



## Budding News from Sundance Gardens

March 2011



### Spring???

While the official first day of spring is **March 20**, we know here in our mountain community we can still expect the unexpected weather wise. Even in Denver, March is the snowiest month of the year and has historically seen extreme temperature swings. In past years the record low for March was -11 degrees, and the record high 84 degrees. Quite a range!

And how about the weather this winter? While the warm, sunny days were fantastic for us, the lack of moisture created quite a challenge to keep our trees and plants safe and happy. Hopefully you were able to drag around the hoses and winter water your landscaping. Please continue to deep water (especially newer plantings) during dry spells until your automatic irrigation can be turned back on.

Our **maintenance** division is gearing up to start spring clean-up, please let us know if we may help you. As always, we are happy to provide you with a free estimate for any **landscaping** work you have been dreaming about. We look forward to seeing you and helping you with all your landscaping and gardening needs in the coming year!

### Sundance by Design

Perhaps you've noticed the new construction and landscaping in the back area by Mountain Home and the Evergreen Design Center. We are delighted to be expanding into that back room of the old Evergreen Hardware building!





Our Sundance by Design "Annex" will open by May 1, 2011. We are looking forward to bringing you unique outdoor living accents as well as an outstanding selection of garden gifts. Stay tuned for info on our Open House Party!

## The Garden Center is OPEN

Welcome Back! The Garden Center is now open from 10-4 (weather permitting). Pansy time will soon be here, look for them to arrive mid March.

**March Garden Tip:** Take advantage of warm spring days to begin this season's gardening chores: cut back catmint, Russian Sage, clematis, and ornamental grasses. Keep shrubs and bulbs sprayed with repellent to keep animals from browsing.



**March Special:** Aspen trees 10% off (limited quantity on hand). Animal repellents - Buy one get one 50% off. Stop by the Garden Center to check out other weekly specials.

## Seed Starting Secrets

Planning on starting some plants from seeds? Try these Master Gardener Tips:



- Mixing vermicompost (worm compost) in with your starter mix will inoculate your seedlings, suppress plant pathogens, and reduce pest problems by reducing potential plant stress.
- Does your seed package suggest scarification (nicking the outer coating of the seed)? An easy way to accomplish this is to line a lidded jar with coarse sandpaper, add seeds and shake.
- Seedlings benefit from gentle air movement: use an oscillating fan or simply brush (with a wave of your hand) emerging seedlings as you walk by.
- If your seedlings start to pinch and fall over (damping off), water with diluted chamomile tea. It acts as a natural fungicide.
- Add 1 week to the timing on the seed packet for the hardening off period. Give the seedlings enough time to acclimate slowly to sunlight and cool nights.

For Photo Gallery of our work [click here.](#)

For questions or to schedule a free landscape estimate call 303.670.0358 or [click here for more information.](#)

For questions or to schedule maintenance call Kathryn at 303.748.9777 or [click here for more information.](#)

**We look forward to working with you soon!**

Sincerely,  
Your friends and neighbors at:  
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