling roots hidden under mulch or extra soil. The base of the tree should have a slightly larger taper and healthy roots near the surface. Feel free to ask the closest nursery employee to assist you in the inspection. Often, their insight can help you make an informed choice.

Tree selection along with proper planting and maintenance can ensure most trees suited for our region will thrive. For a printable list of recommended trees visit <https://extension.colostate.edu/docs/pubs/garden/treereclist.pdf>



by Jacob Mares,
Horticulturist and
Certified Arborist,
Gardens on Spring Creek

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.

Please check with each organization to ensure event details have not changed.

COMMUNITY WIDE RESOURCES

Larimer County Colorado Master Gardener Help Desk
Free, larimermg@gmail.com, 970-498-6000,
larimerextension.org

Weld County Master Gardeners in Office Help Desk
Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9:00am - 1:00pm,
Free, weldmastergardeners@outlook.com, 970-400-2089,
WeldMasterGardeners.org

Grow and Give Program through Colorado State University Extension
Registration and/or vegetable gardening information:
growgive.extension.colostate.edu

COMMUNITY WIDE EDUCATION

October 13 » **Fall-Planted Bulbs for Spring Blooms**
Presented by Alison O'Connor, Larimer County Extension,
12:30pm - 1:30pm, Free, After registering, you will receive an email with the class link, [zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYrcyepqj0uHdC5PY_IthYzUDIAcAjsf52d](https://zoom.us/join/joinMeeting?zmt=UjYrcyepqj0uHdC5PY_IthYzUDIAcAjsf52d) or csuhort.blogspot.com

October 14 » **Fruit Trees for Colorado's Front Range**
Class hosted by High Plains Library District via Zoom,
11:30pm - 1:00pm, Free, mylibrary.evanced.info/signup

November 10 » **A 2021 Gardening Year-in-Review**
Presented by Amy Lentz, Weld County Extension and Alison O'Connor, Larimer County Extension,
12:30pm - 1:30pm, Free, After registering, you will receive an email with the class link, [zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEkcO-CtpzMiHNV9bSx_IFmfHkDr-XuK5EUE](https://zoom.us/join/joinMeeting?zmt=CtpzMiHNV9bSx_IFmfHkDr-XuK5EUE) or csuhort.blogspot.com

December 8 » **Evergreens and Holiday Décor**
Presented by Amy Lentz, Weld County Extension and Alison O'Connor, Larimer County Extension,
12:30pm - 1:30pm, Free, After registering, you will receive an email with the class link, [zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEkcO-pqzliGNPInLfufOPHmB7vh_fUqzj](https://zoom.us/join/joinMeeting?zmt=pqzliGNPInLfufOPHmB7vh_fUqzj) or csuhort.blogspot.com

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)



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

TIPS FOR TREE PLANTING

The overall width of the hole should be three times the root ball diameter with sloped sides.

The depth of the planting hole should be slightly shallower (about one inch less) than the height of the root ball.

The tree should sit slightly above grade.

The bottom of the planting hole should have firmed/undug soil; fluffy soil at the bottom leads to sinking.

Backfill doesn't need to be amended with organic matter, but large soil clods should be broken up; research on amending has found that it does not lead to better transplant success.

Use wood mulch, keeping it off the root ball and away from the trunk of the tree; extend it at least two to three feet from the trunk at a depth of four to five inches thick.

Water will be the most limiting factor following tree planting—your goal is to keep the root ball moist (not soggy).

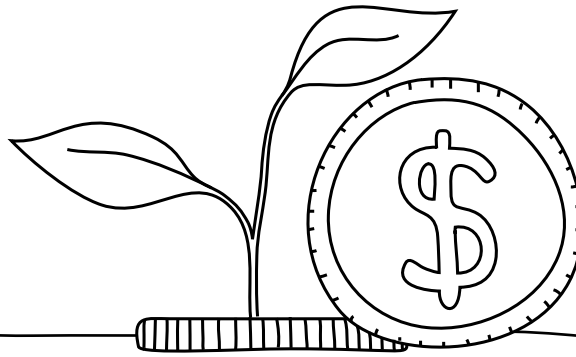


*Dr. Alison O'Connor,
Colorado State University
Extension horticulture
agent in Larimer County*

3x WIDEST DIMENSION OF ROOT BALL



Karen Hallberg, Colorado State University Extension Master Gardener in Larimer County



✂️ **Protect Your Investment:** THE NECESSARY BUSINESS OF TREE MAINTENANCE

If you have a car or home, you do maintenance to protect your investment. Trees are also valuable investments, not only for landscapes, but also for neighborhoods and the world, requiring maintenance to be protected. Trees provide so many benefits: shade, oxygen, reduced erosion, pleasant spaces, habitat for wildlife and added resale value for properties.

