



Literary Garden Update, Website Open

Planting of our new Literary Garden (LG) begins in a few weeks as well as construction of a new pergola in the Classics section of the Literary Garden. The pergola is being built thanks to a grant from High Noon Rotary in honor of the late Mike Matheson, an active member of the community service club. Sharon Matheson is one of our docents and is taking a lead role in our Bulb Sale this August.



We have created a separate website for the LG where visitors can learn more about plants and other features as well as works of literature influenced by the natural world and gardens. Try out the website now.

[View it here](#)

DBG Wins Outstanding Sign Award



We have won the city's outstanding sign award for our "book" signs, now found throughout the gardens. Both the signposts and the information panels are sculpted to resemble the pages of a book

The intent is to symbolically reflect our partnership with the library. Bryan Saren designed and constructed the signposts. Annette LeMaire designed the most recent sign panels, including those in the new Literary Garden. In photo below, DBG board members display the award. L-R, Theresa Anderson, Annette LeMaire, John Anderson, Bill LeMaire, and Melanie Palmer.

Announcing the highly anticipated...

Gardens on Tour 2022

Saturday, June 25 *** 9am-4pm

Featuring the Durango Botanic Gardens
+ **NINE** local Gardens

Online Sales open on **May 3** (credit card only)

Pick-up wristbands and guidebook at the Durango Public Library

Ticket Price:
\$35..... DBG members
\$45..... Non DBG members

Friday, June 24 from 10am—3pm
Saturday, June 25 from 8am—12pm

Register here...

DurangoBotanicGardens.org

DURANGO BOTANIC GARDENS

10 Town Plaza, #460 | Durango, CO 81301 | (970) 880.4841 | durangobotanic@gmail.com



If you're wondering why Mike Smedley, shown here, is 'gardening' outside, read our blog post on what you could be doing in your winter garden. Mike even has an idea for your Christmas tree.

Great Garden Series Underway

The Great Garden Series, a 12-part series of free admission lectures, produced in partnership with the library and the CSU Extension Office, began April 13 and will continue through September 28. Check out these diverse and fascinating topics and add them to your spring and summer schedule.

[Read More](#)

Garden Maintenance... We Need YOU!

Durango Botanic Gardens is an ALL-VOLUNTEER, 501(c)(3) non-profit. As such, the gardens are kept looking great because folks assemble on Saturday mornings throughout the spring and summer at 9:00am (8:00am when the summer heat arrives) for a couple of hours of garden maintenance. If interested in helping us keep this botanic treasure looking great and kick-start your weekend, show up on Saturday mornings or ask to be put on our volunteer mailing list for news of what needs to be done, any change of hours, etc. Oh, did we mention there are cookies for our hard-working volunteers?

[If interested in learning more, email us here](#)

Docent Training Begins



Horticultural education is an integral part of our mission. As such, our docents are critical to fulfilling that mission. While garden signage provides a lot of information, the context, history, and amplification of the gardens is filled in by our docents, the folks leading tours, conversing with visitors.

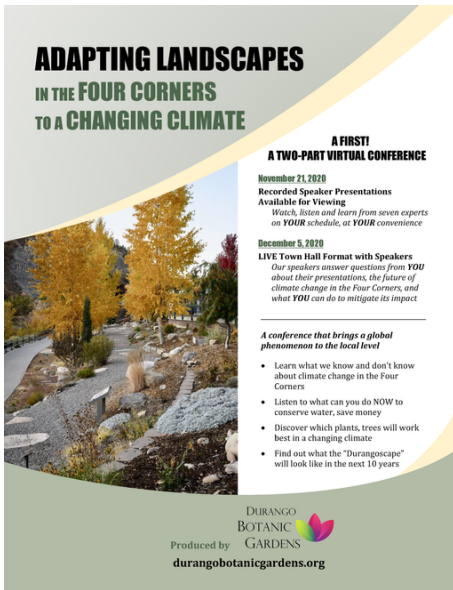
Training new docents has been on hold during the pandemic, but a fresh new class began on April 22. New docents-in-training include Kathy Ballew, Jane Conrad, Teresa Cole, Kandye Dille, Katherine Holt, Lynn Hughes, Cathy Metz, Kathleen Streid-Noe, Keith Thomson, Carol Wallace, and Ronnie Zanon.



