



*March 2026
Newsletter*

We will hold our next lunchtime meeting on Thursday, March 12

12:00; LUNCH IS \$15.00

Idaho Springs Elks Lodge

RSVP is not required. Potential members are welcome!

The topic will be

“Pollinator Gardens”

presented by Pam Carlstrom from Sundance Gardens.

Please bring suggestions of worthy causes that the club might want to contribute to, so we can discuss this at the meeting

2026 MEETING AND EVENT SCHEDULE

April 9, 2026

Make a stained glass mosaic for your garden. Bring an item to mosaic (rock, brick, stepping stone, small bird house, bottle, etc) to the meeting. All other materials will be provided. Presented by Tobi Howell & Michelle Tyler. There will be an evening meeting on this date also. Location TBD.

May 9, 2026

Plant Giveaway and Bake Sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Project Support Senior Center.

May 14, 2026

Annual Meeting & Installation of Officers; Seed Library assembly.

June 5-6, 2026

The Annual Plant Sale is on Friday and Saturday, JUNE 5 & 6. Plant delivery is Thursday morning, June 4, and the Members Only Party is that night from 3-6 p.m.



February Meeting Recap

Debbi Novotny gave a presentation on Hydroponic Gardening. Go to [Click Here](#) for the presentation outline and product info.

columbinegardenclub.com

Check our website for info on all of our past and future events!

If you would like to add the garden club events to your own calendar use the "Subscribe to Calendar" button at the bottom of the "What We're Planning" page. There are four calendar types that are supported. If you have trouble and need help adding to your calendar, please contact Tobi Howell for help.

tobiannah03@gmail.com or 772-341-2349

APRIL CGC MEETING FEATURES A UNIQUE ART PROJECT Thursday, April 9th

**Make a stained glass
mosaic for your garden.**

Bring an item to mosaic (rock, brick, stepping stone, small bird house, bottle, etc) to the meeting. All other materials will be provided. Presented by Tobi Howell & Michelle Tyler.



Rooted in Resilience – Webinar Series by Evergreen Fire

Evergreen Fire/Rescue Wildland Division presents an online five-part speaker series, taking a deeper dive into our forested environment. Join online for these free webinars:

- **Effects of disturbance on tree level resistance in ponderosa pine trees along the Colorado Front Range**

Presenter: Kelby Woodard, Clear Creek Watershed and Forest Health Partnership, Forest & Mitigation Program Manager

Date/Time: **Monday March 2, 6-7pm**

Overview: My thesis research shows that thinning and low-severity wildfire not only reduce fuels, but significantly increase growth and resin-based defenses in ponderosa pine trees, strengthening resistance to beetles and drought.

Attend virtually - [Zoom Link for March 2, 6-7pm](#)

- **Co-Benefits of Fuel & Restoration Treatments**

Presenter: Caden Chamberlain, Senior Forest and Fire Ecology Research Associate, CO Forest Restoration Institute

Date/Time: **Monday March 9, 6-7pm**

Overview: I will discuss recent empirical research from across the western US exploring the effects of fuel reduction and restoration treatments on outcomes including burn severity, infrastructure survival, containment success, landscape resilience, and wildlife habitat.

Attend virtually - [Zoom Link for March 9, 6-7pm](#)

- **Aspen as a Green Fuel Break: Opportunities & Challenges**

Presenter: Max Cook, Senior Wildfire Analyst and Research Associate, CO Forest Restoration Institute

Date/Time: **Monday March 16, 6-7pm**

Overview: Aspen trees have long been considered less flammable than conifers, especially across the intermountain West. Still, they do burn when the conditions align. This presentation will highlight the recent science on fire behavior in aspen forests and focus on the opportunities and challenges associated with using targeted aspen management to create and maintain green fuel breaks.

Attend virtually - [Zoom Link for March 16, 6-7pm](#)

UPCOMING CLASSES AT ECHTER'S

To get speaker info and class descriptions go to:

<https://www.echters.com/Events/Calendar.htm>

Saturday, March 7:

- 10- 11 a.m. This Herb's for You
- 1-2 p.m. Growing Dahlias – Stars of the Summer
- 3-4 p.m. Early Spring Punch List

Sunday, March 8:

- 11 – 12 p.m. Vegetable Gardening 101
- 2-3 p.m. Pruning Trees and Shrubs

Saturday, March 14:

- 10 – 11 a.m. Starting Plants from Seed
- 1-2 p.m. Starting a Lawn from Seed
- 3-4 p.m. Japanese Beetle Management for the Home Gardener

Sunday, March 15:

- 11-12 p.m. Weeds – The Un-invited Guests in Your Garden
- 2-3 p.m. Small Space Gardening

Saturday, March 21:

- 10-11 a.m. Orchids – Easier Than You Think
- 1-2 p.m. Xeriscape Your Garden With Plant Select
- 3-4 p.m. Turf Maintenance Through the Year

Sunday, March 22:

- 11-12 p.m. Succulent Savvy

Saturday, March 28:

- 10-11 a.m. Landscaping With Natives
- 1-2 p.m. Container Gardening Know-How
- 3-4 p.m. Trees & Shrubs for CO Gardens

Sunday, March 29:

- 11-12 p.m. Composting & Soil Improvement
- 2-3 p.m. Don't Be Afraid of Drip Irrigation

Echter's is located at 52nd and Garrison

Gilpin County Pile Burn Workshop

March 13, 2026 (tentative date based on weather/snow/fire restrictions)

8:30 a.m. - 3 :00 pm, 17355 CO-119

Black Hawk, CO

Join The Ember Alliance and Timberline Fire for a pile burn workshop! This workshop is a hands-on, educational event for Colorado landowners who are interested in using pile burning as a way to reduce hazardous fuel and mitigate wildfire risk to their homes and community. This workshop aims to provide landowners with the knowledge to safely burn slash piles on their own property. This will be an excellent networking opportunity to meet fellow landowners in your community that are interested in pile burning. Registration will be capped at 25 participants, so [reserve your spot now!](#) Please bring your own lunch as this will be an all-day event. Questions? Email Kristin: kristin@emberalliance.org or go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1982691978079?aff=oddtcreator>

Mountain Pine Beetles in Gilpin – Free event

March 31 ,5:30-7pm

Gilpin Library, 15131 CO-119, Black Hawk, CO 80422 or virtual

Participants will look at mountain pine beetle (MPB) impacts along the Front Range and in Gilpin County.

- understand MPB life cycle and management options,
- learn some pine tree identification tricks.
- discuss how MPB relates to wildfire risk, wildlife habitat, and forest health.

Presented by educators from Colorado State Forest Service, Clear Creek Watershed & Forest Health Partnership, and Gilpin CSU Extension.

[Virtual attendees register here for the event link.](#)

In-person attendees do not need to register.

How Aspen Trees Help Slow Wildfires

Colorado's beloved aspen trees may do more than brighten the mountains each fall — they may also help slow the spread of wildfires. [Read Wildfire Partner's blog post here.](#)