What do trees need to SURVIVE and THRIVE?

Their roots need water, oxygen and food. Water can be provided, of course, by rain and snow. However, here on the Front Range, there is little to no precipitation to provide moisture from October through March. When there's been no natural precipitation for two weeks, trees should be given supplemental water. Yes, it's a pain to drag a hose out in the winter, but your trees will thank you by surviving! This is especially helpful if they are in a windy site or have south or west exposures.

Water only when the temperature is 40 degrees or warmer and at mid-day so that it will have time to soak in before freezing at night. Apply 10 to 15 gallons of water for each diameter inch of the tree – for example, a two-inch diameter tree needs 20 to 30 gallons per watering. Be careful not to overwater, as this causes the soil pore (air) spaces to fill with water and restrict oxygen uptake. If your tree doesn't get adequate irrigation from regular lawn watering during the summer, keep that hose handy and water trees at least twice per month using the

amounts mentioned above. Additionally, applying two to four inches of an organic mulch around trees (keeping it away from the trunk) will help maintain soil moisture, protect the trees' roots from extreme temperatures and the common landscape ailment "weed whacker-itis".

In addition to water, trees' roots need oxygen. In our Colorado clay soils, soil compaction is prevalent. If your trees are planted in the lawn, aerating it twice per year will help the trees' roots obtain the oxygen they require.

Lastly, trees' roots need food. If you fertilize your lawn, any established trees planted there are gaining the benefit of that turf fertilization. If not, then you can apply fertilizer, either before July or after leaves have dropped in the fall, so the tree is able to harden-off properly. Keep in mind that trees generally have a delayed response to fertilizer, so you might see your benefits the following season and not immediately.

To learn more visit extension.colostate.edu and reference Trees, Shrubs and Vines under the Topics menu. Read more about watering, mulching, aeration and fertilization through Extension Fact Sheets #7.211 and #7.214 and Plant Talk Colorado #1559 and #1708.

Let's keep those investments **MAINTAINED!**

events 'n classes

FORT COLLINS

September 14 » **Garden to Fork Cooking Class: A Night with Nightshades**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
5:30pm - 8:00pm, \$70, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

September 16 » **Garden Wellness**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 8:00am - 9:15am,
\$15, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

September 18 » **Watercolor Journaling: Capturing the Harvest**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 9:30am - 12:30pm,
\$60, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

September 22 » **Pickling Vegetables**
Larimer County Extension,
1525 Blue Spruce Dr., 6:00pm - 8:30pm, \$25,
larimer.extension.colostate.edu/classes-and-workshops

September 23 » **Garden Wellness**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
8:00am - 9:15am, \$15, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

September 25 » **Makin' Your Own Homemade Bacon**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 10:30am -
12:30pm, \$25, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

September 28 » **Garden to Fork Cooking Class: An Evening with the Three Sisters**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave., 5:30pm - 8:00pm,
\$70, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

October 2 » **Bonsai Show**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
10:00am - 5:00pm, Included with Gardens admission,
fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

October 2 » **Poetry in The Garden: Poetry of Grief and Healing**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
9:30am - 12:30pm, \$40, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

October 6 » **Pressure Canning**
Larimer County Extension, 1525 Blue Spruce Dr.,
6:00pm - 8:30pm, \$25,
larimer.extension.colostate.edu/classes-and-workshops

October 9 » **Giant Pumpkin Weigh-Off**
Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 E. Mulberry St.,
10:00am - 3:00pm, Free Event, fortcollinsnursery.com

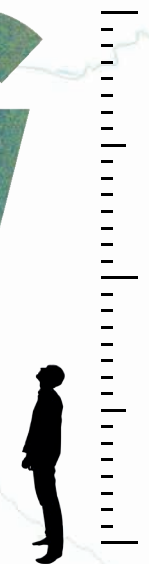
October 9 » **Introduction to the Ancient Art of Bonsai**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
10:30am - 12:30pm, \$18, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

