

# PETALS

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## LOVELAND GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER VOLUME 18 , NUMBER 9 May 2018

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### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I write this message we are just a few days from the plant sale, and I am praying for good weather. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped preparing for the sale and everyone who will work at the sale. I especially want to thank Donna for her outstanding leadership and Michael for his hard work and use of his backyard..

After the two exhausting days; setting up the sale and the actual sale day, it will be time to have some fun, relax and socialize. For those of you who are new to the club, we have a potluck at our May meeting. There will be a few announcements, but no speaker and no business meeting. So please plan to attend this meeting when we have more time to meet new people and talk with old friends.

In June we will have our annual garden tour. This tour is for club members, and it is a lot of fun and a good way to learn about some new plants and gardening techniques. We will visit the gardens of four members; John Murphy, Michael Walter, Elizabeth Darling and Susan Panico. We will meet at the church on June 20 at **8:30 am** and car pool to the gardens. Maps and directions will be available before the tour. Plan to bring a sack lunch. We will eat at Susan's house.

I look forward to seeing you at the May potluck and the June garden tour. Barb

### NEXT MEETING / HOSTS AND PROGRAM

May 16, 2018 Potluck (Bring you favorite ) 10AM at the church.  
Hosts are Cathy Kipp, Karen Jacobs, John Murphy

### BIRTHDAYS IN THE CLUB

MAY 5-22 Ronni Clark 5-28 Janet Wagner JUNE 6/4 Vera Lever 6-14  
Nancy Hollenbeck 6-20 Clare Skolnik 6-22 Linda MacArthur 6-23 Linda  
Hollingshed 6-25 Jan Maynard 6-28 Ann Higgs JULY 7-11 Karen Jacobs  
7-16 Jacque Gustafson AUG 8-6 Sandy Brewer 8-12 Irma Finnegan  
8-14 William Hamlin 8-31 Barb Near

### EVENTS IN NORTHERN COLORADO May-13 ~ August-13

No newsletter during the summer.

May 11 LGC pricing for the Plant Sale, at the church. 8 AM. Bring plants from your garden, items for bake sale, marking pens, boxes for patrons to transport plants, and items for Garden Related Garage Sale. **Please be there by 8AM.**

May 12 Plant Sale and Antique & Artisan Market presented by Loveland Garden Club. All Saint's Episcopal Church, 3448 N. Taft, Loveland; Time: 9 am - 2 pm; Annuals, perennials, vegetable starts, herbs, silent auction, live music, garage sale, bake sale, vintage garden collectibles, artisan market. 970-342-9341 ***Please be there by***

## **7AM.**

May 12 - 13 Spring Plant Sale The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturday and 12 - 5 p.m. on Sunday; This event supports horticulture programs at CSU, Front Range Community College, High Plains Environmental Center, CSU Forest Service and The Gardens on Spring Creek; See website for details; 970-416-2486

May 19 "Growing Food 101: Grow a Thriving Food Garden" by Andrea Vanderbilt The Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins; Time: 10 am - 12 p.m.; Fee: \$18; Call 970-416-2486 to register or register online.

May 19 Bloomapalooza Butterfly Pavilion & Insect Center, in Westminster; Time: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Indoor/outdoor events for the whole family: ladybug releases, plant sale, plant petting zoo and other fun garden activities; Standard admission fees; See [www.butterflies.org](http://www.butterflies.org) for details.

May 19 17th Annual Great Sale of Organic Garden Plants - presented by Front Range Organic Gardeners (FROG) St. John's Lutheran Church and School, 700 S. Franklin St., Denver 80209; (Across from Washington Park, enter from east side) Time: 9 am - 1 pm; Payment: CASH only; See [www.gardenFROG.org](http://www.gardenFROG.org).

June 5 Free Day Denver Botanic Gardens; 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; 720-865-3501

June 8 & 9 Longmont Symphony Guild Festival of Flowers Garden Tour Location: 5 gardens in Longmont. Time: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Tickets: \$15 Information: [www.longmontsymphony.org](http://www.longmontsymphony.org) Click on Support. Benefits: Longmont Symphony Guild

June 16 Native Plant Garden Tour Location: 4 gardens in the Boulder area Time: 9 am - 1 pm Tickets: \$20 member, \$30 non-member; See website for information about book signing, special guests, etc. Information and Tickets: <https://conps.org/mfm-event-calendar> Presented by the Colorado Native Plant Society in partnership with Boulder County Audubon Society

June 20 Member's Garden Tour, Meet at the church 8:30 to form car pools

June 23 Greeley Garden Tour Location: gardens in the Greeley area Tickets and Information: \$15, Purchase online or see website for locations where tickets may be purchased; [www.GreeleyGardenTour.org](http://www.GreeleyGardenTour.org) Benefits: Poudre Learning Center

June 23 Junior League Terrace and Garden Tour Location: gardens in Landings Neighborhood in Southeast Fort Collins Time: Tickets: \$20; \$35 VIP; Available online - see website. Information: [www.jlfortcollins.org](http://www.jlfortcollins.org) Benefits: The Junior League of Fort Collins' education and charitable endeavors

June 23 Loveland Garden Tour & Art Show Location: gardens in Springs at Mariana in SW Loveland Time: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Tickets: Available online and at Loveland Youth Gardeners. Information: [www.LovelandYouthGardeners.org](http://www.LovelandYouthGardeners.org), 970-669-7182 Benefits: Loveland Youth Gardeners programs Notes: Features the sale of art for the garden, including a silent auction.

