**MAY 2018** 

#### Dear Gardeners,

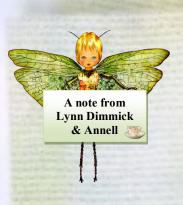
I hope your gardens are becoming green; I know the public gardens are. Speaking of public gardens, the bench in honor of Lucy Ginley is in place thanks to the perseverance of Mark Branch and Mary Twombly. It is lovely. There will be a celebration in June.

Karla Briggs will be giving a presentation on gardening at high altitude May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Evergreen Lutheran Church at 5:30. Be sure to make reservations (720-248-8757).

Our May meeting will be at the Evergreen Lutheran Church. Annell will have the usual refreshments, but is requesting that everyone bring a coffee cup from home. After the meeting there will be a work day at the public gardens.

I hope to see you there!





# NEED A CURE FOR SPRING FEVER?

Play in the dirt with wild abandon!

EGC TUESDAY MAY 8th MEETING will be a workday for all public gardens!

Toss willy nilly in your car and meet at the Lutheran Church on Hwy 73 Tuesday, May 8th at 9:00 am. Since we will be meeting at the church, we will not have access to a full kitchen. Therefore, hospitality is asking everyone to please bring their own coffee cup! The morning will start with coffee, breakfast and a quick meeting before heading out to the gardens.

## WHAT TO BRING?

Coffee Cup
Gardening Gloves
Shade Hat
Sunscreen
Water Bottle
Favorite Hand Tools
A Hearty Appetite
Goofy Grin

Questions? Not sure which garden to work in?

Contact Lynn Dimmick at 303-670-0108

or find her at the meeting!



# MAY 18, 2018 8:45 am EGC Visit to the Denver Botanical Gardens

Meet at the Bergen Fire Station 8:45 am to carpool. Will leave promptly at 9:00 am

Lindy Doty will be sharing her
Denver garden from 12 – 2 only.
Be sure to stop by on your way home
from the Botanic Gardens
Her address is:
775 Krameria Street
Denver. CO

# MAY 19, 2018 9:00 am Water Board Seeding Project

Meet at JP Total parking area at 8:45 to carpool to site by 9.

Please sign up with Annell Hoy (annell517@yahoo.com or text 720-438-5502 prior to this date for carpooling information and materials to bring that day.

Thank you for your participation!





# **Evergreen Garden Club Minutes April 10, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by President Joan Evashevski. Board members present were Cherie Luke, Mary Twombly, Kris Waggoner, and Susan Garcia.

The club sang happy birthday to our members born in April.

President: Joan made the following announcements:

Evergreen Garden Guru Presentation May 9, 2018 at the Evergreen Lutheran Church; 5:30 to 7:00 pm. The presentation is free and reservations are advised.

Private Pockets of Paradise Steamboat Springs garden tour July 14, 2018

Trip to the Denver Botanic Gardens Friday May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – an informal tour; a signup sheet was passed.

EGC Meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup> will be at Evergreen Lutheran Church; refreshments, a brief meeting, then work day; bring work clothes and tools.

Joan presented a motion, formally proposed by Gloria Owens, to amend the bylaws to switch maintenance of the club email list from the tech officer to the second vice president (membership). The motion was seconded and passed on a show of hands.

Joan called for a motion to approve last month's minutes; minutes were approved.

First Vice President: Cherie Luke - (also nominating committee), Carol Herczeg will be our next President; Lindy Doty offered to host the members after the Botanic Garden Tour. Regarding the June meeting program, the greenhouse tour will be cancelled and replaced with a memorial bench installation celebration.

Second Vice President: Mary Twombly - Lucy Ginley Memorial bench will be shipped April 20<sup>th</sup>, to arrive April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Secretary's report: none (Cindy is with her Mother).

Treasurers report: Kris Waggoner - Reviewed financials, reminded members that 2018-2019 dues will be due September 1-30 of this year.

Earth Day: Diana Aldridge announced she will be contacting those who have agreed to volunteer for Earth Day Fair, Lake house, April 21st 10-3.