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

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CHAMPION TREES CAST A

TOWERING PRESENCE

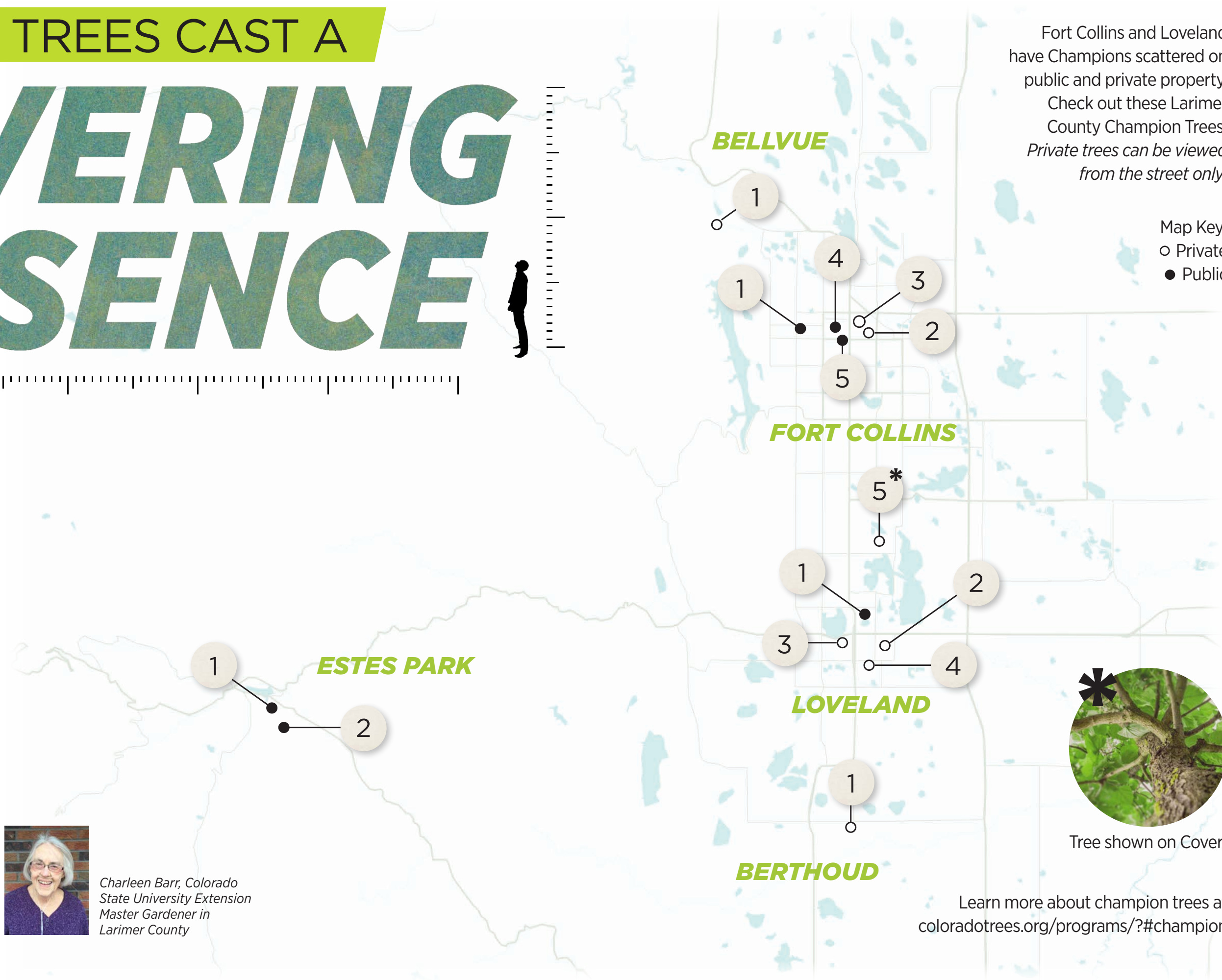


Champion trees are a rare and diminishing natural resource. The largest specimen of its species, we are fortunate to have more than 70 Colorado Champion Trees located in Larimer County. Champion Trees are recognized based on measurements of their girth, height and crown spread. These measurements are added together to determine total points, and the crowned Champion Tree is the one with the highest overall score.

