

Plant Select®

Smart plants for the right places

CLICK TO SEARCH RIGHT PLANT RIGHT PLACE

If you're new to our newsletter, cheers! For 28 years, our nonprofit has tested and selected plants that thrive in the intermountain regions and high plains, so you can create waterwise landscapes that are beautiful, low maintenance and have a positive environmental impact — no matter your skill level.



Butterflies visiting [SUNSET® hyssop](#) (*Agastache rupestris*), [Baby Blue rabbitbrush](#) (*Ericameria nauseosa* var. *nauseosa*), [Wee One dwarf English lavender](#) (*Lavandula angustifolia* 'Wee One'), [Meadow blazing star](#) (*Liatris ligulistylis*), [Autumn Sapphire™ sage](#) (*Salvia reptans* 'P016S') and [Mojave sage](#) (*Salvia pachyphylla*).

Plant Select's goal is to create smart plant choices for a new American landscape inspired by the Rocky Mountain region

A warm welcome to our newest Plant Select members:

- **Larkspur Landscaping** – Arvada, Colo. – Landscape Professional Member
- **Neils Lunceford** – Silverthorne, Colo. Landscape Professional Member
- **Grand Junction Regional Airport** – Grand Junction, Colo. – Landscape Professional Member
- **Hannah Morneau** – Individual Ambassador
- **Karen Hammann** – Individual Ambassador
- **Marian Knowles** – Individual Ambassador
- **Shahnawaz Khan** – Individual Ambassador
- **Tina Jones** – Individual Ambassador

And thanks to all who've renewed their memberships!

Introducing RAMBLER™ mountain fleabane

A water-wise delight for low and high elevation gardens



New for 2025, **RAMBLER™ mountain fleabane** (*Erigeron formosissimus* 'P022S') produces lavender, daisy-like flowers in early summer. It's a great addition to water-thrifty landscapes, needing only an occasional, deep watering in long, dry periods or extremely hot temps. Plant it in full sun or part shade in nearly any well-draining soil.

This charming, low-growing fleabane is a native selection from Mike Kintgen, curator of alpine collections at Denver Botanic Gardens. He selected it for its short stature and its high elevation hardiness—up to 13,000 feet!

Erigeron formosissimus is a [native to much of the Intermountain West](#). It's beloved by butterflies, bees and other invertebrates, making it ideal for pollinator gardens.

Watch short
video

See the plant description

[Explore all of our 2025 plants](#)

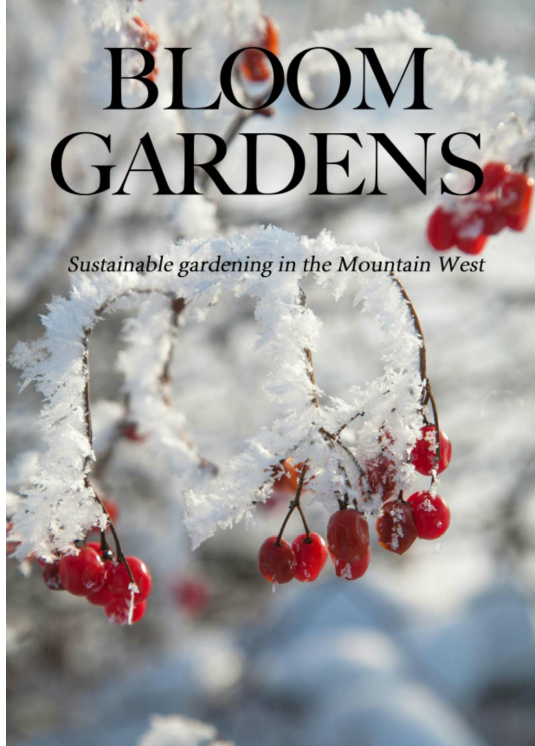
Create a fourth season of beauty

Many people shut down their landscapes for the winter, as if to say, "This yard is closed. Come back in the spring."

But who says winter landscapes can't be lovely and inviting? Wouldn't it be nice to boost your

BLOOM GARDENS

Sustainable gardening in the Mountain West



curb appeal year-round?

In this issue of *Bloom Gardens*, discover an easy way to create a prettier winter landscape.

[Read article](#)

Add rich, green color to your winter landscapes with hardy manzanitas

Hardy manzanitas

(*Arctostaphylos x coloradensis*) are selections of low-growing, low-water shrubs from the Uncompaghre Plateau in western Colorado.

They add vibrant color and texture to landscapes in every season, including the depths of winter.

These evergreen shrubs also offer shelter for smaller songbirds and wildlife, and they give beneficial insects a place to overwinter in leaf debris beneath the plants.

Good for elevations up to 8,125 feet (and potentially higher). Very little supplemental water needed once established.



Key differences among Plant Select's manzanitas



Mock bearberry manzanita

Arctostaphylos x coloradensis

Mock bearberry has the smallest leaves and is the lowest growing of Plant Select's manzanitas. Think of it like an oversized kinnickinick. It has a beautiful presence in naturalistic landscapes, standing out among other plants.



Panchito manzanita

Arctostaphylos x coloradensis
('Panchito')

Panchito is the tallest, growing 18" to 30" tall. It's also the most floriferous, producing pink flowers that attract hummingbirds in the spring. New leaves are pointed with slightly folded midribs. It thrives in a variety of environments, including medians.



