

Lyons Community Orchard

Brief summary of what it takes to create and keep an orchard going, as well as community involvement.

With the initial size of the orchard at 50x100', located at 124 4th Ave., we will be able to fit 24 trees on the property. We are locating the trees a little further apart than normal, since it is in the floodway.

I want the orchard to be organic. Spraying Neem Oil twice in the spring just before dark to protect the bees.

The plan is to wrap the trees in bird netting to protect them from deer eating the bark in early winter, squirrels and birds eating the fruit, and to make it harder for the bears to access.

Maintenance consists of planting, pruning, spraying, watering, especially the first year, cutting the surrounding weeds, and picking the fruit.

My desire is to make it a fun community project. People getting to name individual trees and putting artsy signs with the names on it.

The orchard is surrounded by the Botanic Gardens to the west, the outdoor classroom to the east, and soon to be a walking trail surrounding it.

So far I have gotten a lot of community support and people who want to be involved.

Lyons Community Farm Project

Lyons High School ecology class

Lyons Elementary School, wants to use, 1st grade pollinator project, 2nd grade garden stewardship, garden sensors, noxious weeds, vermiculture, as well as others.

Bee Pollinator Project

As well as 10 or so individuals

The hope is to make this more than an orchard. More of a community gathering spot. Plant many different varieties of different types of fruit so that we can have fruit coming from July into October, with plans for Peaches, Nectarines, Plums, Apples, Pears and anything else that might produce.

I have a mini orchard in Boulder that I have been growing for 12 years or so. I have pretty good knowledge of what it takes to grow fruit trees, and I would love to share that knowledge with the community. Living here along the front range, I know that it's a difficult place to grow fruit, and that we will have to be very patient. We get warm January temperatures and cold May temperatures. Fruit trees do not produce every year, but we will plant multiple varieties in hopes of at least getting something in most years.

Thank you

Glen Delman

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