



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**For Immediate Release**

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**Subject: February Landscape Lectures Can Help Protect and Beautify Greeley's Yards**

Greeley's popular Landscape Lecture Series returns for 2020.

The Water Conservation program promotes sustainable landscape practices in the local community. The Feb. 5 and Feb. 19 lectures will help local homeowners invest in trees and gardens.

**Feb. 5 — Emerald Ash Borer and Trees**

Last year officials confirmed the presence of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) beetle near the Town of Berthoud in Larimer County — the pest has not been found in Greeley. However, that confirmation warns of the upcoming and unavoidable introduction of EAB to Greeley's urban forest. When that happens, the infestation could adversely affect thousands of ash trees in the Greeley community. On Feb. 5, Shiloh Hatcher, Greeley's forestry manager, will teach how to identify EAB infestations and explain the impact it could have on the environment. His presentation will include information about what property owners can do to protect their ash trees.

**Feb. 19 — Life After Lawn: Bluegrass Removal Incentive Program**

The class covers best practices of removing part of a bluegrass lawn and transforming it into xeriscape areas. Reducing the amount of turf in your yard saves water. Another benefit is that attractive garden spaces increase curb appeal and property values. This spring, the city of Greeley will provide financial assistance to residences that replace 500 to 2,000 square feet of bluegrass with a xeric alternative. Attend this session to learn more about the program guidelines and how to begin the application process. Ruth Quade, Greeley's water conservation manager, leads this class.

Greeley's Landscape Lecture Series starts at 6:30 p.m. All Landscape Lecture Series events take place in City Council Chambers in City Center South, 1001 11<sup>th</sup> Ave. The classes are free, but RSVPs are required. Please visit [greeleygov.com/LandscapeLectures](http://greeleygov.com/LandscapeLectures) or call 970-350-9210 to sign-up and get more information.

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