## **THINGS TO DO IN YOUR GARDEN THIS SUMMER**

Weed, plant, enjoy, harvest, plant cool crops, cleanup

## **MAY**

- \* You can plant tender annuals, perennials, herbs and summer-flowering bulbs once the danger of frost is past—around Mother’s Day along the Front Range. Be sure to harden off young plants prior to planting them outdoors.
- \* Begin deadheading (pinching or cutting off dead flowers) once annual and perennial flowers bloom. This improves the appearance of plants and promotes continued bloom. Cut back the foliage of spring-blooming bulbs only after it has died.
- \* Roses can safely be pruned in early May except at the coldest elevations. Cut off all dead and weak canes. Remove canes that cross or rub against others. Prune the remaining canes back to healthy tissue—usually to a length of 6 to 12 inches. The cut should be made at an angle about 1/4 inch above an outward pointing bud eye. (A bud eye is a green nodule that produces new leafy growth).
- \* When you purchase plants for your containers, don't limit yourself to buying only annuals. Herbs, ornamental grasses, summer-blooming bulbs and perennials can also go into containers. The foliage and fragrance of many herbs make them great additions to container gardens.
- \* Plant tomatoes when the danger of frost is past and the soil has warmed up. Be sure to harden off tomato bedding plants prior to planting. Popular varieties for Colorado gardens include 'Big Beef', 'Celebrity', 'Early Girl' and 'Medina'.
- \* Fertilize lawns with a nitrogen fertilizer during May to mid-June. For tall fescue, Buffalo grass, and Bermuda grass use 1/2 to 1 pound of nitrogen per 1000 square feet of lawn. Use one lb of nitrogen per 1000 square feet for Kentucky bluegrass.
- \* Sow warm-season grass, such as Buffalo grass, in May or June. You may also sow cool-season lawns in spring, although the preferred time is late summer or early fall.
- \* Don't assume that your sprinkler system or drip system is working properly in spring just because it was fine last autumn when it was shut down for the winter. You should check to be sure all the sprinkler heads and drip emitters are functioning properly.
- \* By mid-May be on the alert for garden pests. Early detection often provides an opportunity to manage pests with interventions that do not have a negative impact on the environment and beneficial insects.
- \* Plant above ground crops in waxing moon
- \* Weeds out, seeds and plants in (after hardening off)
- \* Plant glads, dahlias, calla lilies, freesias and lilies-of-the-valley
- \* Put supports up for peonies & glads
- \* Repot houseplants (but nights too cold to set outside)
- \* Feed existing roses with food & systemic
- \* Plant new roses
- \* Shop annuals early for best selection
- \* Use floating row covers for cool nights over annuals
- \* Begin watering and mowing lawn at the highest setting
- \* Support local garden clubs & small nurseries
- \* Fert every three weeks starting May 12
- \* WATER, WATER, WATER
- \* Create a new “spot” of interest

## **JUNE**

- \* **Compost Tea (1/3 bucket of compost, water to top, brew 3-4 days, strain & dilute w water to color of weak tea. Apply to soil or directly to foliage with hose-end sprayer)**
- \* **Plant corn, cukes, squashes, toms, herbs, tender annuals for color and pollinators– cosmos, marigold, morning glory, portulaca, nasturtium, sunflower and zinnia**

- \* Pick herbs often, dry in bundles-heads down or freeze for pesto
- \* Pinch flowering heads of asters & mums for fall bloom (until mid-August).

## JULY

- \* Water roses in AM, cut to first leaf with 5 leaflets when deadheading or picking
- \* Thin carrots, beets and herbs with a scissor (don't uproot seedlings)
- \* Feed & possibly use insecticide for roses
- \* Visit demonstration gardens
- \* Control mosquitoes
- \* Remove bulb foliage
- \* Stake crops that need it, tie up vines
- \* Harvest during the cooler times of the day
- \* Stop harvesting rhubarb and asparagus
- \* Release beneficial insects
- \* Prune early blooming bushes such as pussy willow, forsythia, weigela, mock orange, spirea & lilac up to 1/3 (after blooms fade)
- \* Thin apples or other fruit that has set to encourage larger fruit for harvest
- \* Water, water, water
- \* Deadhead - especially marigolds, verbena, petunias, pansies; cut individual blooms off iris and lilies flower stems as they wither. Remove entire flower stalk only after the last bloom is finished.

## AUGUST

- \* After trimming poppies, fill in the gaps with container-grown annuals
- \* Dig iris bed and amend with non-Nitrogen before replanting. Save rhizomes with healthy new leaf fans.
- \* Cut back leggy annual in containers by half – feed weekly
- \* Trap earwigs and slugs with damp, loosely rolled up newspapers, put in trash in morning
- \* Soaker hoses and drip irrigation best in hot weather
- \* Mulch around trees and shrubs
- \* Fertilize peony
- \* Weed & Water
- \* Deadhead, except for roses. Allow hips to form.
- \* Keep pinching basil flowers to produce new leaves
- \* Stop fert roses, shrubs & trees
- \* Cut back irrigation to harden off for frost
- \* Harvest
- \* Consider replacing heat-stressed lawns on south facing hillsides and along sidewalks & driveways with heat tolerant ground covers, creeping junipers, daylilies, cotoneasters, tall sedum, lamb's ears, woolly thyme and yarrow.
- \* Second crops starts – consider short season carrots.

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER !

