

Rosedale Harvard Gulch Neighborhood Association OPEN GARDENS TOUR

AUGUST 10, 2013

(Rain Date August 11, 2013)

Highlights:

- 9 am tour of Rosedale DUG Community Gardens
- 11 am tour of CSU Extension Gardens
- Self-guided tours of neighbors' gardens



Welcome to the Tour

HELLO AND THANK YOU for joining us for the inaugural Rosedale Harvard Gulch Neighborhood Association Open Gardens Tour.

Please note that you are entering private property. Please take care when walking through gardens.

There will be two optional group tours which occur only at specific times:

- (1) Denver Urban Community Gardens at 9 am
- (2) CSU Extension Demonstration Gardens at 11 am

Otherwise, choose which gardens you want to visit. Use the map and the garden descriptions to plan your day. Look for yard signs like the one on the cover to help you pinpoint Open Gardens.

Some gardeners may have plants, flowers, vegetables or herbs available for a donation. All proceeds go to RHGNA's treasury to cover the costs of the tour.

Please give us feedback by taking the survey on the last page.

Enjoy your day. Ask questions. Stay hydrated.

Visit RHGNA's new website to learn about other fun events we are planning and to see what's happening in our neighborhood.

www.rhgna.org

Please leave booklet at the last garden you visit.

Open Gardens Map



- (1) Denver Urban Community Gardens, 9 am tour
- (2) CSU Extension Demonstration Gardens, 11 am tour
- (3) - (9) Self-guided tours, see descriptions for times

Rosedale Urban Gardens (1)

Gardeners: Denver Residents

Opening Time: Group Tour at 9 am

Description: Community Garden Plots

Rosedale Community Garden has been a working community garden for over 35 years, and is one of the largest in the Denver Urban Gardens system. The garden is managed by a steering committee of volunteer leaders who are supported by Rosedale gardeners. Gardeners are required to contribute ten hours of service each season. The 85 plots are worked by individuals, couples and families who pay an annual fee of \$50.

Several plots are designated for community service efforts which may include growing vegetables for Project Angel Heart, gourds for EarthLinks, produce for the Annual Sales or providing space for school groups to garden.

Community events include the Annual Vegetable and Yard Sale in late August and the Harvest Sale at the end of September. Next year, we plan to add a Spring Sale to sell seedlings, tomato cages and other essential garden items.

Tour Highlights include stops at key sites including the bee hive, orchard, perennial, herb and butterfly gardens and the compost area.

Restrictions: No pets please.

ADA Accessible: Handicapped accessible paths available in a portion of the garden.

Contact: Ana Tolentino at activities@rosedalegarden.org.

CSU Extension Gardens (2)

Gardeners: Office Staff / Colorado Master Gardeners

Opening Time: Group Tour at 11 am

Description: Community Outreach / Demonstration

Partnering with the City and County of Denver, the CSU Denver Extension Office provides research-based, practical education and outreach to the people of Denver. Current program areas are 4-H Youth Development, Nutrition, Community Development and Horticulture.

Native Plant Garden: This garden highlights Colorado native plants that perform admirably in Denver, and serves as both an educational and research tool. The garden also serves as a memorial to the 17,000 children who lived and thrived at the Colorado State Children's Home located in Harvard Gulch Park between 1895 and 1971.

Plant Select® Demonstration Garden: Plants featured in this garden perform well in landscapes and gardens from the intermountain region to the high plains. This cooperative program is administered by Denver Botanic Gardens and Colorado State University in concert with horticulturists and nurseries throughout the Rocky Mountain region and beyond.

Vegetable Demonstration Garden: Established in 2011 in response to the growing local food movement. The garden is "farmed" by Colorado Master Gardener volunteers in CSU Extension's Horticulture Program. This garden has been a successful partnership with Denver Parks and Recreation and Grow Local Colorado. In total, almost 2,000 pounds of produce from this garden has been donated to the St. Francis Homeless Shelter in Denver.

2290 S. Clarkson (3)

Gardeners: Kim Ritter & Elissa Augello

Opening Times: 9 am to 3 pm

Description: Drought Tolerant Gardening

We have an array of drought tolerant bushes and flowers in our front and side yards. The hell strips, areas between sidewalk and street, have no sprinklers and have been an ongoing research and experiment to determine what plants will survive there.

A few hardy plants we've had success with are Pampas Grasses, Apache Plume, Catmint, Red Yucca, Miss Kim Lilacs, and Broom plant.

An informational handout will be available.

Restrictions: No access to fenced backyard area.

ADA Accessible: Sidewalk on west & south sides of property.

