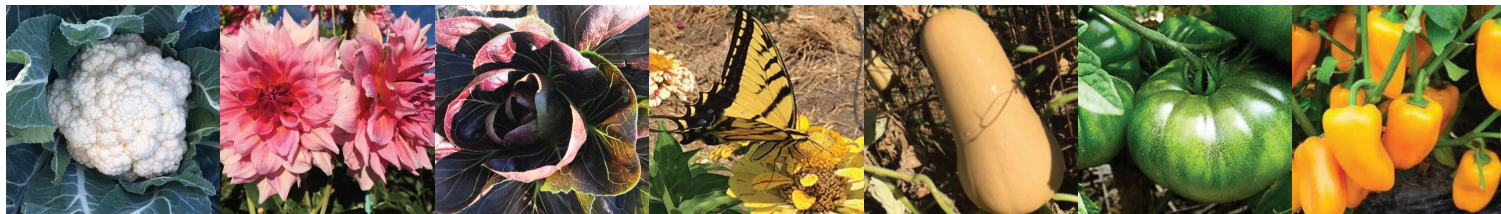




Community Garden News



Dear Gardeners,

Welcome to the 2019 gardening season! We are so glad to have you all back, and there will be a few new faces to greet as well. It is our goal to be a supportive, inclusive and enjoyable community. Thank you for taking the time to read through our 2019 contract so that we may all reap the benefits of our garden! We would like all visitors to sign in with the office, any regular helpers to be registered under your plot's registration form and to be aware of our policies & procedures.

The frost free spigot should be usable for winter watering. Please leave the hose the way you found it. (Off and coiled) If that is not the way you found it, please do so.

Each year, the fairground's staff decides when to turn the water on for the season. The last frost free date each spring is typically May 15th. If the water is turned on earlier due to warmer than usual weather, it is important to NOT use drip irrigation prior to that day. Please turn off the plot's main spigot and disconnect hoses when not in use. After the hose is disconnected, leave splitters OPEN to avoid water being trapped inside the splitter and freezing.

Happy Gardening!

Allison Appelhans
Garden Coordinator
303 678 6387



CSU Extension

The Extension office provides assistance and programs for citizens in five main areas: Agriculture, Horticulture, Family and Consumer Science, Natural Resources and 4-H Youth Programs.

Colorado State University Extension Mission Statement: Empower Coloradans to address important and emerging community issues using dynamic, science-based educational resources.

Please feel free to use our website as a reference tool for all things gardening and more. <https://boulder.extension.colostate.edu/horticulture/>

For Fact Sheets <https://extension.colostate.edu/publications-2/>

2019 Garden Policies <https://boulder.extension.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2019/03/Community-Garden-Policies-2019-1.pdf>

C o n t e n t s

Community Service
Healthy Gardens Tips
Current Events

Community Service

We ask that each gardener donate two hours of community service per plot in addition to the maintenance of your plot and pathways. We will have community work days for those of you who would like to work as a group. Feel free to work on your own with a **pre-approved** task. This does not need to be a physically demanding chore, rather the priority is to ensure that your time benefits the garden as a whole. We are happy to have unique suggestions for projects from you all!

Let the Garden Coordinator know if you are interested in any of the following projects or have ideas of your own.

Seed/Start/Division Swap

Gardeners could grow a few extra starts or divisions (seeds, veggies or flowers) to share. This could be a fun mixer and also try some new varieties of things.

Recycling

There are some recycling materials in the back of the garden that need to be taken to the CHARM Center for hard to recycle items in Boulder. If you have a truck, there is chicken wire, plastic PVC pipe and broken wooden benches and boxes that could all be recycled.

Weeding Trial Plots or Common Areas

Keep one or more of these areas tidy and weed free for the season; hops, grapes, berries, parking lot, compost dumpster area, gazebo and tool shed.

Tool and or Tiller Maintenance – On-going project.

Mailbox Installation

Install a fun/decorative mailbox for our guest book and newsletter copies. Think “Artsy” project for a friendly welcome to guests and gardeners alike.

Healthy Garden Tips

Soil sample time

A soil test is the best way to check the potential of your garden plot. It takes the guesswork out of deciding which amendments to add to your soil for the best results. Consider sharing your results with the Community Garden, it could benefit fellow gardeners and may be counted as community service time.

Quick Facts...

- Use a systematic sampling scheme, and gather a minimum of 5-10 subsamples throughout the field.
- Sampling depth depends on the crop and the tillage depth usually about 6-8 inches is sufficient.
- Sample plots every year for the most accurate analyses.
- Thoroughly air dry all soil samples within 12 hours after sampling, store in a plastic bag and keep cool.

Soil sample information forms are available in the Extension office.