Docent of the Quarter

We also launched a “Docent of the Quarter” program. The first recipient of the award is Shirlee Krantz. Shirlee heads up our youth activities in the gardens and is the section leader of the Youth planting bed in the new Literary Garden.

DBG Honors Earth Day, Reopens Our Online Climate Conference to Members



Durango Botanic Gardens had a booth at the 4Core Earth Day event at Rotary Park on Saturday, April 23. We were joined by Columbine Landscapes providing information on water-harvesting and alternatives to turf. For our part we handed out information on xeric and other plants adapted to our climate.

[View now](#)

For current DBG members and for those who signed up during Earth Day, we are opening access to presentations from our online conference on adapting landscapes to climate change produced in November and December of 2020. Access to the videos will close on May 11.

MEMBER DEALS, DISCOUNTS, POSITIONS AVAILABLE

DURANGO HOT SPRINGS OFFER FOR DBG MEMBERS. Durango Hot Springs (DHS) is offering members a discounted Frequency Card (FC). The Frequency Card, valid for one year, includes one initial free soak. The offer is designed for the local market and those who wish to visit the hot springs often. Moving forward, the DHS Frequency Card will save 20% or more on general admission rates, including family members under 16 years of age. Further, Frequency Cardholders enjoy discounts and promotions throughout the year. The FC is regularly \$49 but Durango Botanic Garden members who show their member card will pay \$39. Be sure to have your DBG member card for this \$10 savings. For more on this offer, call DHS at 970-247-0111 or visit them at 6475 County Road 203, Durango, CO.

MASSAGE FUNDRAISING OFFER. Got a few springtime aches that need some massage therapy? Lynn Hughes, a massage therapist for 40yrs, regular garden volunteer and docent-in-training, is offering, exclusively to DBG members, to donate part of her fee to the gardens. Her fee for a 1hr massage is regularly \$75 total (no tipping; cash or check). For the first session with a DBG member, she will donate \$15 to the gardens. Subsequent sessions will be charged at \$65, or you can pay the regular \$75 and she will donate \$10 to DBG, your choice. Sessions take place at her home in Mancos. You must be a current member of DBG to take advantage of this fundraising offer. Thank you, Lynn for your volunteer work and this offer. For more, call her at 970-779-5404 or email her at lynnhb56@gmail.com.

COLUMBINE SEEKS A LANDSCAPE DESIGNER. “We are looking for an experienced designer to join our design and project management team. We are seeking someone who is knowledgeable about plants for our area, whose passion is creating landscapes requiring minimal maintenance, that are water-wise and resource efficient. The position includes estimating, sourcing materials and working with the crew in the field. Full time seasonal position.” For more information and to apply go to:
ColumbineLandscapes.com/employment-opportunities/landscape-designer”

RAIN BARRELS FROM 4CORE. Rain barrels are being offered by 4CORE for \$93 each or \$90 a piece for two or more. Deadline for ordering is May 1 and pickup date at the La Plata County Fairgrounds will be May 14 from 9am-2pm. Purchase by credit card at www.rainbarrelprogram.org/4CORE or email molly@fourcore.org if you need to pay by check. Molly says that last year’s supply sold out quickly so act fast. See photos at the website listed above.

[Learn More](#)

[Donate](#)

**THANK YOU TO OUR DURANGO COMMUNITY FOR
ALL YOUR SUPPORT!**

NOTE: Our physical location is 1900 E. Third Avenue, at the Durango Public Library. The gardens are located to the north and east of the library, along the Animas River Trail.

Mailing Address:

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