2245 S. Emerson (4)

Gardeners: Cathy & Brian Wise

Opening Times: Anytime; Cathy present 10 am to 2 pm

Description: Novice Gardeners' Experiments

Our front yard is consumed by a 1,000 square feet of xeric flower garden, with several trees, ornamental grasses, groundcovers, flowering shrubs and a rock path, walls and edging. We inherited this garden, originally built by Jim and Julie Lewis, when we bought the house in 2005. Since then Cathy has been "gardening by the seat of her pants" as a complete novice building her skills through research, and lots of trial and error.

Cathy has sculpted the garden with new plants, a couple pieces of art, and lots of rock accents, including a 17-foot long path she built herself with 1,200 pounds of moss rock. She has cultivated favorite plants, edited those that do not thrive, transplanted plants that proliferate, and engaged in constant, aggressive trimming.

Our garden has a pleasing random wildness to it, and serves as a lively habitat for several species of birds and fuzzy creatures (with the new infusion of bunnies in the neighborhood, they are snacking on our Bergenia). Come see the largest Broom Plant in the world - way overgrown; it is truly an oddity to behold.

Restrictions: Front garden access only.

ADA Accessible: Driveway and main sidewalk accessible, one step up to the walk to the house. Rustic stone path may be tricky for wheelchairs, but most of the garden can be seen from other paths.

Refreshments: Bottled water.

2220 S. Pinon Ct. (5)

Gardener: George Jansen

Opening Times: Noon to 4 pm

Description: Tropical / Water Gardens

Be awed by the tropical beauty as you enter into George's Jungle. With dinner plate hibiscus, fragrant plumeria trees and vivid bougainvillea, you will be transported to an urban paradise.

The garden is edged by many tropical varieties, such as elephant ears, lemon, avocado and kumquat trees. Stop and meditate by the small Zen water garden and move to the peaceful arbors made of recycled iron parts from wind damaged canopies.

Listen to the many different species of birds that make the 100 year old Silver Maple tree their home. Move up to the raised, shaded patio overlooking the large koi pond and feel the stress leave you as you listen to the waterfalls. Sit back and watch the show in the middle of the yard as birds and squirrels vie for the tasty morsels in "the circle."

Feel free to stay and relax awhile. Please be respectful of the plants and use the stepping stones and paths provided.

Restrictions: Enter along the south side of the property. Pets on a leash are permitted.

ADA Accessible: ADA entrance on the north side of the property.

Refreshments: Cold water.

2163 S. Grant (6)

Gardener: Carri Currier

Opening Times: 9 am to 3 pm

Description: Flower & Edible Containers w/Automatic Watering

I've installed a drip system for automatic watering as I travel frequently. Even when home, it frees up time to plant, pull weeds, etc. It's easy to install. I tapped into the sprinkler system and its timer, but there are systems which you can install off the faucet. I would be happy to consult to help folks get started.

If you think you don't have enough room to grow veggies or cutting flowers, think again. I transformed a small back yard with a wild choke cherry and useless pergola into a container garden on an elevated deck.

My veggie garden consists of 10 self-watering planters growing tomatoes, cucumbers, cantaloupe and French string beans. The deck area has an Asian theme so planters have lilacs & other perennials. My creed is it doesn't fit if it doesn't fruit or flower.

In the front there is a non-stop flowering show from March to October.

Carri is an artist; many of her painting of flowers and landscapes will be available for sale (neighbor discount). Cash & checks.

Restrictions: No pets please. "Attack cat" on premises.

ADA Accessible: Front yard has three steps & the veggie garden has stepping stones and rocks. Access to back deck is via front door and through home.

Refreshments: Cold drinks and brownies.

501 E. Vassar (7)

Gardeners: Marge & Dave Benning; Earl Hockman

Opening Times: Noon to 3 pm

Description: Eclectic Perennials, Vegetables & Annuals

Welcome to our garden. It is an eclectic mix of plants and flowers. The tour goes all the way around the house; follow the flagstone paths! The east deck is mostly pots of annuals, two perennial beds, and some vegetable beds. Across the alley next to the neighbor's garage is whatever survived transplanting and neglect. There is also a variety of garden tchotchkes.

The north side of the house is mostly vegetables and a hidden shade garden, as well as "Earl's Office" - the storage area west of the hot tub. Just past the fence is a compost bin and small raspberry patch.

The west side of the house is more flagstone path, buffalo grass, and perennial beds, mostly xeric plants, including two large service berry bushes. An out-of-control broom bush dominates the western garden. Roses, lilacs, iris, and Russian sage surround the cat condo outside the western window of the house.

The south side of the house includes a hell strip, perennial beds, roses, and large grasses on two different levels. Perennials are varied so there is always something in bloom.

Most mornings, Marge or Earl can be found working in the beds, battling the bindweed and misplaced grasses.

Restrictions: None.

