

In Bloom

by Jennaye Derge

With all the rain lately, rumor has it that Durango is the new Portland. Of course, with April showers come May flowers! Rather, April, May *and* June showers bring the flowers! Lucky for us, the Durango Botanical Society is on the scene to help us identify friendly flower from weedy foe and turn even the blackest of thumbs green. To help showcase the area's bountiful flora, the society has created a "demonstration garden" behind the Durango Public Library, for all passersby to peruse. A group of dedicated volunteers keeps the garden neat and tidy, even offering free tours every Friday to those interested in seeing and learning about our Southwest landscape.



Volunteer with the Botanical Society, Tish Varney, explains the purpose of the demonstration garden during a Friday morning tour.



Passing cyclists on the river trail admire the flowers.



White sun daisies are shown to do great in our Zone 6 climate.



Botanical Society volunteer Tish Varney discusses ornamental grasses during a tour on Friday morning.



The *Digitalis purpurea*, or the common foxglove, shows off for viewers.



Volunteer with the Botanical Society, Cheryl Lynn, answers a question from Cherri Goad.