

DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Facility Management



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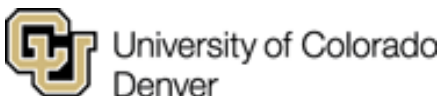
# Learning Landscapes Maintenance Toolkit



## Acknowledgements

The following document provides guidance and resources for collaborative Learning Landscapes maintenance. This document was prepared by the University of Colorado Denver for the DPS Grounds Department with input from several sources including:

- Cate Townley, Volunteer and Maintenance Coordinator Learning Landscapes
- Scott Muir, Community Outreach Assistant Learning Landscapes
- Mike Swankhouse, DPS Facility Management ,Grounds Foreman
- Troy Garner, DPS Facility Management, Special Projects Manager
- Lois Brink, Executive Director Learning Landscapes
- Darin Delay, DPS Construction Services, Project Manager



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## Introduction

Learning Landscapes is the result of a longstanding partnership between Denver Public Schools (DPS) and the University of Colorado Denver (UCD). Started in 1997, the Denver Public Schools Learning Landscape program is the first district-wide schoolyard redevelopment project in the nation. Funding for Learning Landscapes schoolyard construction came from a variety of sources. Initially, the Learning Landscapes Initiative, a public/private entrepreneurial effort, launched the fundraising efforts. In 2003 and 2008 Denver voters passed multi-million dollar bond initiatives to complete the redevelopment.

Learning Landscapes schoolyards are designed to celebrate the unique character of the school and are community, and constructed as multi-use environments for outdoor learning, creativity and physical activity. As a schoolyard transforms into a Learning Landscape the maintenance requirements at the site evolve. The foundation for preserving the quality and character of these unique schoolyards is respect from students and the surrounding community. Keeping Learning Landscapes looking beautiful is a collaborative effort. Everyone helps keep a watchful eye for vandalism and maintenance issues. Learning Landscape maintenance is a responsibility shared among the school, district facility management, and community members.

For more information visit: [Learning Landscapes Website](#)

### Vision:

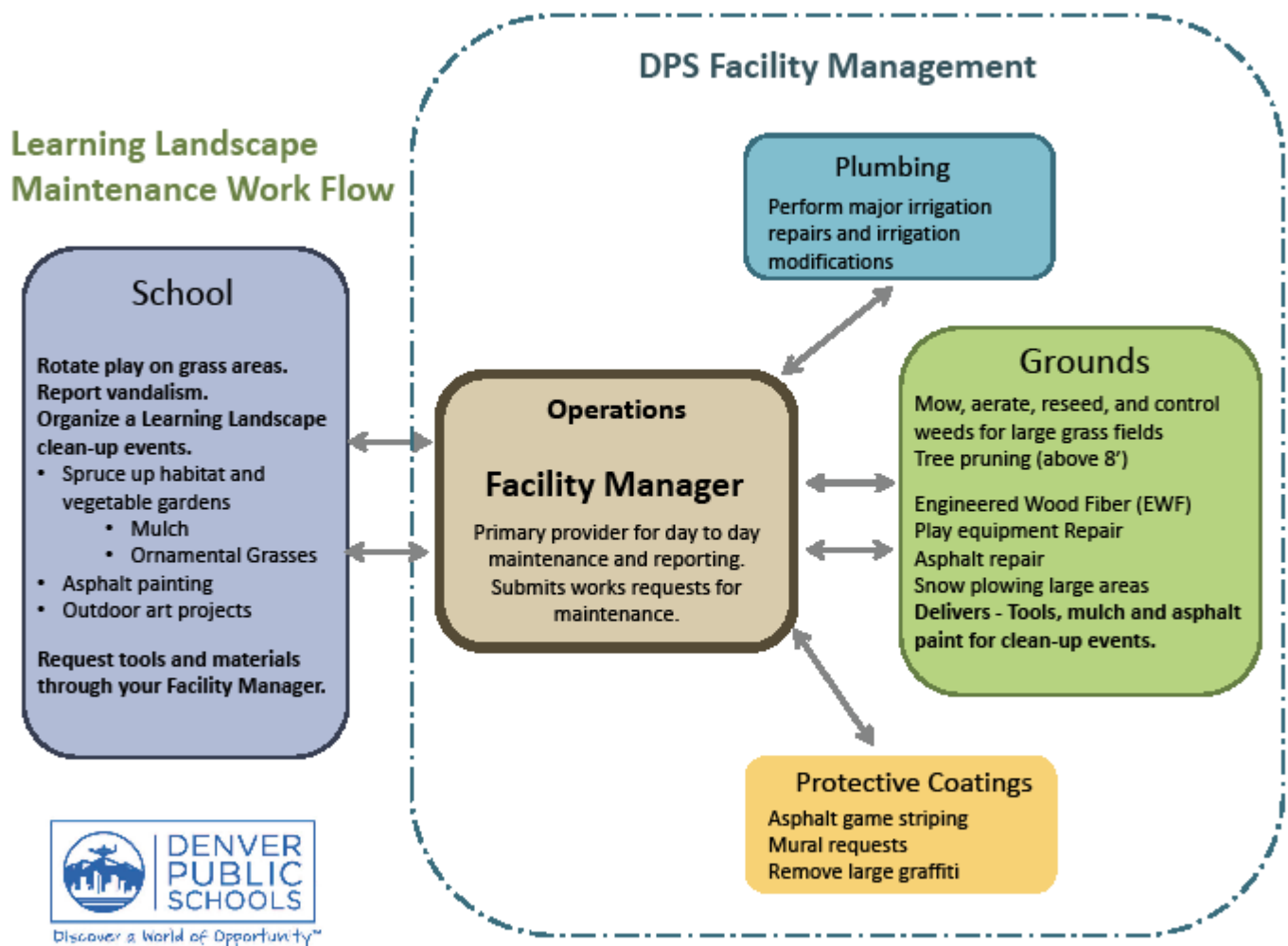
Schools, communities and DPS Facility Management will collaborate to maintain Learning Landscapes schoolyards as safe, attractive places for education, physical activity and community gathering for generations to come.



