

We're Here to Help!

There are many fruits that can be grown successfully in the Colorado Springs area. Listed here are some of the plants, vines and shrubs you might wish to consider when planning your garden. If you have more space, consider planting fruit trees.

Phelan Gardens is open year-round and offers numerous choices of fruit-bearing plants for your yard.



Come visit us for current selections.



Open Year-Round
7 days a week

4955 Austin Bluffs Parkway
80918 * 574-8058

www.phelanguardens.com

- *local gardening information
- *upcoming classes & events
- *what's new at Phelan Gardens

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Fruit-Bearing Plants for Smaller Spaces

Fruit-bearing vines, plants, shrubs and dwarf trees



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COS, CO 80918
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Potential Fruits of Your Labor

- *indicates xeriscape potential*

Perennials



***Raspberry**—depending on variety, may bear twice or in late summer; considered semi-drought tolerant when not bearing fruit.

Strawberry—available as June-bearing (crops all at once) or everbearing (spring crop followed by later smaller crops)

- Requires soils moderately rich in organic matter that drain well
- benefit greatly from winter mulching and consistent moderate moisture
- May require netting to protect from wildlife

***Rhubarb**—2' hardy perennial used in sauces and pies. Red stem varieties are considered the sweetest.

Vines

Grapes—a large vine that likes a sunny spot and well-drained soil; Can be pruned to produce from a smaller stature. Fruit ripens in September; depending on variety can be used in jams, jellies, wines or fresh eating. Requires annual pruning and ample support such as a pergola, arbor, or sturdy fence.

Hardy Kiwi Vines-- Deep green leaves. Containers sold with both male and female vines. Produces fruit on a self-pollinating vine. Zone 4. 15'-25'. Full sun. Flowers on new wood in Spring.

Shrubs

Blueberry—bears mid-July to August; requires acidic soil achieved by amending with Canadian sphagnum peat moss and soil sulfur to a soil pH of 5.0 – 6.0. Blueberries can be grown in both well-draining and consistently moist soil. Large containers work well. Size varies by variety.

***Currant**—5–6' vigorous shrub bears large quantity of bright red berries near the beginning of August; tolerates a variety of soils; makes great jams and jellies.

Elderberry - 8'-10' Popular in Europe, the berries are used to make a tart juice, wine, or preserves. Clustered creamy flowers put on a BEAUTIFUL show in early summer, followed by the fruit. If you use the berries, they should always be ripe and COOKED before consuming. Other parts of this plant are not edible. These shrubs are a nice ornamental.

***Goji Berries** --5'-6' An attractive Chinese native, Goji features light purple, bell-shaped flowers and abundant, bright red berries that ripen from mid-summer to late fall. In China, Goji's pleasantly sweet and flavorful fruit is eaten fresh and used in many dishes. A valuable medicinal plant, Goji berries are very high in anti-oxidants, have more carotene than carrots, and contain all essential amino acids and many minerals. Goji is hardy to minus 15°F. or below and is self-fertile. It prefers full to half-day sun and well drained soil.

***Gooseberry**—3-4' shrub that tolerates a variety of soils and moisture levels; ripens in August; great for pies, jams and jellies.

***Serviceberry**—6-8' shrub, prefers well-draining soil; fruit produced in mid-July is similar to blueberries; left unpicked, birds will clean shrub.

Nanking Cherry—8-10'

produces an abundance of white flowers in late April, followed by small scarlet fruit in June; used in jellies.

***Western Sandcherry**—4' shrub that blooms profusely in May; produces a seeded fruit the size of a grape; fruit ripens in mid-August; eaten fresh or used in jams.

***Black Chokeberry (Aronia)**—3-6' shrub that bears small pea-size fruit; ripens in early fall, good for jellies. Great ornamental too. Produces white flowers in late May and offers good fall color.

***Honeyberry**—4-5' shrub, large blueberry-like fruits. Eat fresh or use for jams and jellies. All varieties require a different honeyberry cultivar for cross pollination. Fruit is a great source of antioxidants and Vitamin C.

Dwarf Fruit Trees:

Although most fruit trees would not be considered small, Phelan's typically offers a selection of space saving fruit trees such as columnar apple trees, miniature peaches, or dwarf cherries/plums in Spring. Come visit us in early May or view our website for seasonal selections.