Garden Tour: Gloria Owens committee working hard. Sundance will give a 10% discount to the owners of the Garden Tour gardens to help prepare for the tour and Sundance was very helpful in the gardens for the tour.

# **Evergreen Garden Club Minutes (Continued) April 10, 2018**

Hospitality and water board project: the project is moving along, and will be finished April 18<sup>th</sup>. Seeds and plants will be installed after Mother's day; date to be determined.

Public Gardens: Lynn Dimmick reminded members to come equipped to our next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am. Cherie introduced our speaker, Margaret Rode, who spoke on High Altitude Food Gardening.



## **Hummers are here!**

A note from CSU CCC Extension

Every April that familiar buzz makes us smile! After their long journey from wintering in warmer climates, the Broad-tailed and Rufous hummingbirds are now frantically searching for food. Male hummingbirds arrive first to establish their territories; a good food source helps them choose a desirable site.

We're in luck since they generally nest at elevations above 6,000 feet! No need to buy the powdered hummingbird nectar mix – instead, make homemade hummingbird nectar. All you need is 4 parts water to 1 part white granulated table sugar – boil the water, stir in the sugar until completely dissolved, and let it cool.

Adding more sugar DOES NOT HELP the hummers; in fact too much sugar can cause liver damage. Don't use dye, food coloring or commercial nectars — they have chemicals the birds don't need and could be harmful. DO NOT USE HONEY – it will quickly ferment and become poisonous to the birds. Make sure your feeder has some red trim to attract them, and keep feeders clean. Of course there are many native wildflowers that they are attracted to as well; feel free to contact me for more information.

**Christine M. Crouse** Director/Agent, CSU Extension in Clear Creek County 303-679-2424 (Office)









# UNDERSTANDING THE FERTILIZER LABEL

The label on a bag of fertilizer shows the percentages of nutrients in the mix. The three numbers shown most prominently, called the N-P-K ratio, refer to the amounts of nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K) in the bag. For example, an 8-4-4 fertilizer contains, by weight, 8 percent nitrogen, 4 percent phosphorus, and 4 percent potassium. Nitrogen is the most critical element, promoting good foliage growth and flowers.



On June 21 at 10 am there will be a dedication ceremony for Lucy's memorial bench, which has now been installed in the Fire Station garden. There will be a gathering with light refreshments in the meeting room after the ceremony.

All EGC members are invited!

If you have any questions please contact Leslie Jordan at <a href="mailto:fairyfoot@aol.com">fairyfoot@aol.com</a>





# 17th Annual Great Sale of Organic Garden Plants

Tomatoes – dozens of varieties – mostly wonderful heirlooms Peppers! Other Vegetables – ALL ORGANIC! Also, annuals, perennials & ground covers!

Most were seed-started by our members or divided from our own organic gardens.



# Saturday, May 19, 2018 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

(Come Rain or Shine! - we're warm and dry inside!!)

# St. John's Church and School 700 S. Franklin St., Denver, CO

(just east of Washington Park - access from east side, follow signs!)

Payment: CASH only

(Please bring a watertight container to carry your purchases!)

Presented by

Front Range Organic Gardeners



For more info: www.gardenfrog.org or e-mail frog.plant.sale@gmail.com

Over 90% of FROG's sale proceeds benefit public education on organic gardening, and grants to other non-profits who practice and promote organic gardening principles

# **RAISED BEDS - THE EASY SOLUTION**

There's a simple solution to dealing with soil that is too shallow or drains poorly: heap soil on top of it and grow above grade. To form the sides of a raised bed, use landscape timbers, decay-resistant wood, brick, concrete block or stone; or simply make a firm mound with sloping sides and a surrounding ditch. Plan to have the soil surface within the raised bed one foot or more above the normal grade outside.

Dig a 4-inch layer of organic material into the existing soil, going down a foot or more if you can. Then add topsoil (taken from another part of the garden or purchased), and dig it into the improved native soil, adding another 4-inch layer of organic matter at the same time. Water the bed deeply and let it settle before you plant. If it sinks significantly, mix more topsoil into the bed.