Many factors contribute to a tree's growth in creating Champion Trees. State Champion Trees are recognized by a community, but few efforts have been made to preserve and study these unique natural resources. When a Champion Tree dies, its genetic memory is lost. Champion Trees are part of the larger category of "notable trees". The Colorado Tree Coalition considers trees to be notable if they are Champions, registered in some way (perhaps related to a famous or historical person, place or event) or are remnants of original forest, old growth stands or of a community as special based upon its species, uniqueness or contribution to the community. Native trees are considered for "notability" if they are remnants of original forest, old growth stands or survivors of catastrophic events.



Charleen Barr, Colorado State University Extension Master Gardener in Larimer County



Fort Collins and Loveland have Champions scattered on public and private property. Check out these Larimer County Champion Trees. Private trees can be viewed from the street only.

Map Key:
○ Private
● Public

FORT COLLINS :

1. Ohio buckeye (*Aesculus glabra*) in Grandview Cemetery (1900 W. Mountain Avenue) (public)
2. Peking lilac tree (*Syringa pekinensis*) at 701 E. Elizabeth (private)
3. Black maple (*Acer nigrum*) at 624 E. Elizabeth (private)
4. Manchurian oak (*Quercus fabri*) at Colorado State University, north of the Plant Sciences Building (public)
5. Ussurian pear (*Pyrus ussuriensis*) at Colorado State University, near the Nutrien Building (formerly Shepardson Building) (public)

LOVELAND:

1. Plains cottonwood (*Populus sargentii*) at 2520 Lincoln (behind Kinko's) (public)
2. Shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*) at 1157 E. 4th Street in the front yard (Second largest in the state) (private)
3. Bur Oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*) at 605 W. 9th Street, (fourth largest in state) (private)
4. Russian golden willow (*Salix alba vitellina*) at 102 S. St. Louis (located in the back yard) (private)
5. Northern catalpa* (*Catalpa speciosa*) at 2502 N. County Road 13 (private)

BERTHOUD:

1. Saucer Magnolia (*Magnolia x soulangiana*) at 110 Welch Avenue (private)

BELLVUE:

1. Crack Willow (*Salix fragilis*) at 5200 W. County Road 52E (second tree from the corner) (private)

ESTES PARK:

1. Whiplash willow (*Salix lucida caudata*) located .75 miles south of the intersection of Highway 36 and Fish Creek Road (public)
2. Bebb willow (*Salix bebbiana*), located between Lake Estes Trail and the water hazard on the Estes Park Golf Course (public)



Tree shown on Cover

Learn more about champion trees at coloradotrees.org/programs/?#champion

events 'n classes

October 19 » **Sauerkraut and Fermented Vegetables**
Larimer County Extension, 1525 Blue Spruce Dr., 6:00pm - 8:30pm,
\$25, larimer.extension.colostate.edu/classes-and-workshops

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

October 31 » **Homemade Ricotta & Mozzarella Cheese**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
1:30pm - 3:30pm, \$25, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

November 6 » **Kombucha Brewing at Home**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
10:30am - 12:00pm, \$18 in person and \$10 virtual,
fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

November 6 » **Natural Lip Balms**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
1:30pm - 3:30pm, \$25, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

November 13 » **Gardening Myths and Mysteries:
Learn the Truth**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
10:30am - 12:30pm, \$18 in person and \$10 virtual, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

November 13 » **Watercolor Journaling: Holiday Inspiration**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
9:30am - 12:30pm, \$60, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

November 20 » **Homemade Lotion Bars**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
10:30am - 12:30pm, \$25, fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

November 23 » **Holiday Open House**
Fort Collins Nursery, 2121 E. Mulberry St.,
9:00am - 5:00pm, Free Event, fortcollinsnursery.com

December 4 » **Holiday Wreath Making**
Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Ave.,
10:30am - 12:30pm; 1:30pm - 3:30pm, \$35,
fcgov.com/gardens/adult-classes

GREELEY

September 18 » **Greeley Farmers' Market**
Union Pacific Depot, 902 7th Ave., 9:00am - 12:00pm,
Free admission, continues every Saturday through October,
farmersmarket@greeleygov.com

