

START GARDENING IN AN ECO-FRIENDLY WAY!



CHOOSE THE RIGHT PLANTS

When it comes to eco-gardening, the rule of thumb is to always go native. Choose plants that can thrive in your area without needing much care. If you go for non-native or invasive plants, they may harm the entire ecosystem by wiping out native species.



ATTRACT FRIENDLY BUGS AND POLLINATORS

Aphids, cutworms, slugs, and beetles – these are the bad bugs. Ladybugs, lacewings, bees, butterflies – these are the good bugs. You want the latter on your side so they can get rid of the bad bugs and allow your crops to grow.

Plant flowers such as sunflowers and marigolds where the good bugs can take shelter and lay eggs.



ENCOURAGE BIRDS TO STAY

Another species you want to attract are birds. These feathered creatures will eat up all the snails, slugs, caterpillars, and other similar pests that are a danger to your garden.

Install a birdbath and put up a bird feeder to entice them.



PLANT LARGE TREES

Small plants also benefit from the cooling and shade that large trees provide during the summer. They are also great for reducing noise pollution that can easily scare away the bugs and insects that live in your eco-friendly garden.



CREATE A COMPOST PILE

You may not be aware of it but you have an infinite supply of materials that can be used to create your own compost pile. Kitchen scraps, garden waste, and household waste such as cardboard and newspapers can be disposed at one corner of your yard and wait for it to turn into rich and fertile soil.



USE WATER WISELY

There are many ways to do this including mulching, proper irrigation, collecting rainwater, and smart landscaping. What the last one means is you'll be using drought-resistant plants if you live in a dry area and water-tolerant plants if it's a wet area.



CONSIDER COMPANION PLANTING

Companion planting is also related to landscaping. It's where you place certain plants together so that they can improve their health and yield. Examples of these are tomatoes and chives, garlic and rose, and carrots and spring onions.



STICK WITH ORGANIC ALTERNATIVES

Complete abandonment of chemical-based products may be difficult but it is possible. There are many ways to get rid of garden pests like interplanting or using organic pesticides. You can also build fences and barriers that could limit the population of pests.



SET UP TRAPS FOR PESTS

Traps can also help in your abandonment of harmful pesticides and herbicides. They may be an eyesore, but sacrificing aesthetics is better than ruining the environment. Some examples of traps are the yellow sticky sheets you find at markets and a pot filled with milk or beer to catch slugs.



START SMALL

Don't push yourself to go organic all at once because the transition can really be hard. Take it one step at a time. Start with a small container garden or replacing just one chemical-based product. Ease yourself into it so that it doesn't feel too overwhelming.

KEY TAKEAWAY



Remember: An eco-friendly garden works with nature and not against it. Organic products are utilized to build the most beautiful and fruitful gardens and chemical-based alternatives are not given a single thought. It is home to different faunas and floras that are native to the area. The most delicious fruits, vegetables, and herbs are harvested from this garden and shared with friends and family. An eco-friendly garden is both edible and ornamental and the kind that everyone should aspire to have!



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