Chieftain manzanita

Arctostaphylos x coloradensis
('Chieftain')

Chieftain has a more open growth habit, highlighting its interesting bark and branches. Its oblong leaves are rounder, wider and flatter than Panchito's. Once established, it's a vigorous grower, quickly expanding in width. During winter, its leaves can take on an attractive amber tint.

Success tips for growing hardy manzanitas

- Plant them in well-drained soils. (They also tend to like slopes.)
- Leave room for horizontal growth.
- Consider planting short-lived perennials around them during establishment. (They can be slow to establish.)
- Trim them back, as needed, with hand pruners or shears.
- Don't trample them. Manzanita branches can break with rough care, unlike junipers which have more malleable branches.

Save the date

Plant Select Annual Conference: June 26



The Plant Select Annual Conference will be held on **Thursday, June 26** at Denver Botanic Gardens. All are welcome!

We have an exciting group of speakers. Look for details in next month's e-newsletter.

Upcoming events that may interest you

- [Landscaping With Colorado Native Plants Conference](#), Fort Collins, Colo. | March 8
- [Growing New Roots: Bringing Trees From the Wild to Your Backyard](#), Fort Collins, Colo. | March 13
- [2025 Create Beauty Design Conference](#), Longmont, Colo. | March 21
- [Envisioning a Changing Durangoscape](#), Durango, Colo. | March 21–22
- [The Western Landscape Symposium](#), Pueblo, Colo. | March 29
- [Waterwise Plants Tour](#) | West Jordan, Utah | May 29
- [National American Rock Garden Society Annual Conference](#), Cheyenne, Wyo. | June 12–16

2025
events



Show your support for resilient plant choices Become a 2025 Plant Select member

Do plants bring you joy? Would you like to help make western landscapes more beautiful, diverse and sustainable?

Please join us as a Plant Select member in 2025!

Our nonprofit exists because of our members—from growers and garden centers, to landscape professionals and individuals, to botanic gardens, universities and cities.



Plant Select®
plant smarter

Your annual membership helps fund the research, trials and advancement of climate-resilient plants, including both native and well-adapted plants. Join us as we continue to transform western landscapes into waterwise beauties.

Become a Plant Select member

Now's a great time to join Plant Select

Our winter webinar series for Plant Select members has awesome talks coming up from regional experts. Plus, members gain access to our webinar library. Past talks range from prairie garden design to regionally native plants. Join and enjoy!



FEBRUARY 20:
**Assisted Plant Migration: Bringing
 Endangered Trees to Northern Urban
 Forests**

Scott Skogerboe of [Fort Collins
 Wholesale Nursery](#)



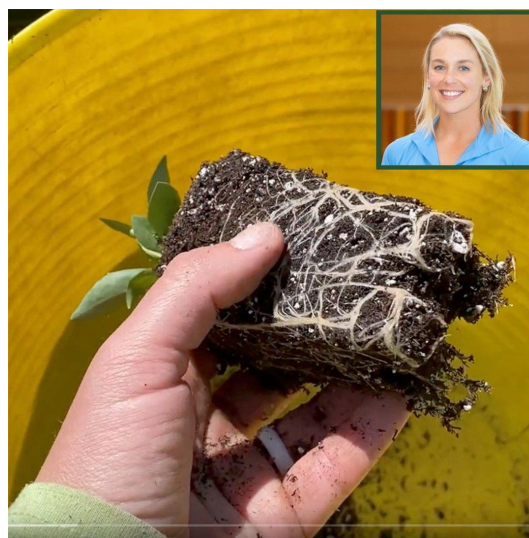
FEBRUARY 27:
**Best Practices in Fire-Resistant
 Landscaping**

Andrea Dorman from [Idaho Firewise](#)



MARCH 12:
**Behind the Scenes in the Plant Select
 Trial Gardens**

Michael Guidi from [Denver Botanic
 Gardens Chatfield Farms](#)



MARCH 27:
**Plant Care Best Practices for
 Waterwise Plants**
 (Bare Root Planting, Mulch & More)

Grace Johnson from [Denver Botanic
 Gardens Chatfield Farms](#)

Become a Plant Select member

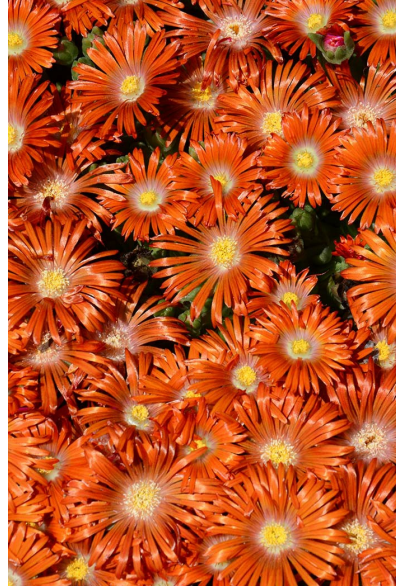
Smart plants for the right places
 Ready for color



GRANITA®
Raspberry ice
plant



FIRE SPINNER® ice
plant



GRANITA® Orange ice
plant

Botanical names:

Delosperma 'PJS01S' | *Delosperma* 'P001S' | *Delosperma* 'PJS02S'

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