LOVELAND

September 15 » **Bees, Butterflies, Moths and Bats Working
For Us - backyard actions we can take to protect them**
Loveland Garden Club (affiliated with the Colorado Federation
of Garden Clubs, Inc), All Saint's Episcopal Church, Ford Hall,
3448 N Taft Ave., 10:00am - 12:00pm, Free guest admission,
Lovelandgardenclub.com



Tony Koski,
Extension Turf Specialist,
Colorado State University

TREE-FRIENDLY LAWN CARE

In nature, you rarely find trees and grasses growing happily together. You have forests (few grasses), prairies (no trees) and the less common and ever-changing mixture of trees and grasses – the savanna. In our home landscapes we force trees and turf into a horticultural relationship that is often unhappy for one or both parties. Unfortunately, trees are often inadvertently injured by some lawn care practices. [Here are a few tips for keeping the tree-turf romance a healthy one for both parties:](#)

FIRST, when planting a new tree, create a grass-free, mulched zone (three to four feet across) around that new tree. Mulch circles make it much easier for young trees to get established when growing in a lawn – and it reduces the potential for mower and string trimmer injury to the tree's tender bark. Old, established trees will also benefit from a mulch ring around their base. No matter a tree's age, mower and string trimmer injury can result in disease and stress – often leading to tree failure or death.



SECOND, take care when using lawn weed control products around your trees. While crabgrass preventers used in the spring present no hazard to trees, products targeted towards existing dandelions and other weeds can damage trees if used at higher than recommended rates, are applied too often or sprayed on windy days. Whenever possible, spot treat individual weeds. Broadcast applications over the entire lawn are rarely necessary (most lawns aren't that weedy!) and blanketing a lawn with a weed and feed exposes the entire root system of a tree to the herbicide. Follow all directions regarding rate and frequency of application – and apply only on a calm day and when temperatures are less than 80 - 85 degrees Fahrenheit. Most other routine lawn care practices – watering, fertilizing, aerification – are beneficial to the trees growing in the landscape. Though they don't naturally like growing together in nature, practicing thoughtful lawn care can create a happy, healthy relationship for both trees and turf in your home landscapes.

For research-based answers to questions about your lawn and all parts of your home garden, visit www.extension.colostate.edu/garden. In Larimer County, Colorado Master Gardeners will answer your gardening and landscape questions by email: larimermg@gmail.com. For a small fee, you can schedule a Lawncheck visit to help solve more serious lawn problems (970.498.6000).

Tips for WINTER WATERING



The year 2021 marks my 18th year as a Front Range Coloradan. Here are a few things I have come to accept as fact: the mountains are west, drinking water straight from the tap is normal (and delicious) and the air is DRY. Without a water bottle in tow, I'm basically dust – especially in winter.

Except for a few significant morphological differences, plants don't feel too differently in winter. Long after irrigation systems have gone to rest and hose reels have been stored away, we need to think about watering our landscapes. Keep landscapes healthy with these winter watering rules of thumb.

MULCH

Prep plants this fall with mulch. Especially if plants were recently installed, heavily mulching around the base of each plant will reduce temperature fluctuations that could freeze/thaw young plants out of planting holes.

CHECK THE CALENDAR

If four weeks have passed since the last significant precipitation event (including irrigation), it may be time to water. Don't be tempted to turn on your irrigation system - a hose with nozzle is fine.

LET WATER SOAK IN ABOVE 40 DEGREES

Water during the middle of the day and only when the temperature is above 40 degrees, so water has time to percolate into the soil before the next freeze. Don't forget to remove hoses from spigots.

WATER THE YOUNG & THE OLD

Landscapes or landscaped areas that are less than one year old will need the most attention during a dry winter. If a landscape is many years or decades old, a dose of water is still welcome during a dry winter.

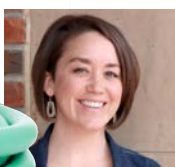
If you water nothing else during a dry spell, prioritize evergreens. Plants that hold onto their leaves throughout the winter have more surface area from which to lose moisture.

SUGGESTED VOLUME PER PLANT TYPE

- **Trees:** 10 gal for each in. of trunk diameter
- **Shrubs:** 5 gal
- **Perennials, ornamental grasses:** 1 gal

With your hose and a stopwatch, clock the amount of time it takes to fill a one-gallon bucket. This will reveal how many seconds you'll need to water each plant.

