

We're Here to Help!

If you aren't quite sure where to begin in your plant selection process, we can help!

Phelan's offers an extensive selection of trees, shrubs, and perennials that grow well in this area.

Also, we sell a region-specific plant guide that makes for great winter reading! Often, looking thru this guide can help narrow down your selections.

For assistance, stop by Phelan Gardens. We are open seven days a week.



Open Year-Round
7 days a week

4955 Austin Bluffs Parkway
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www.phelangardens.com

- *local gardening information
- *upcoming classes & events
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Our newsletter is now offered monthly via e-mail. Sign up and receive timely seasonal advice, growing tips, and advance notice of special events.

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Planting for Fall & Winter Interest



Phelan Gardens

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Extending Your Garden Display All Year Long

Fall Colors

With a little planning, your Colorado landscape can offer a spectacular show of Fall colors. At higher elevations, the changing of the **aspens** creates much excitement. However, temperature extremes in our area are such that aspens won't turn as pretty in our yards as they do in their natural mountain environment

However, there are LOTS of other plants that WILL perform well in our area. These include:

Brilliant reds... are found with:

Maples (acer sp.)

Burning Bush (euonymus alatus)

Spirea (Goldflame and other sp.)

Sumacs (rhus sp.)

Western Cherry (prunus besseyii)

Bright yellow leaves... are common to many trees, such as:

Ash (fraxinus)

Honeylocust (gleditsia)

Hackberry (celtis occidentalis),

Linden (tilis sp.)

Maple (acer sp.)

Shrubs with berries... are very attractive as well. The berries of the **English Euonymus** have an outer pink coat with orange seeds. Fall coloration of **Virginia Creeper** (parthenocissus) leaves are a mix of lively red and bronze with black berries. Other shrubs known for their colorful berries are **Chokecherry** (prunus virginiana), **Cotoneaster**, **Currants** (ribes), and **Snowberry** (symphocarpus).

Just a reminder—if **there is little or no soil moisture, most of these showboats turn brown** with the first frost. To encourage bright Fall colors, make sure you water adequately before it gets cold! Plant with beautiful Fall color in mind!

Winter Interest

When winter causes the grass to brown, trees and shrubs to go dormant and perennials to freeze down to the ground, all we can do is remember how beautiful the landscape looked in the summer.

If your gorgeous garden from last summer is drab now, perhaps you would like to plan for some winter appeal.

Evergreens are a great reminder that there is still life in the garden. Pines, junipers, and spruce are stunning when blanketed in winter frost. Broadleaf evergreens, such as Euonymus, can also offer extended foliage displays.

Ornamental grasses retain their plumes and blades in the winter. They are a wonderful complement to evergreens with their swaying texture and sandy brown hue. Wait until late Spring to clip them down so that they can provide seasonal interest all winter.

Several other non-evergreen plants can be used for special effect.

Dogwood shrubs have red or yellow twigs that are particularly striking against white snow and a bright blue Colorado sky. Late blooming perennial flowers (such as Echinacea) can be left on their stalks to create interesting effects with the snow and frost. Long lasting foliage includes candytuft, coral bells, and heartleaf bergenia.

Also, you can add visual interest in a unique way by adding non-plant materials such as driftwood, an old wagon wheel, or a small bench. Be creative!