



GARNA Gab April 2017

GARNA.org

[Spring Bloomin' Fundraiser](#)

It's finally getting warmer outside, time to think about gardens and flowers. GARNA's 4th annual spring bloomin' fundraiser is here to green your home, garden or provide gifts for friends or family. **Our incredible partner again this year is Salida Greenhouse.**



Three options are available:

- 14" Annuals flower bowl
- 12" Hanging basket of Tumbling Tom tomatoes
- Individual veggie and herb plants (2 1/2 " containers)

[Ordering](#) is open NOW through May 9. Products ready May 12, just in time for Mother's Day!

[Behind the Scenes at Brady's West](#)

Wednesday, April 19

AND MORE for your calendar...

Grassroots Garden Party: Sat, April 8

This event is an expansion of the local seed exchange. The event will be held at the *new* Poncha Springs Town Hall from 10 am to 3 pm. Attendance is free to the public. Network with local gardeners and see highlights of what the community offers...and, of course, bring some seeds to exchange! If you are attending and would like to man a GARNA table, please [let us know!](#)

AgriSummit 2017: Friday, April 21

AgriSummit is a day-long event highlighting opportunities for networking, discussion and learning focused on local food production and agritourism in the Heart of the Rockies region. [Registration](#) deadline is **April 19.**

Earth Day and Procession of Species March: Saturday, April 22

Join GARNA, AHRA and many other community groups for a family-friendly Earth Day 2017. The event will take place at Riverside Park in Salida and is free and open to the public.

Upper Arkansas Wilderness Volunteers Spring Training: Saturday, May 13

One day training with a focus on the needs of volunteers on Forest



Have you ever wondered how large, year-round garden centers grow their colorful annuals, vegetables, and herbs? Join GARNA for an “insider’s” tour of [Brady’s West Garden Center](#) in Salida. Laura Brady will take you through their extensive operation and perhaps even give away some secrets to their beautiful and healthy nursery products. [Registration now open.](#)

[Salida Historical Town Tour with Absolute Bikes](#)

Sunday, April 23



Photo courtesy of Salida Regional Library

Salida has one of the biggest and best-preserved downtown historic districts in Colorado. This tour by bike will include lively stories about the legends and history of the area including the railroad, the downtown district, the brothels, the gunfights, the ghosts and more. We will also visit the Salida Museum! This ride follows the city streets and bike path and is great for individuals of all ages. [Registration now open.](#)

[From Scraps to Soil - An Introduction to Composting](#)

Wednesday, May 3

Service Wilderness lands.
Questions contact Kate
Garwood at 719-966-9351.

YOUR INPUT NEEDED

Our BLM Royal Gorge Field Office's Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement drafts are available for public review. This is your chance to raise concerns and suggest changes before the BLM continues their process. **Visit the [project website](#) to share your ideas by May 5.**



Learn how [Elements Mountain Compost](#) is recycling organic waste and creating high quality soil products in Chaffee County. EMC will provide tips and tricks to start your own composting program at home – bin design, ingredients, maintenance and more. Participants will get a free sample bag of compost and a dollar off each bag of compost they purchase at the event. Presenter is Julie Mach, owner and operator of Elements Mountain Compost. [Registration now open.](#)

[In Defense of Spiders](#)

Thursday, May 4



Nathrop resident Denny Radabaugh will present “In Defense of Spiders,” in which he will attempt to dispel some cultural fears about spiders. He will also talk about their benefits to humans, such as uses of spider silk, which is as strong as steel. The presentation will also cover information such as the number of spider species in the world, Colorado and Chaffee County, the evolutionary origins and defining characteristics of the spider, spider biology including their senses, and spiders as predators in ecosystems. [Registration now open.](#)

[Spring Birding Hike](#)

Saturday, May 13



Photo: Sandra Ewald

Local birder Jacque Fisher will share her knowledge and passion for the spring songsters in our area. Join her and GARNA for a leisurely hike to listen to birds at Mt Ouray State Wildlife Area outside of Salida. On the hike last May at Mt. Ouray State Wildlife area, 22 species were identified! [Registration now open.](#)

Not a GARNA member?

GARNA is the Arkansas River Valley's only local, broadly focused conservation and education organization. GARNA is supported by membership fees. We have over 500 members and growing...[will you join us?](#)

Our Mission: To foster stewardship of the resources of the greater Arkansas River region through education, volunteerism and experience. We accomplish our mission through formal partnerships with natural resource agencies, and work with local, like-minded organizations.

GARNA Board of Directors: Kate Garwood, Chair; John McCarthy, Vice Chair; JD Longwell, Treasurer; Deb Bass, Secretary; Samantha Lane Bahn; Jody Bol; Logan Myers; Terry Porter; Heidi Slaymaker

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