## Learning Landscape Shared Maintenance

### Maintenance Work Flow Chart

All Learning Landscape maintenance requests flow through the school's Facility Manager to the appropriate DPS Facility Management Departments.



## Frequently Asked Questions

**What can our school do to CLEAN UP our schoolyard?** DPS can provide most of the material you need. All you need to do is organize a schoolyard cleanup event to cleanup natural areas and gardens, rake leaves, add mulch, fluff play pits, and paint asphalt. For More Info: [Organizing a Schoolyard Cleanup](#)

**Can we PLANT TREES?** Yes you can. Contact your school's Facility Manger to get approval and determine other steps that may be needed to plant. For More Info: [Cool Schools \(Mile High Million\)](#)

**There is GRAFFITI on our playground. How can we get rid of it?** Meet with your principal and your school's Facility Manager to make sure a work order has to been submitted to DPS. DPS policy is that graffiti should be removed within 48 hours. For small areas ask you FM for graffiti removal supplies.

**How do we report schoolyard VANDALISM or broken play equipment?** Meet with your principal and your FM to confirm that a work order has been filed with the school district for repairs. Safety issues are prioritized. They should be reported within 24 hours, and noted as "Urgent Safety Issues."

**Our students can't reach the SWINGS?** The soft surface material under the swings needs to be either leveled or augmented with addition material. [Watch an Online Video](#) about EWF.

**Our FIELD is looking bad, brown and bare. What can we do?** There are three possible things causing this. 1) the irrigation water is turned off, 2) there is disease or 3) (most likely) the field is being over used. For More Info: [Field Rotation Information](#)

**How does our school create new BANNERS? Who supplies the paint & banners?** Each school purchases and coordinates the painting of new art banners. This is a great project to add unique character to the schoolyard, and help students take ownership of the space. For More Info: [Learning Landscapes Outdoor Art](#)

**We want to paint an ART MURAL at our school. How do we get started?** Murals are a great way to add colorful character to your schoolyard. Work with your FM to get approval for your mural project, from DPS Protective Coating Department. For More Info: [Learning Landscapes Outdoor Art Guide](#)

**How can we REPAINT ASPHALT games on our schoolyard?** Re-stripping White Lines: Have your FM place a work order with DPS Protective Coatings. Color Areas: Schools are responsible for adding color to the asphalt games. These can be repainted by small volunteer or student groups. DPS Grounds can provide you with the paint and tools. For More Info: [Asphalt Painting](#)

**How do we start a new school GARDEN?** Contact Laurel Mattrey, with the DPS Sustainability Department. For More Info, check out the [DPS Garden Coalition](#) or email: [laurel\\_mattrey@dpsk12.org](mailto:laurel_mattrey@dpsk12.org)

**Where do we get MULCH?** DPS will supply mulch for habitat areas, but NOT for vegetable gardens. - HABITAT AREAS: Have your FM place a work order with the DPS Grounds Department. - VEGETABLE GARDENS: Mulch donations can often be found from local tree companies (ask if they'll load it into a truck for you.) You'll probably need to pay if you'd like it delivered. For More Info: [Mulching](#).