Take the time to water during a winter dry spell to keep landscapes healthy. Enjoy your winter and stay hydrated!



by Katie Collins,
Fort Collins Utilities

events 'n classes

September 18 » **Life is Gourd Oktoberfest**

Loveland Youth Gardeners, 2500 E 1st St., 9:00am - 3:00pm, \$1 ticket, 15 tickets for \$10, unlimited play wristbands \$25, concessions, lovelandyouthgardeners.org

September 19 » **Honey Festival @ the Loveland Farmer's Market**

Fairgrounds Park, 700 S. Railroad Ave., 9:00am - 1:00pm, Event is free, items available for purchase, facebook.com/CityofLovelandFarmersMarket

October 20 » **Horticultural Therapy and Its Empowering Effect on Youth Facing Challenges**

Loveland Garden Club, All Saint's Episcopal Church, Ford Hall, 3448 N Taft Ave., 10:00am - 12:00pm, Free guest admission, Lovelandgardenclub.com

October 23 » **Downtown Pumpkin Festival**

The Foundry Plaza at 3rd St., 10:00am - 3:00pm, Tickets sold online, downtownloveland.org/calendar

October 30 » **Carve Out Some Fun HarvestFest**

Loveland Youth Gardeners, 2500 E 1st St., Starts at 4:00pm, \$20 individual, family pack \$50, concessions, lovelandyouthgardeners.org

November 17 » **Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs Environmental, Gardening, Landscape Design and Flower Show Schools**

The Foundry Plaza at 3rd St., 10:00am - 3:00pm, Tickets sold online, downtownloveland.org/calendar

November 19 » **Downtown Festival of Lights**

Loveland Youth Gardeners, 2500 E 1st St., Starts at 4:00pm, \$20 individual, family pack \$50, concessions, lovelandyouthgardeners.org

November 20 » **Hap-pea Holidays at the Farm**

Loveland Youth Gardeners, 2500 E 1st St., 9:00am - 3:00pm, Wreath fundraiser pickup, concessions, lovelandyouthgardeners.org

December 4 » **Tree-mendous Holidays at the Farm**

Loveland Youth Gardeners, 2500 E 1st St., 9:00am - 3:00pm, Prices vary, lovelandyouthgardeners.org

December 15 » **Holiday Potluck: Bring a dish to share and a wrapped garden-related gift of \$40 or less to exchange**

Loveland Garden Club, All Saint's Episcopal Church, Ford Hall, 3448 N Taft Ave., 10:00am - 12:00pm, Free guest admission, Lovelandgardenclub.com

WINDSOR

September 15 » **Putting the Garden to Bed**

Treasure Island Demonstration Garden, 31500 Laku Lake Rd., 10:00am - 11:00 am, Free, recreationliveshere.com/154/Forestry



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AT THE GARDENS ON SPRING CREEK!

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- » Join us for urban homesteading, gardening, art, wellness classes and more
- » Enjoy special events for the whole family!

Plan your visit at fcgov.com/gardens



**THE GARDENS
ON SPRING CREEK**



PUMPKINS ON PARADE

PRESENTED BY



Save the date for a celebration of Halloween and the harvest featuring fun and festive activities for the whole family! Join us October 21 - 24 from 6 to 9 p.m. nightly!

Tickets available soon at fcgov.com/gardens

2145 Centre Avenue | Fort Collins, CO 80526 | 970.416.2486



CSU Extension in Larimer County

where university meets community

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- 4-H youth development
- Yard and garden

LarimerExtension.org
970-498-6000





Wait until spring to tidy up your yard. Spent plant material like flower stalks and dried ornamental grass provide food for birds and shelter for insects.

Fall

YARD & GARDEN CHECKLIST



WINTERIZE

Shut off your sprinkler no later than Oct. 1 and winterize your system then or soon after. It's also a good time to remove hoses from spigots and store them inside to prevent damage.



AERATE

Aeration improves lawn health and reduces maintenance by helping air and water reach the root system.



PRUNE

Most shrubs and trees should be pruned in fall and winter while dormant. The exceptions are early bloomers like dogwood and lilac. Prune those just after flowering in the spring.



WATER

Colorado winters are dry! If dryness persists for more than four weeks, and there's no snow on the ground, hand water plants, trees and shrubs when temps are above 40 degrees.