Send samples to:

Colorado State University
Soil, Water & Plant Testing Laboratory
Room A319
Natural & Environmental Sciences Building
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-1120

<http://extension.colostate.edu/topic-areas/agriculture/soil-sampling-0-500/>

Planttalk Colorado

Early Vegetable Planting & Soil Prep

If a cold-frame isn't available to start early greens, wait until soil temperatures have warmed to 40 degrees F at a depth of 4 inches at 8 a.m. Soil temperatures recorded at the CSU campus weather station over the last five years show that soil typically reaches this temperature during the last few days of March. Daytime air temperatures that are consistently 40 degrees or more are also desirable. The list of cold tolerant vegetables includes broccoli, cabbage, kohlrabi, onions, lettuce, peas, radish, spinach and turnips.

If a winter cover crop of rye or winter peas was planted in the fall, it should be tilled in mechanically or turned under with a spade a month before planting or seeding new crops. Decomposing, turned under plant material (“green manure”) consumes soil oxygen and can create plant health problems if not tilled in ahead of time. This decomposition is necessary to achieve the benefits of planting the cover crop. These benefits include increasing soil fertility and building soil structure.

For more expert advice on over 500 topics, go to <http://planttalk.colostate.edu/topics/vegetables/>



Our volunteers are appreciated!



Around Town

Tuesday, Apr. 2 Free Day at The Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms in Littleton; 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday, Apr 6 at 10 a.m. – Getting Started in Vegetable Gardening with Mimi Yanus - Harlequin Gardens 303.939.9403 If you are new to Colorado, new to vegetable gardening, or have been unhappy with the results of your earlier attempts, this class is for you. Learn from Mimi what you need to know to make your new organic vegetable garden successful and bountiful, even in Colorado conditions! Class cost: \$15 <http://www.harlequingardens.com/classes/>

Saturday, Apr 6 at 1 p.m. – Succession Planting: optimizing planting times to increase garden yields with Tracey Parrish Learn the techniques and timing to maximize your garden space and keep your veggie garden in continual production throughout the seasons. This class provides participants with an extensive planting schedule table, outlining when and where to start your seeds, the time to transplant out and when to expect harvest. Tracey is an expert in culinary gardening. Class cost: \$15 <http://www.harlequingardens.com/classes/>

Monday, April 8 at 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Composting - Boulder County Parks & Open Space, Prairie Room North, (5201 Saint Vrain Rd., Longmont CO) <https://www.bouldercounty.org/environment/composting/compost-workshops/>

Saturday, Apr 13 at 10 a.m. – Edible Landscaping with Alison Peck Learn how to grow fruits, nuts, vegetables, vines and herbs in your yard, beautifully. Learn which plants are the most successful and how to integrate them into your landscape. Alison has been designing edible landscapes for 25 years; she owns Matrix Gardens landscaping. Class cost: \$15 <http://www.harlequingardens.com/classes/>

Saturday, Apr 13 at 1 p.m. – Do-it-Yourself Drip Irrigation with Alison Peck Drip irrigation can be easy! Come learn a simple, easy way to design and install a system that can be connected to an outside hose bib with a battery-operated timer, giving you an inexpensive automatic watering system. We will also discuss how to convert an existing sprinkler system to drip irrigation. Class cost: \$15 <http://www.harlequingardens.com/classes/>

Sunday, Apr. 14 Free Day at Denver Botanic Gardens Time: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday, Apr 14 at 1 p.m. – Spring Pruning with Mikl Brawner

There are shrubs that should not be pruned in the spring and there are shrubs, roses and vines that are best pruned in spring. Learn which to prune when, and how to prune for strength, beauty, and production of fruit and flowers. (This is not a repeat of the Fall Pruning Class.) Class cost: \$15 <http://www.harlequingardens.com/classes/>

Friday, Apr 19 Compost Delivery

Sat, Apr 20 at 1 p.m. – Fearless Rose Pruning with Eve Brawner

Eve will demonstrate and discuss why and how to prune roses in a fearless and confident manner. She will also discuss feeding, watering, etc. to maximize your success with growing roses. Wear long pants, long sleeves, gloves, and a hat and be prepared to be outside. Class cost: \$15 <http://www.harlequingardens.com/classes/>

Sun Apr 28 at 1 p.m. – Growing Grapes on the Front Range with John Martin Thanks to recent development in grape varieties, you, too can successfully grow table grapes and wine grapes on the Colorado Front Range. This workshop will present an overview of varieties suitable for this region, considerations for site location, trellising options, pest protection measures, and a brush across two basic pruning techniques. Whether you are interested in fruit or wine, let's explore how the taste of your grapes and wines will define this locality. John and his partner, Kayann Short, tend 9 different varieties of grapes and make wine at their CSA farm (Stonebridge) in Longmont, CO. Class cost: \$15 <http://www.harlequingardens.com/classes/>