**How do we stop the broken IRRIGATION geyser?** Talk with your Facility Manager. If the FM is not able to fix the irrigation then the FM will contact DPS Plumbing.



## Learning Landscape Maintenance Areas and Resources

### Asphalt and Hard Surface Games

Colorful hardscape games excite students' creativity during play. Every four to five years the hard surface games need to be repainted. DPS Protective Coatings paints the white striping outlining the game courts. Schools recruit volunteers to add color and details to the game areas. Schools work with their Facility Manager to order colored paint and supplies to complete the project. For more information visit the Learning Landscape guide: [Paint Colorful Asphalt Games](#)



### Habitat Areas

Learning Landscape habitat areas provide a place for curiosity, discovery and hands-on education in an urban environment. Habitat areas need care to continue to attract birds, bugs and other species. Schools are encouraged to work with their Facility Manager to keep their habitat areas attractive and inviting to students and community. Schools and volunteers can help with weeding, pruning, mulching and adding new plants. For more information visit the Learning Landscapes guides:

[Help Control Weeds](#)

[Mulch: Shrub Beds and Habitat Areas](#)

[Ornamental Grasses: Winter Trimming](#)



### Shade Trees

Trees are a valuable source of shade and beauty on the Learning Landscape. Schools care for trees by teaching students not to peel off bark or break low hanging limbs. Schools work with the Facility Manager to add trees to the Learning Landscape. For more information visit the Learning Landscapes guide:

[Young Trees: Pruning and Care](#)

For a local resource for trees and tree education for your school visit:

[Mile High Million School Tree Planting Program](#)



## ENSURING CONTINUED SUCCESS

### Grass playing fields

Grass playing fields at Learning Landscape sites follow district maintenance guidelines for mowing, aeration, reseeding, top dressing, weed control and fertilization. Schools do their part to keep the fields healthy by: **rotating** games during recess and PE to reduce wear patterns, **restricting** use during very dry or very wet field conditions and allowing fields to **recover** after heavy use and during spring growth.

#### Grass Fields: Keep Them Green

### Outdoor Artwork

Outdoor artwork gives students a sense of pride and ownership of their playground. Learning Landscapes outdoor artwork consists of student-designed banners, tiles and murals or installations by local artists. In addition to providing schools an opportunity to creatively express their unique character and culture, schools displaying outdoor art often report less vandalism.

Schools are responsible for maintaining and installing outdoor artwork. Visit the Learning Landscapes Outdoor Art Guide for more information.

#### Learning Landscapes Outdoor Art Guide



FORCE ELEMENTARY ANIMAL CLIMBING STRUCTURES (DESIGNED BY ELEMENTARY STUDENTS AND BUILT BY PLAYTIME)



**Vegetable Gardens, Urban Farms**

School vegetable gardens are an example of site-specific programming on Learning Landscapes that promote sustainability through community capacity building, healthy eating, and curriculum enhancement. In 2010 local garden organizations with a long history of working on Learning Landscapes schoolyards formed the Denver School Garden Coalition(DSGC) with DPS Facility Management. This group developed a document with guidelines and procedures for gardening on DPS Property. [DSGC Operating Manual](#)

