



Dear Stoney Brook Residents:

Welcome Spring! With the arrival of warmer weather, many of you will be ready to start sprucing up flower beds and landscaping around your homes. As a reminder, Stoney Brook's HOA guidelines state that only brown mulch or bark should be used.



According to Denver's Solid Waste Division's webpage on [acceptable materials](#), natural, untreated wood mulch such as shredded cedar and bark mulch **is** compostable and can be placed in your green wheelie compost bins. Mulch that is treated, dyed, or painted **should not be** composted and needs to be disposed of by other means. Our next Large Item Pickup date (maximum 10 bags) is Wednesday, May 20.

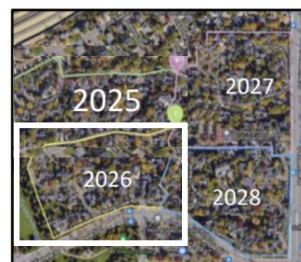
This guideline ensures that, throughout our community, we all enjoy a consistent, natural aesthetic. Those using other colors of mulch might be asked to remove and replace it at the owner's expense.

Thank you!  
Mike Meisinger  
Chairperson – Architectural Review Committee (ARC)

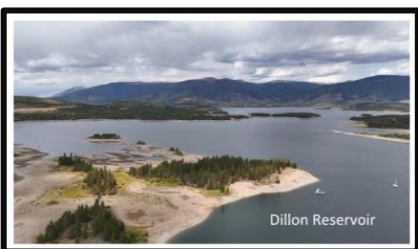


“Give ‘em a Brake!”

Arbor Gardens will be starting our annual Spring tree-trimming and pruning throughout the outlined “green zone” of our community. They will also start another round of Emerald Ash Borer treatments in the north half of Stoney Brook. We ask our residents to “Give ‘em a Brake”. Please respect all safety cone zones and use extra caution while driving around their crew and heavy equipment.



Thanks for your cooperation!  
Angela Laffoon  
Stoney Brook HOA – General Manager



### Warm Winter Weather Heightens Water Concerns

As you may have noticed, unseasonably warm weather this winter has signaled landscape plants to bud and bloom several weeks early. Such premature growth puts plants and trees at risk of drying out or suffering die back from a late season cold snap. You can help protect them by following these winter watering [guidelines from CSU and Denver Water](#)

It looks like we may have an exceptionally dry growing season ahead of us. As of March 15, Colorado's snowpack was the worst it's been in nearly 50 years. Since run-off from mountain snowmelt provides up to ninety percent of Denver's water, it's highly likely that water use restrictions will be in place this summer.

In the face of increased drought conditions, Denver Water is encouraging customers to practice water conservation, especially in the landscape. For now, they are asking homeowners to delay using automatic irrigation systems until mid-to-late May and to hand water plants whenever possible.

The Stoney Brook Landscape Committee is working on a list of recommended drought-tolerant plants for our community, which we will post on the website in the next few weeks. We will make printed copies available from the office as well.

In the meantime, the CSU Extension website is a terrific resource for all kinds of gardening. Check out their fact sheets with lists of [groundcovers](#), [trees and shrubs](#), [annual and perennial flowers](#), and [ornamental grasses](#) that survive and thrive in dry conditions.

*The Stoney Brook Landscape Committee*