ADA Accessible: There are a few steps onto the east patio, but most of the garden can be seen from the sidewalks or the paths.

2650 S. Pennsylvania (8)

Gardener: M. B. Bradley

Opening Times: 10:30 am to 1:30 pm

Description: Established & Experimental Garden

A transitional garden with a traditional garden plot and container plantings. Dwarf fruit trees --apples (some heirloom), peaches, nectarine, plum, sweet cherry-- grow along one fence line and the back wall of the garage. A grape vine provides shade for the south side of the patio.

Mason bees pollinate the fruit trees and red worms take care of vegetable kitchen waste. A 25+ year old electric lawnmower mulches grass clippings, fall leaves and spent garden plants (except cornstalks).

The front yard, shaded by a tall, branching pin oak, is a work in progress, an experiment with plants that will grow well in dry shade.

Sempervivum plants will be available with donation, while they last.

Restrictions: No pets please; front gate access only.

ADA Accessible: The front yard and side yard sidewalk are level. There is a short flagstone walkway from the lawn to the south sidewalk. There are four concrete steps to access the lower garden, but no handrail; all of the garden can be seen from the back yard.

2622 S. Logan (9)

Gardeners: Pamela Quigley & Derek Allan

Opening Times: Noon to 4 pm

Description: Edible Landscaping / Urban Farm

We are continually transforming our garden into an urban farm with the intent to be as sustainable as possible.

Our garden features rock landscaping with fruit trees (plum, apple, peach, pear, cherry), young fruit bushes (blueberry, red currant, gooseberry, raspberry, strawberry, quince), a 70+ year old grape vine, a hop yard for home brewing, raised vegetable beds, a lavender garden, a perennial herb garden and a few drought tolerant perennials. Irises and grasses are planted along the alleyway. Transplanted lilacs survive in the front hell strip.

The central feature of our front yard is a 80+ year old American elm tree which provides a lot of shade. This has prompted us to transform a sickly lawn to a xeriscape-in-progress including a wildflower shade garden.

Unfortunately, due to the late spring snow storm, our fruit trees are bare. All kitchen waste is composted then used to amend soil. We strive to be as organic as possible.

Weather permitting, we will be baking cookies in our solar oven.

Morning glory seedlings & organic herb bundles available with donation.

Restrictions: No pets please.

ADA Accessible: One step at front entrance. No steps via alley entrance; gravel & paved walks throughout garden.

Refreshments: Water & cookies.

Thanks to our Sponsors

Rosedale Harvard Gulch Neighborhood Association

www.rhgna.org

4th Annual RHGNA Community Picnic
Sunday August 18th
Harvard Gulch Park
3 pm to 5 pm
Music, fun, food, games

RHGNA Open Gardens Tour

Show this coupon at DAZBOG for a 30% discount on
hot and cold coffee beverages, chillers and smoothies



Valid Aug 10, 2013 (or Aug 11 in case of rain) only

Thanks to our Neighbors



We have all of the answers to your lawn & garden
questions! Stop by our office at 888 E. Iliff Ave
any time Mon - Fri, 8am - 5pm to have your
questions answered by a CO Master Gardener.

Or contact us at 720-913-5278

denvermg@colostate.edu

Rosedale Community Garden Sales
Saturday, August 24, 8am to 2pm
Saturday, September 28, 8am to 2pm



Organic vegetables, fruits, flowers,
baked goods, jams, yard sale items
& seedlings for fall planting. Raffle
for free garden plot!

OGT Survey

Please leave booklet at the last garden you visit. Use back of page for any comments or suggestions. Check all that apply.

What time of year is best for next year's tour?

☐ Early Spring ☐ Late Spring ☐ Early Summer
☐ Mid Summer ☐ Late Summer ☐ Early Fall

Did you attend the group tours?

☐ Rosedale DUG ☐ CSU ☐ Both

How many homeowner gardens did you visit?

☐ 1-2 ☐ 3-4 ☐ 5-6 ☐ 7

How experienced are you in gardening?

☐ Beginner ☐ Intermediate ☐ Expert ☐ Master Gardener

Goals when taking the tour? Learn to / about:

☐ Native plants ☐ Reduce water use ☐ Replace lawn
☐ Reduce pesticide use ☐ Ideas for your garden ☐ Amend Soil
☐ Enjoy visiting gardens ☐ Sustainable gardening
☐ Attract wildlife ☐ Irrigation ☐ Composting ☐ Seasonal

Did the tour influence you to do the following?

Include natives: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Already do

Learn more (class, books, etc.): ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Already do

Use water collection: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Already do

Compost: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Already do

Reduce lawn area: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Already do

Other:

Please use this space for any comments or suggestions to make next year's tour better. Let us know where you heard about the tour.