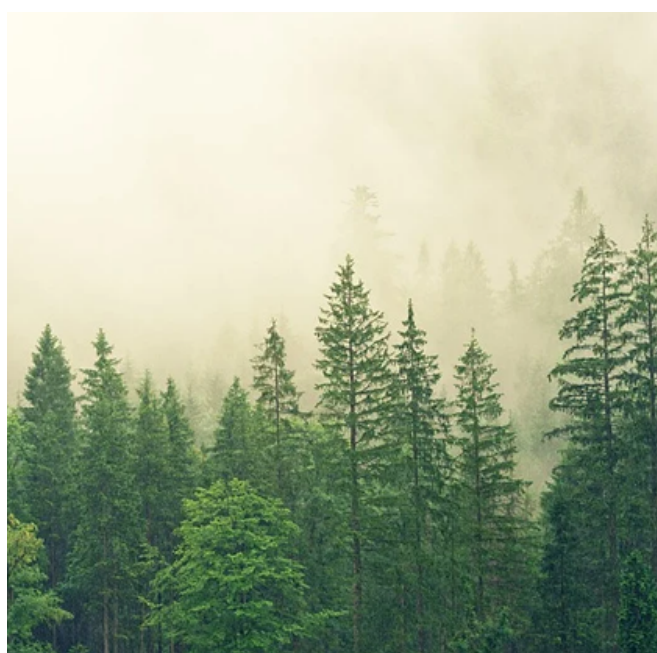


PLANT LIFE IN FORT COLLINS

To participate in [Nature Among Us: Plants](#), please visit our [Daily Discovery Blog](#)!



ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Plant species provide ecosystem services which help benefit lives all across our community. Have you ever tasted fresh produce grown from local plants at the farmers market? Or breathed fresh clean air that has been purified by plants? Local plants benefit us all! Can you identify an ecosystem service that local plants provide?

IDENTIFICATION

Did you know that over 500 species of plants reside in Fort Collins? It can be difficult to identify plants in our local natural places, there are some easy way to identify certain plants. For example, coniferous trees are different from deciduous trees because they have needles and stay green all year long. Can you identify a plant in Fort Collins?



HABITAT

Different species of plants flourish in different environments. When you explore local natural areas, try and observe what types of plants you see in different habitats! For example, plants in dry areas put the majority of their energy into creating deep and extensive root systems while plant species near aquatic habitats are able to sustain lush greenery. Why do you think plants make these adaptations for different habitats?

SAFETY

All our favorite fruits and vegetables come from plants. However, there are many plants and wild fruits that may look tasty, but can be very dangerous! Some leaves may irritate your skin and wild fruits and berries can be toxic to eat! You may even be allergic to certain wild plants. To be safe, never eat a wild plant unless it is produce that comes from your garden!

