

Tips for Creating Sustainable Gardens

Mulch with wood chips, leaves, etc.

Increase planting density to out-compete weeds.

Encourage birds, butterflies, bees and other pollinators with plant choices, food, shelter, and water.

Tolerate some insect damage to plants.

Reduce/eliminate insecticide/herbicide use.

Include water-wise plants in the garden.

Include native plants in the garden.

Group plants with similar water needs.

Install efficient irrigation (e.g., drip, timers, soaker hoses).

Eliminate or reduce the size of the lawn.

Add rain barrels, bioswales, or other features to reduce runoff to storm drains.

Compost yard waste and kitchen scraps.

Amend soil with compost.

Modify or minimize hardscape (patios, decks, driveways) to reduce runoff to storm drains.



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