



COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS

The beauty of gardening



TOP NEWS OF THE MONTH

NEW COMMUNITY GARDEN MANAGER

▶▶▶ GRANT ORVIS

I was born and raised here in Longmont and have been gardening most of my life. I attended college at Arizona State University and obtained my Ph.D. from the University of Texas-Houston. Upon moving back to Colorado, I worked as an agricultural consultant until accepting this position. I am looking forward to meeting you all and sharing our communal knowledge about gardening and plants.

WHAT TO KNOW <<<

You may have noticed that the far south trellis pole from the hops has rotted and fallen down. Rather than replacing the pole, we are going to give away those 8 hops plants and begin a research trial on potatoes. This will add a new community service opportunity as the areas where the trials will be held will require weeding and other attention. Please contact the garden manager if you want in on this community service.

POTATO RESEARCH TRIAL BEGINNING THIS SPRING

SOIL HEALTH AND TESTING

»»» WHAT YOU CAN DO

Colorado State University recently opened their soil, water, and plant testing laboratory at the CSU Spur campus in Denver. Soil, water, and plant material can be sent to them for various tests regarding soil and plant health, and overall status of water. [The laboratory website is linked here](#). The community garden has also connected with a soil expert who has offered to provide free analysis of test results sent to the laboratory where he is certified. Please contact the garden manager if you are interested in this option.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Mark, in plot 21/24, will be managing donations from community gardeners this year. Thank you Mark! We are looking for a new medium to large sized cooler for the food bank donations.

»»» TILLER RENTAL

We have two tillers available for rent at the garden. Before you use the tiller, make sure to come into the Boulder County Extension office during business hours to sign the waiver and pay the \$5 rental fee. Only premium grade gas should be used & please do not mix oil with the gas! We try to keep the gas cans in the shed filled with premium for your use. If you find them empty or run into issues with the tiller, let the garden manager know.

»»» SEED LIBRARY

The Longmont Public Library has opened a Seed Library in their lobby. You can get up to 6 packets for free!





NOW IS THE TIME

»»» SOME AWESOME APRIL TIPS

Now is the time to fertilize your iris. Do so lightly with a 5-10-5 and water in well. Fertilize your other spring flowering bulbs, such as tulips, as they go out of bloom. This will allow for more foliage growth and in turn prepare the bulbs for next seasons bloom. Plant raspberries and blackberries as soon as they become available. Now is the time to start your regular insect and weed patrol. Turn over the leaves of plants as you walk your garden and inspect for insects. Carrying a jar of soapy water will be useful to place unwanted insects. As you walk through your garden, pull weeds as found.

CSU EXTENSION GARDEN SERIES 2023

Tremendous Tomatoes
Wednesday, April 12, 12pm-1pm MT
Instructor: Cassey Anderson, Adams
County Extension
Registration required

Right Plant, Right Place for Low-
Water Landscapes
Friday, April 14, 12pm-1pm MT
Instructors: Amy Lentz, Weld County
Extension and Alison O'Connor,
Larimer County Extension
Registration required

Beetles Buggin' You? Strategies for
Managing Emerald Ash Borer and
Japanese Beetles
Friday, April 21, 12pm-1pm MT
Instructor: Lisa Mason
Registration required

Edible Gardening
Friday, April 28, 12pm-1pm MT
Instructor: Cassey Anderson, Adams
County Extension
Registration required

[A full list can be found here.](#)

COMMUNAL PATHWAYS

Please remember to keep
communal pathways including
spaces in between garden
plots clear so that people can
get through with
wheelbarrows and other gear.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Each gardener is required to donate two hours of community service per plot in addition to maintaining your plot and pathways. You can work on tasks independently once your task has been pre-approved. 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. Please confirm your project with the garden manager before getting started. Projects need to be completed by November 15th. Let the garden manager know if you are interested in various projects or have ideas for a project. A community work day will take place in May.