<p><b>Denver Urban Gardens</b>                      BARRETT                      CHELTENHAM                      COLE                      DOULL                      EDISON                      FAIRVIEW                      FALLIS (Denver Green School)                      GREENLEE                      HARRINGTON                      JOHNSON                      MAXWELL                      MITCHELL                      PALMER                      PARK HILL                      PLACE BRIDGE                      SAMUELS                      SANDOVAL                      STECK                      SWANSEA                      VALDEZ                      BRADLEY                      BROMWELL                      BROWN                      ELLIS                      FAIRMONT                      LOWRY                      STEELE                      WHITTIER</p>	<p><b>Slow Food Denver</b>                      ASBURY                      CENTENNIAL                      CORY                      EAGLETON                      KUNSMILLER                      LINCOLN                      MCGLONE                      MCKINLEY-THATCHER                      MONTCLAIR                      SLAVENS                      SMITH                      STEDMAN                      TELLER                      BRADLEY                      BROMWELL                      BROWN                      ELLIS                      FAIRMONT                      LOWRY                      STEELE                      WHITTIER</p>	<p><b>No Affiliation</b>                      ASHLEY                      BRYANT-WEBSTER                      DENISON                      EVIE DENNIS                      FORD                      GILPIN                      GREENWOOD                      KNIGHT                      MARRAMA                      PHILIPS (Odyssey)                      ROBERTS                      SABIN                      SCHENCK                      WALLER</p>
<p><b>Learning Garden</b>                      AMESSE                      CASTRO                      COWELL                      NEWLON                      OAKLAND                      SCHMITT                      VALVERDE                      UNIVERSITY PARK</p>	<p><b>UrbaCulture Farms</b>                      COLUMBIAN</p>	<p><b>LiveWell Westwood</b>                      MUNROE</p>

# CARING FOR YOUR SCHOOLYARD



## ORGANIZE A SCHOOLYARD CLEAN UP!

### PLAN AHEAD!

1. Pick a Day
2. Reserve DPS Tools
3. Advertise with Posters/Newsletters
4. Have Fun!



**MULCHING BEDS** DPS provides free mulch. Contact DPS Grounds Department 2-3 weeks before your Work Day for mulch delivery.



### ASPHALT PAINTING

Keep your schoolyard bright and beautiful. DPS provides free paint. Paint asphalt every 2-3 years. [Click here for more info.](#)



### PLANTING

Fall: Plant bulbs in shrub beds and under trees.  
Spring: Plant Flowers and vegetables.



### WEEDING

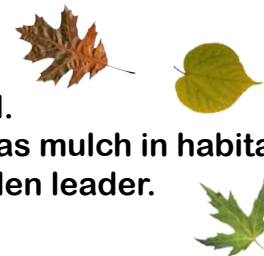
Dig up roots and preventing seeds from scattering. [Click here for more info](#) or a [Video on Weeding.](#)

### PRUNING Think Safety & Visibility!

Remove 'suckers' from the base of trees and thin plants so you can see through them (instead of shearing outside edges). [Click here for more info.](#)



**COMPOSTING LEAVES** Build Better Soil. Collect leaves in fall for compost bins or as mulch in habitat areas. Coordinate with your school's FM or garden leader.



### PLAY AREA EWF

Improve the safety of Engineered Wood Fibers by fluffing annually. [Watch a Video](#) on EWF Maintenance.



### GARBAGE & SWEEPING

No schoolyard clean up is complete without a final sweep. Take pride in your work and in your school.



**CONTACT DPS GROUNDS FOR TOOLS**  
Your school's FM can help.



**Spring or Fall, Bring Your Community Together to Keep your Schoolyard Beautiful !**

# ASPHALT PAINT



**Keep Your Schoolyard Bright & Beautiful!**

**DPS will provide all the Paint & Tools**  
Your FM can help you contact DPS Grounds.



4 people + 3 hours = 4 Tetherball Courts  
20 people + 6 hours = Your Entire Schoolyard



**Where to Begin** = Color Scheme & Supplies

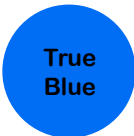
### COLOR CHOICE

DPS Grounds provides a standard set of 6 colors plus white for the 4" outline. Each color will be in a 5 gallon bucket.



### COVERAGE / QUANTITIES

Each Tetherball or Foursquare Court = 2 gallons of paint  
Foursquare Court = 15'x15' (225 sq.ft.)



### TOOLS / PAINT

Contact DPS Grounds to confirm your work day.  
Coordinate with your school's FM regarding an outdoor water source for pressure washing and utility closets for cleaning brushes on your work day.



**PREPARATION** - **Pressure washing is important so your work will last.**  
For best results, pressure washing should be done the day before.



