



## **ATTENTION GARDENERS!!**

If you are growing plants, you're already on your way to helping the planet to be greener. Here's how to make an even greater impact.

1. **Choose water wise plants:** When shopping for plants, look for those that will stand up to summer's driest and hottest conditions. Such as Gaillardia, Portulaca, Lantana, sedums or Succulents.
2. **Plant a tree:** Trees cool, our homes, purifies our air, supports wildlife, and minimizes run-off.
3. **Mix in native plants:** Besides beauty, native plants, offer food and shelter for birds, bees and butterflies.
4. **Use a water timer:** Attach one to your outdoor faucet to turn off water automatically, which saves time, money, and water.
5. **Compost garden waste:** Convert garden clippings, fall leaves, and even kitchen scraps into nutrient rich food for your soil by using a compost bin.
6. **Reduce and reuse plastic pots:** Do your part for our environment by reusing plastic pots or recycle them when up longer usable. Black plastic should not be recycled as waste sorting systems cannot recognize black pigments.
7. **Consider power tool alternatives:** Gas power tools have high carbon emissions, so opt for battery operated or go old-school...Pull out the rakes, use hand shears, reel mowers or brooms that will build muscle, save eardrums and appease neighbors!
8. **Lighten up on pest control:** Try to find a balance in protecting your landscape while also protecting the insects and all the environmental services they offer. Switch to natural sprays and even try learning to tolerate a few leaf holes!

**Earth Day is upon us and let's honor it by doing some "green gardening".**

*Your Environmental Action Committee thanks you for all you do to live more sustainably.*