

Stony Creek News

April 2024

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Prepare For The Full Pink Moon!

You can see the full Moon in April on Tuesday, April 23. It reaches its brightest point at 7:49 p.m. Traditionally, we call this Moon the Pink Moon, and it symbolizes the beginning of spring. Here's everything you should know about the April Full Moon, including facts, folklore, and Moon phase dates.

When to See the Full Moon in April 2024:

Venture outside on the night of Tuesday, April 23, to catch a glimpse of April's full Pink Moon. This full Moon reaches peak illumination at 7:49 p.m.

For the best view of this lovely spring Moon, find an open area and watch as the Moon rises just above the horizon, at which point it will appear its biggest and take on a golden hue!

Why Is It Called The Pink Moon?

The full Moon names used by The Old Farmer's Almanac come from a number of places, including Native American, Colonial American, and European sources. Traditionally, each full Moon name was applied to the entire lunar month in which it occurred, not only to the full Moon.

Is The Pink Moon Really Pink?

Although we wish this name had to do with the color of the Moon, the reality is not quite as mystical or awe-inspiring. In truth, April's full Moon often corresponded with the early springtime blooms of a certain wildflower native to eastern North America: Phlox subulata—commonly called creeping phlox or moss phlox—which also went by the name “moss pink.”

– <https://www.almanac.com/content/full-moon-april>

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5 Things To Do For Earth Day

Earth Day is a global celebration of planet Earth, the place we all call home. All month long, there are opportunities to connect with nature, get outdoors, and protect the planet for future generations to come.

Get The Whole Family Outside

One mom shares why treks with tykes are worth it - how it teaches children the value of nature and, eventually, why to defend it. Whether it's a short walk or a challenging hike, here are our pro tips for getting outside with young kids.

Donate to Protect Public Lands

Public lands provide a home for wildlife, protect against climate change, and give us a way to enjoy nature. Yet we are losing precious public lands to fossil fuel exploitation and unchecked development.

Connect With The Next Generation

Share your love for National Parks with our free coloring pages. Children can bring their own perspective to Carlsbad Caverns, Yosemite, Acadia, and more. Get creative, unwind and play, and bring America's natural treasures to life in a whole new way.

Attend a Local Earth Day Event

Celebrate Earth Day with your community. All throughout Earth Month, you'll find Sierra Club events across the country - and even online. Join a local hike, volunteer in a neighborhood clean-up, or attend a rally.

Take Action to Fight Climate Change

Rising global temperatures and extreme weather events are telling us loud and clear: We must act now to save our home, our world.

–<https://www.sierraclub.org>

Watch the Rockies at Coors Field

Nothing says warm weather like baseball on a sunny day. What better place to watch a game than Coors Field in downtown Denver with a grand view of the mountains in the distance? The Rockies season runs from early April through early October, and maybe longer, pending a playoff run.

Opening day for the Colorado Rockies will be held on Friday, April 5th, 2024 as they take on the Tampa Bay Rays. There are plenty of festivities to celebrate the return of baseball. Coors Light will be set up in McGregor Square with activities for the whole family, the Broncos quarterback will throw a ceremonial first pitch, and there will be a flyover by the Air National Guard. Don't miss this exciting day!

–<https://www.uncovercolorado.com>



This Space Intentionally Left Blank for Teen Services

Teach The Children To Save Day

Each year on the fourth Thursday in April, National Teach Children to Save Day encourages children to develop good saving habits. Bankers across the country volunteer every year to teach children to save. Developing these habits at a young age creates a foundation for a lifetime of saving. Involving our children with a savings plan, and money management skills prepare them for a solid future. Parents should teach children about financial matters so that when they head out into the world they avoid pitfalls that can be financially devastating. With an early start on saving and an understanding of budgeting their money, children will have solid habits as they head into adulthood.



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Taste Test Colorado Wine

Wineries have proven to be a prime spot to enjoy the spring weather while supporting locally-owned businesses. Colorado has a plethora of options to explore and wine events throughout the warmer months, and April kicks off the festivities.

TASTE OF VAIL, VAIL VILLAGE

Expect to eat well at the resort's early spring get-together, Taste Of Vail. Combine a day of fine food and wine, and even skiing or snowboarding if you can manage. Sounds terrific! Thirty or so of the top chefs from the Vail Valley showcase their stellar fare. Wash it down with choices from over 50 winemakers from around the country. Make sure your palate is ready for the annual Taste of Vail happening this April. The festival is dubbed one of the best spring food and wine-tasting events in the country, which is why you shouldn't skip this exciting gathering.

When: Wednesday - Saturday, April 3rd - 6th, 2024

BARREL INTO SPRING, PALISADE

Barrel Into Spring is the perfect way to welcome the warm weather and enjoy local wineries, held in late April and early May. Participants will pick up a tasting glass and event "passport" to guide them through the weekend. This is a self-paced tour, so you can explore the 7 wineries throughout Grand Valley at your leisure.

When: April 19-20 and May 10-11, 2024

DURANGO WINE EXPERIENCE, DURANGE

End the month with the Durango Wine Experience, held on the last weekend in April. Friday features a "walk-about" style of tasting, with multiple locations in downtown Durango offering their selections of wine. Saturday is the grand tasting where you'll find numerous wineries and hundreds of unique wines lining the streets to showcase their craft. There will also be seminars held all weekend so you can channel your inner sommelier.