Resource: Sunset 365 Days of Garden Color

If possible, line the bottom of your raised bed with wire cloth before filling to keep the pocket gophers and voles from coming up from underneath.







# This Month's Designer Plant Combinations

By Scott Calhoun



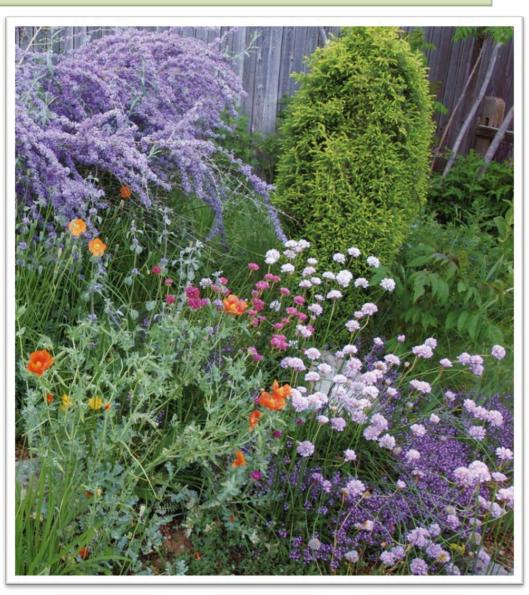
Silver Fountain Butterfly Bush Buddleia alternifolia 'Argentea' Zone 4



'Gold Cone' juniper Juniperus communis 'Gold Cone' Zone 5



'Melton Pastels' pincushion plant Knautia macedonica 'Melton Pastels' Zone 5





Sea thrift Armeria pseudarmeria Zone 5



Soapwort Saponaria ocymoides Zone 3



Yellow Horned Poppy Glaucium flavum Zone 6



# The Wild Iris Directory!

Throughout each year new members come and go, and rather than repeating past articles or information, I thought it might be easier to include a *directory-of-sorts*, to make it easier to find information on past topics, such as pocket gopher and vole elimination, native plants, the plant select program, etc. All of our newsletters, past and present are available to view directly from our website at <a href="www.evergreengardenclub.org">www.evergreengardenclub.org</a> but if you are looking for something specific, check the topics below, determine what information you would like to investigate, go to the website and choose 'Newsletters' and then choose the Month and Year of the Wild Iris Newsletter that information can be found in.

### Wild Iris - September 2016

Becoming a Habitat Hero (Registering your garden) Attracting and Identifying Colorado Butterflies

#### Wild Iris - October 2016

Growing Degree Units (Why my perennials aren't flowering)

Plant Select (Indebt information on the program and which plants are suitable for High Altitude gardens)

#### Wild Iris - November 2016

Help for Winter Burn (how to prevent evergreens from turning brown over the winter)
Heated Bird Baths

Gifts for Gardeners

#### Wild Iris - December 2016

Those Vile Voles (Eliminating voles) Notes from Landscape Design 101

#### Wild Iris - October 2017

Wrapping Young Trees to Prevent Sunscald Fall Watering

#### Wild Iris – November 2017

Pruning Evergreens Gift Ideas for Gardeners

#### Wild Iris - December 2017

Low Water Native Plants for Colorado Gardens Mountains 7,500 and above

#### Wild Iris - February 2017

Creating a Winter Garden Notes from Landscape Design 101

Please send any corrections, additions, or submissions for the Wild Iris to louiseheern@gmail.com

## Wild Iris – March 2017

Designing with Conifers

### Wild Iris – April 2017

About Pocket Gophers (Elimination)
Working Cats Program (Putting feral cats to work in your barn)
Adding Organic Matter (what, when and how much)

#### Wild Iris – May 2017

Ornamental Grasses for Dry Conditions and High Altitudes Dividing Grasses (how and when)

#### **June 2017**

Mountain Water Issues – How to get around them without breaking the law or irritating neighbors



