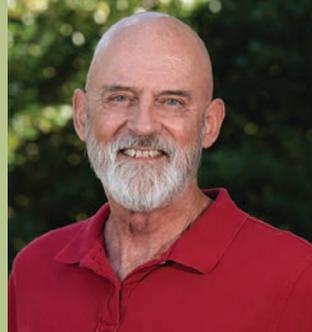


Our in-house horticulturist/arborist, Craig Miller, dispenses practical advice for those seeking to simultaneously conserve water and grow thriving, high-visual-impact, drought-tolerant (xeriscape) gardens and landscapes. Please email your questions to craig@cpnmd.org.



DON'T FORGET TO WINTER WATER YOUR LANDSCAPE PLANTS!

Many of your landscape plants continue to grow roots throughout the winter and need moisture to survive. Limited snowfall, low humidity, variable temperatures, and minimal soil moisture can all produce significant damage to your landscape. Fall and winter watering (October through March) should be done one to two times per month, depending on weather, temperature and soil conditions. Water on a warm day, when there is no snow cover, and the ground is not frozen.



Turf Mite Injury

Trees: Water should be applied evenly within and just outside the dripline, deeply and slowly, so it moistens the critical root zone to a depth of 12 inches. For more information, refer to our tree watering guide: <http://bit.ly/2dBtTFN>.

Shrubs: Apply five gallons two times per month for a newly planted shrub. Small established shrubs (less than 3 feet tall) should receive five gallons monthly. Large established shrubs (more than 6 feet) require 18 gallons monthly. Decrease amounts to account for precipitation. Water within the dripline of the shrub and around the base.

Perennials: Winter watering at least once per month is recommended on perennials located in windy or southwest exposures and those planted later in the season.

Turf: Turfgrass mites feed on, damage, and kill lawns during the fall and winter. When spring comes around, the first sign there is a problem is when the grass fails to come out of dormancy and remains brown. The only option, in this case, is to replace the damaged turf. While insecticides can be applied to control turfgrass mites, the key to preventing damage to lawns is winter watering. Pay special attention to south-facing and west-facing areas of your lawn, sloped areas, and hot spots around trees and evergreens.

XERIC PLANT OF THE MONTH

Hot Wings® Maple (*Acer tartaricum* 'GarAnn') was discovered as a chance seedling in the growing fields of Ft. Collins Nursery. It gets its name from the brilliant scarlet red samaras (winged seeds) that cover the tree in the summer. From a distance, the tree appears to be in full bloom all summer long! Fall color ranges from orange-red on the outside of the plant to yellow in the middle.

Strong branch unions make it less prone to storm breakage than the species. This 2007 Plant Select® introduction tolerates a wide range of soils, prefers full sun, and is hardy up to 8,500 ft. in elevation. It has a mature height of 20 to 25 ft., and a spread of 18 to 20 ft., with a crown shape that is rounded to upright oval.



Board Update

During our regularly scheduled September board meeting, a discussion arose about the future of CPNMD's parks, trails, and open space assets and stewardship responsibilities and the possibility of merging with the South Suburban Parks & Recreation District. Despite fiscally compelling reasons for doing so, the City is trying to undermine CPNMD's efforts and essentially 'poison the well' with South Suburban. The City's opposition constitutes fiscally reckless interference in CPNMD meeting its fiduciary responsibilities to the people and families we represent and serve — and to the detriment of every resident seeking the benefits and quality of life enhancements South Suburban provides its in-district residents. Despite the City's reckless interference, we will continue adhering to CPNMD's mission and core objectives. **Core Objective #1:** Securing our community's renewable water future wisely and at less cost than the voter-rejected plans of 2016 and 2018; **Core Objective #2:** Ensuring that the people of Castle Pines continue to enjoy clean, safe, reliable, on-demand drinking water and wastewater treatment services, in perpetuity, at the lowest possible cost; **Core Objective #3:** Ensuring the people of Castle Pines continue to enjoy clean, safe, reliable stormwater, parks, trails, and open-space services, in perpetuity, and at the lowest possible cost; and **Core Objective #4:** Maximizing efficiencies and economies of scale in all service areas.



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