**3 Weeks Before** - Schedule Paint & Tool Delivery with DPS  
After confirming tools, round up volunteers or students

**Day Before** - Confirm Color Scheme & Paint Quantities  
Pressure Wash the areas to be painted

**Day of** - Arrive early. Communicate Color Scheme. Have Fun!!

### PAINTING TIPS:

- USE DROP CLOTHS at paint stations (with rags for spills).
- Don't Paint Yourself In! Work from one side to the other or center out.
- Large Areas 1<sup>st</sup> - Pour paint into the center, then spread with rollers.
- Long handles for rollers can prevent back aches.
- Keep brushes and rollers with their colors to limit clean-up later.
- Provide buckets of water to place brushes in when not in use.
- Add Numbers, Letters & White Outlines last after all other paint is dry.





# WEEDS

## Get those Roots and Seeds!

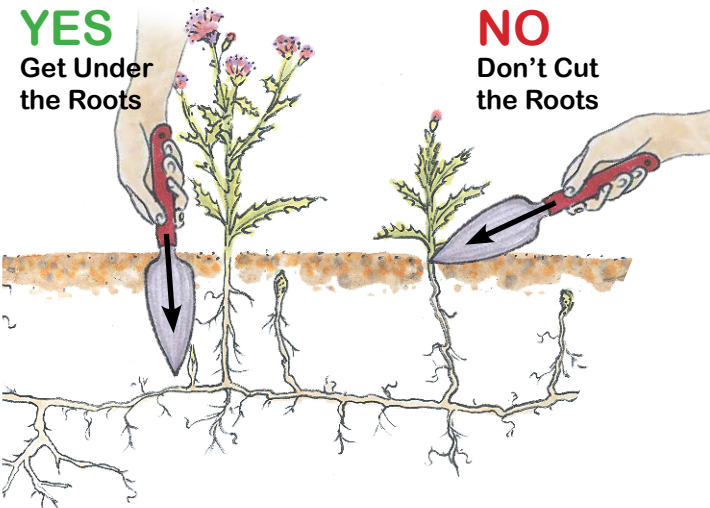


### Dig Deep!

Don't "Pull Weeds,"  
"Dig Weeds Out" with a trowel.  
Get those roots!

Make weeding a contest.  
Who can dig the longest root?

**YES**  
Get Under  
the Roots



**NO**  
Don't Cut  
the Roots



### 5 Usual Suspects:



Puncturevine A.K.A. "Goatheads"



Siberian Elm Tree



Prickly Lettuce

### Don't let Weeds go to Seed!

Flowers make Seeds.  
If you don't have time  
to dig up weeds,



cut flowers & seed heads  
and carefully bag them  
so they don't spread!



Canada Thistle



DPS Grounds can provide  
gloves & trowels for student groups.

Ask your FM to contact Grounds.

Watch a Video:  
[Controlling Schoolyard Weeds](#)



Bindweed  
(Related to Morning Glory)



# KEEPING YOUR FIELD GREEN

What can you do if your field has brown & bare spots?

1. Double check your irrigation - Is the water off? (Contact your FM)
2. There may be a disease or fungus. (Contact DPS Grounds)
3. Most likely, you need to manage the use of fields to spread wear and allow recovery. (Everyone Can Help)

## Every Day, Play a Different Way!

Students can play kickball every day, but encourage them to move home plate to a fresh patch of grass each day.



Move Goals Over

- or -

Rotate Goals 90°

## Other simple ways to minimize wear on your fields:

- Limit use when your field is very wet.
- Coordinate watering schedule around recess times.
- Limit use of your field in the winter.

**Remember:** Grass is alive! but grows very slowly in the Winter, so it can't recover as fast from heavy use.

**Rotate. Restrict. Recover.**

**Field Looks Stressed? Give it a Rest!**



# MULCH

Conserves Water  
Improves Soil Fertility  
Reduces Weed Growth



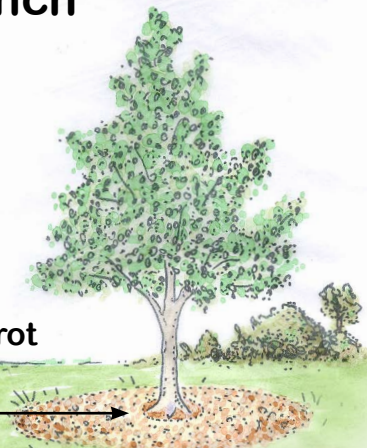
Help conserve water use on your schoolyard. Mulch does more than just look good. It reduces mud, prevents erosion and helps the soil retain moisture for plants.