When: Friday-Saturday, April 27-28, 2024

-<https://www.uncovercolorado.com>

April Garden Calendar

April is a pivotal month in your garden. While we may still see weather variability between winter and spring, the trend is definitely toward warming. As the ground warms the garden awakens.

Garden cleanup is the first priority.

- Rake leaves and debris from around trees, shrubs and other garden areas.
- If you haven't done so yet, cut back ornamental grasses.
- Prune summer blooming shrubs such as butterfly bush, blue mist spirea, potentilla, and some hydrangeas.
- Remove any broken or damaged branches from trees.

What we've been waiting for – Planting season begins now!

- Plant container or balled and burlapped trees and shrubs from now throughout spring.
- Now is the time to plant bare root roses. Soak roots in water for 12 hours before planting. Vegetables – Early April Outdoors
- Soak parsley seeds 24 hours before planting ¼” deep.
- Dill seeds should be pressed lightly into the soil.
- Peas can be sown as late as mid-April.
- Indoors- Start warm season vegetables from seed like tomatoes and peppers.
- Mid April Outdoors: Plant lettuce, chard, spinach, kale, beets, carrots, radishes and onion sets.
- Indoors - Start seeds of flowers like zinnias and celosia that need four weeks before planting outside. It's not too late to plant Cardinal Seed Vine and Hyacinth Bean Vine indoors; two annual vines that put on a beautiful show mid to late summer.

Other Garden Chores:

- Transplant: When soil has thawed, divide and transplant summer and fall blooming perennials such as sedum Autumn Joy, garden Phlox paniculata, Asters, perennial Dianthus, and Shasta Daisies.
- Roses – Once new growth starts, usually mid-April, slowly remove mulch from around the plants. Prune dead or damaged canes first, then prune all other canes to approximately 1 to 2 feet above ground. As active growth appears, fertilize with a rose food formulation of 9-14-9 which is higher in phosphorus to encourage blooms and strong roots. Do not prune live canes of climbing roses. However, cutting out dead canes is recommended.

Lawn care:

- Core aeration is one of the most beneficial things you can do to maintain a healthy lawn. This is also a good time to do an irrigation audit to make sure your system is working properly.

Weeding:

- As you see weeds pull them out. They are generally small this early and easy to remove.

Wasp control:

- Hang pheromone traps out to capture early emerging yellow-jackets. If you trap a queen early, you prevent a nest. These bright yellow traps are available at both garden centers and big box stores. They will not harm other insects just yellow-jacket wasps.

When you have questions, Colorado State University Extension has research-based answers. Get answers to your horticulture questions by visiting ask.extension.org any time day or night.

–Fredricka Bogardus, Colorado Master Gardener

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Have You Checked Your Roof Lately?

Now that we are officially in spring, the itch for summer is in full effect. My fingers are crossed for beautiful summer days, especially in comparison to what we received last year. Long gone was our famous sunshine, but instead, it was filled with record-breaking rain and hail. According to The National Weather Service, there were 151 reports of hail larger than 2 inches in diameter throughout Colorado. As a result, this ranked Colorado second in most reports of damaging-sized hail, only following Texas ... where everything is bigger.

If you have not had your roof inspected, you should contact a roofer immediately! Most insurance companies have a 1-year limit to file claims for repairs. Many homeowners do not know that they have roof damage. Currently, we have two clients who assumed that their roofs were in good condition and were surprised to find out that there was indeed damage. Fortunately, they could still file their claims to get these issues resolved. If you are in need of a company to inspect your roof, feel free to reach out to me and I can get it set up for you. It is much better to be safe than sorry!

— Rob Stark, Stark Real Estate Group

Find A Rainbow Day

Each year on April 3rd, National Find a Rainbow Day challenges us to look to the sky and find a colorful ray of hope cast across it.

Kiwanis Club of Columbine

The Kiwanis Club of Columbine is a group of volunteers dedicated to improving the lives of children and families in our community. We are serving our community with volunteer hours on some 50 active projects and making philanthropic gifts to over twenty different organizations throughout the year. Anyone is welcome to help on any of our projects or attend any of our social events anytime you like. You do not need to join the club to participate. We have a lot of fun, meet new people, and do a lot of good things for our community.

Recent project highlights:

Helping at the Sharing with Sheridan Food Pantry (consistently serving about 200 families every week). Our last successful blood drive in March. Upcoming projects that you can help wit include; Food Banks, Project Cure, Jefferson Symphony, Project Cure, Meals on Wheels. First Responders walk plus more and help at local schools, these is just a few of our projects. We have something that will fit anyone's interests and expertise, and we can use your help! Details about our upcoming projects are in our weekly newsletter, contact news@columbinekiwanis.org to get added to our newsletter email distribution. To learn more, visit our website at columbinekiwanis.org, or join us for a free breakfast at our weekly meeting any Wednesday at 7 a.m. at 4Gs restaurant, 5950 S Platte Canyon Rd, Littleton. We also have a bimonthly meeting at Columbine library on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 12:30 p.m. For more information email kensweet@gmail.com.

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Zoo Lovers Day

Each year on April 8th, National Zoo Lovers Day encourages us to explore our local zoos. Each year millions of people visit zoos and learn about the many animals that live there. Also known as zoological parks, many of them serve as breeding centers. These facilities are relied upon when species are endangered or at risk of becoming endangered. They also provide education to the public about a broad variety of animals and their habitats.



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