



growit

Serving Colorado Mountain Communities ... & You!



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Protect your plants' roots with bark mulch



For availability & pricing on bulk bark mulch, go to TheLandscapeCenter.com and click on "Bark, Compost & Topsoil".

Mulch is essential in a dry climate area as in Colorado. Mulching minimizes evaporation from the soil surface, holding in much needed moisture for healthy roots. This is particularly important in a new garden or landscape where there is a lot of space between plants. Mulch also reduces weed growth and helps control erosion.

Mulch helps protect roots in freezing weather and keeps soil temperatures low in the heat of the summer. Mulch protects plant roots from getting overheated, and it reduces transpiration. Transpiration is "perspiration for plants," the water plants lose through their leaves from heat.

For perennial and annual beds, The Landscape Center highly recommends Soil Pep. It is a very fine ground bark that gives your garden a finished look and makes the colors really pop!

Water landscapes efficiently to conserve water

With dry conditions continuing throughout Colorado and much of the West, responsible use of water on landscapes is a must. Landscape experts with Colorado State University Cooperative Extension and the Green Industries of Colorado suggest following basic conservation principles that will maximize Colorado's limited water supply and encourage healthy, hardy and drought-resistant landscapes.

General watering hints:

Lawns and planting beds should be watered according to their needs based on soil moisture levels. To check soil moisture, insert a 6-inch screwdriver into the soil. If it can be easily inserted, the soil doesn't need water.

- Water at night. Water lawns and other landscapes at night, between 9 p.m. and 9 a.m., but not during the heat of the day or when the wind is blowing. Set sprinklers to hit only landscapes, not sidewalks, driveways, windows, etc.
- Look for footprints. Water landscapes when footprints or mower tracks become easily visible on grass or when large areas of the lawn take on a bluish-gray color.
- Has it rained? Skip watering on days following one-half inch or more of rain. On cool, cloudy days, plants use less water and there is less evaporation, which increases the time between watering.
- Check sprinkler systems. Check to see how long

each zone is scheduled to run and adjust the timer accordingly. A shade zone will require less water than a hot, sunny area and the cooler seasons require less water than hot summer months. Check sprinkler heads frequently to make sure they are functioning properly. Older timers may not be adjustable to a three-day cycle. Learn how to operate those systems manually to meet watering needs.

- Watering with a hose? Use household timers as a reminder to move or stop soaker hoses and sprinklers. Check the amount of water that sprinklers put out by placing a shallow container like a tuna fish can in the yard to measure water. This will help determine how long a landscape should be watered to apply an amount of water recommended by local utility services or homeowners associations.
- Newly planted landscapes take more water. Establishing new plants will initially require more water, but watering cycles should be adjusted to maintenance levels after landscapes are established. Mulching conserves moisture and can make a difference in water conservation on new and established landscapes. In general, trees are established two to three years after they are planted. Most flowers are established within two to three weeks, but herbaceous perennials may take up to eight weeks. New sod is established in three weeks and newly seeded grass is established in five weeks.

- CSU Cooperative Extension

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Look for the yellow mailbox
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* * *

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PROUD MEMBER:

Associated Landscape Contractors of Colorado, Colorado Nursery & Greenhouse Assoc., Garden Centers of Colorado, Western Colorado Contractors Assoc., Professional Landscape Network



Featured Tree

30-40% off



Ponderosa Pine

Pinus ponderosa

Height: 30+' Width: 15+'

Excellent as a wind break and privacy block, Ponderosas are easily identified by the long, dark-green, soft needles. They will grow in a wide range of soil conditions so are drought and salt tolerant ... although they prefer moist soil.

Trees, shrubs & perennials can be planted until the ground freezes. Watch for articles and tips for fall planting in our next few issues of 'Growit' or go to TheLandscapeCenter.com and click on "Expert Advice".



Arriving Soon!

Fall mums, asters, bulbs and other colorful

flowers



Gift Cards available

Liquid Fence Repellent
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Vail Cascade Resort & Spa



GH Daniels Division Highlight: FLOWER CREW



The Flower Crew Division of GH Daniels has had quite a busy summer with residential and commercial customers. Foremen Suzy & Linda along with their crew members Mayra, Rosayra, Margarita and Emily and with the help of Maintenance Foreman, Ricky and his crew, have planted and maintained properties including Vail Marriott, Vail Cascade Resort & Spa, The Lodge at Vail, Marriott Streamside, Vail Valley residences and many more. To learn more about this service go to TheLandscapeCenter.com.

"Carefully positioned trees can save up to 25% of a household's energy consumption for heating and cooling."

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