Mulch can be spread anytime, spring or autumn. Contact DPS Grounds Dept. 2-3 weeks before your work day to coordinate a delivery of mulch. They can provide tools as well.

Your school's FM can help contact DPS.

**Aim for a 6 inch mulch layer**

Trees love a mulch ring, but keep it 3-4 inches from their trunk, to avoid moisture rot on their bark.



**Tips:**

- Spreading mulch near plants? Use your hands instead of a rake, to avoid accidental damage.
- Mulch isn't too heavy, so fill wheelbarrows all the way to the top.
- Use Square 'Transfer' Shovels
- Don't bury irrigation heads





# ORNAMENTAL GRASSES EARLY SPRING TRIMMING



## Not a Weed - Save the Seed!

Ornamental grasses are low-water, low-maintenance plants that are wonderful in habitat areas.

They grow in bunches and provide visual interest to snowy winter landscapes, while their seeds can be a valuable food source for birds.



Bundled Together



Leave 6-12 Inches

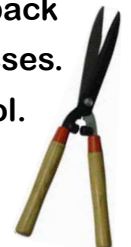
Ornamental grasses benefit from being cut back, and **winter is an excellent time, before new spring growth appears.**

The week before school starts back is **NOT** the best time to trim grasses.

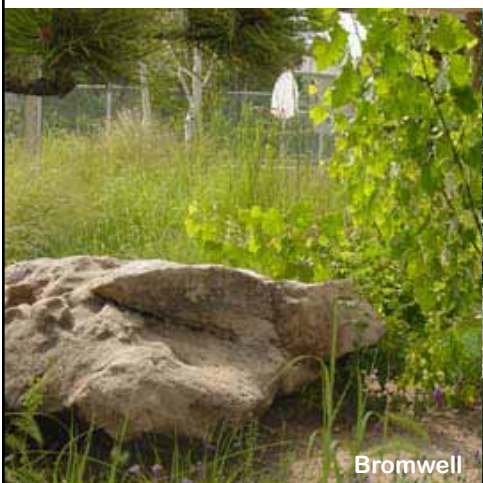
Focus on the rest of the school.



[Watch a Video](#)



Before trimming, **tie grasses together into bundles** using twine or a bungee cord to help make clean up easier. Do **NOT** cut grass even with the ground, as this can kill them. Instead, **leave 6-12 inches** of last season's growth, it will soon be hidden by new growth.



Bromwell



Ford



Formal 'Architectural' Use  
Fresh Growth at the Base  
Gilpin

Trimming habitat areas is less important - these grasses can be left long all year.

Grasses used to buffer play areas from parking. Still Green = Don't Trim Yet

These would look great all trimmed to the same height just before new spring growth.



# TREE CARE



Old majestic trees come from young trees that were well cared for.

Hand tools are best for tree trimming. Chain saws are faster, but pruning is not a race. Working slowly prevents accidents to both you and the tree.

**PRUNING:** "So a bird could fly through..." Thin trees so you can see through them, rather than shearing them into rigid shapes.



Remove Suckers



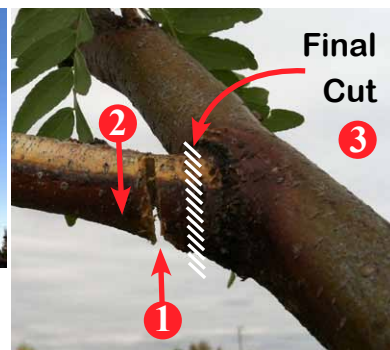
Criss-Cross: Remove smaller



Branches Too Clustered



A bird could fly through



## Pruning Priorities - Remove:

1. Suckers - growing from the base of trees.
2. Criss-Cross Branches - Branches that rub together damage the tree's bark and lead to disease. Remove the smaller limb.
3. Dead Wood - Rather than bending under snow weight or wind, dead wood will break, which can be dangerous.
4. Low Limbs - Less than 3" diameter and below 8 feet - Hanging from small branches can be dangerous for students, but also for the trees if their bark is torn or damaged.



**3-Step Saw Cut Prevents Bark Tears**

1. Under Cut - just out from final cut.
2. Main Cut - just out from undercut.
3. Clean-up Cut

**MULCH.** Mulch rings help keep young trees happy. They make mowing easier too!

**WATER.** Winter watering helps young trees stay healthy.



## Vocab:

**Cambium** - A tree's essential layer of living green tissue just beneath the bark; (Good)  
**Girdle** - Damage/Removal of a ring of bark all the way around a tree - Kills the tree; (Bad)





Ebert



Knight CEE

# Outdoor Art

Smith

**Art installations are created for each school by students and local artists**



Carson



Carson



Steck



Carson



Fairmont



Edison



Smith



Force



Harrington



Bromwell

**Learning Landscapes  
Tiles & Banners  
Murals & Sculptures**

**Outdoor Art Projects are a great way to give your schoolyard unique character while engaging your school community. When students help create outdoor art, they also gain a wonderful sense of pride and ownership in their playground.**



Smith

**Schools must get district permission before installing artwork**

For Funding, Check: [www.dpsfoundation.org/school\\_resources\\_AtoZfund.php](http://www.dpsfoundation.org/school_resources_AtoZfund.php)





# Outdoor Art

## Local Denver Artist Contacts

**Tony Ortega**  
tortegaartist@cs.com  
www.tonyortega.net/index.html  
Schools: Bromwell, Ebert, Gilpin



**Andy Dufford**  
andy@chevostudios.com  
www.chevostudios.com  
Carson, Ebert, Ellis, Fairmont, Steele, Southmoor



**Michael Gadlin**  
mgadlin@gadlinscanvas.com  
gadlinscanvas.com  
Columbine, Smith



**Robert Pietruszewski**  
artbob@visualidea.com  
robertpietruszewski.com  
Bromwell, Columbine, Ebert, Fallis, Gilpin



**Deb Grebener**  
sculptureinstone@yahoo.com  
debgrebenar.blogspot.com  
Bradley, Bromwell, Columbine, Eagleton, Fairmont



**Rik Sargent**  
sargentstudio@gmail.com  
College View, Goldrick



**Chris Olson**  
www.chrisolsonstudio.com  
Philips, Smith



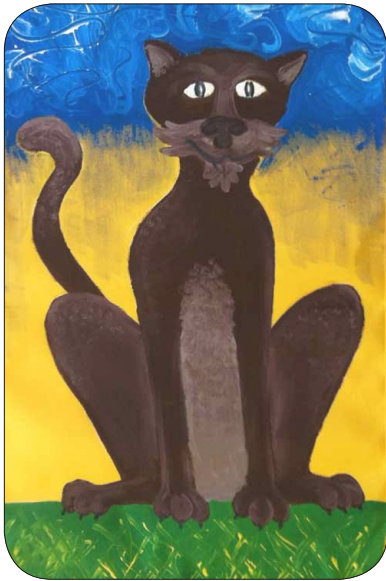
**Scott Muir**  
13scotts@gmail.com  
Greenwood, Knight CEE, Swigert, McKinley-Thatcher



**These local Denver artists created artwork for Learning Landscapes Schoolyards.**



# Outdoor Art BANNERS



- Display Student Artwork
- Create School Pride & Ownership
- Involve Community & Parents



Your Learning Landscapes playground has steel banner poles with horizontal arms to accommodate 44" x 24" canvas art banners.



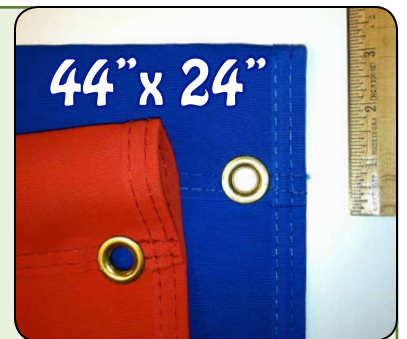
**Help Students  
Create New Banners!**

## Supplies & Vendors:

**BLANK BANNERS:**  
Denver Tent (local)  
Contact: Jeff Greene  
303-399-3232  
[www.denvertent.com](http://www.denvertent.com)  
Approx. \$40 per banner

Material Promotions (Connecticut)  
Contact: Peter Bove  
1-888-757-8908, 203-757-8911 (fax)  
[pbove@materialpromotions.com](mailto:pbove@materialpromotions.com)  
Approx. \$25 per banner

Banners - Nylon Canvas  
Double-Stitched Seams  
3" Pole Sleeves  
on Top & Bottom  
Security Grommets



**ACRYLIC PAINT :**  
Guiry's Art Supplies  
Contact: Felicia  
303-758-8244  
2468 South Colorado Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80220





# Outdoor Art BANNERS

**Outdoor Art Banners are a great way to display students' artwork and give the students a sense of pride & ownership in the playground.**

**Step 1: CHOOSE A THEME**

Character Traits, Seasons, International Flags, Nature Scenes, Colorado History, or ???



**Step 2: DESIGN**

Students brainstorm a theme, then create artwork on paper to develop their ideas. Select a few drawings or combine several.

**Step 3: TRANSFER ART ONTO CANVAS**

Use Chalk to transfer artwork to canvas banners.

**Step 4: PAINT !**

For best results, have 2-3 students work on each banner at a time, while others engage in another project. If students are inexperienced painters, take time to show them a few techniques:

- Small brushes are best for edging and details.
- Paint larger areas first, before small details.
- Lighter colors often require a second coat.
- Contrasting colors are easier to see far away.
- Save supplies and minimize mess -  
Give students colors only as they need them.

**TOUCH - UP**

Banners will be displayed high on your schoolyard, so take time to add contrasting outlines to lettering, so they can be read from the ground.

**Step 5: SEAL & HANG**

Protect from weathering with clear polyurethane, such as "Canvak" from Denver Tent. Secure banners to poles with carabiner clips. An 8 or 10 foot ladder should be tall enough.



Mixing Skin Tone Paint - Our skin tones are all different, so experiment. Darker colors are stronger, so only add a little paint at a time. Start with a White base & add Yellow, just a little Red & even less Brown. Remember, not all of your people need to be the same color.







- Display Student Artwork
- Create School Pride & Ownership
- Involve Community & Parents

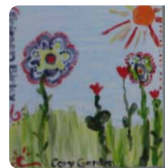
Your Learning Landscape has concrete seating walls with special recessed areas to accommodate ceramic tiles.

Help Students Create Art Tiles !



**Tiles** - Blank tiles are available in both 4"x 4" and 8"x 8" sizes. 8" tiles are sold 30 tiles/box - 4" tiles are sold 88 tiles/box - approx. \$40

**Glaze** - Use a low-fire ceramic glaze, such as 'Duncan Envisions I.N.' which is non-toxic. The colors stay true during the Kiln-Firing process.



## Supplies & Vendors:

### BLANK TILES:

Daltile  
735 S. Huron  
Denver, CO 80223  
303-744-1743

Ask About  
a DPS  
Discount !!

### GLAZES:

Mile Hi Ceramics  
77 Lipan Street  
303-825-4570

### FIRING TILES:

CAPCO Tile and Stone  
5800 E. Jewell  
Contact Sue McRae 303-300-8205

4"x 4" CD01 White STD  
product# CD01441P

8"x 8" Porcl Nat CD28 Bianc Ghiacci STD  
product# CD28881PP

Or you can fire your own  
if your school has an electric kiln.



Art Tiles are a great way to add playful color to your schoolyard. Your Learning Landscapes playground has concrete seating walls with special recessed areas to accommodate ceramic tiles.



### Step 1: THEME/DESIGN

Choose a theme for your school's tile project. For best results, students should create artwork on paper ahead of time, then transfer their design onto tiles using special low-fire glazes.

Step  
By  
Step

### Step 2: GLAZE

Do NOT water down glazes. Colors look best if they are applied in thin even strokes, with a second coat applied when dry. Dry brushes well after washing.

### Step 3: KILN FIRE

Tiles must be fired before installation. If you have an electric kiln, you can fire the tiles at your school @ Cone 06. Or, CapCo can fire the tiles for you.

### Step 4: INSTALL

Installation is simple, but requires a few special tools and 2 days of good weather. Having 2 or more people also helps.

- Day 1. Adhere the tiles. It helps to lay out the tiles before applying adhesive, to verify spacing. Follow the manufacturer's instructions, using a grooved trowel. 'Premixed Thinset' is easiest.

- Day 2. Grout the gaps. In addition to a rubber grouting trowel, you'll need a water bucket and a few large sponges, to buff and polish the tiles as grout sets.



These tiles were painted by Kindergarteners at Knight Center for Early Education, with the theme: "Things we find in a garden" Adults helped the young students add black outlines & details. Simple green stripes help unify the finished tiles.

