

GardenSmart Resources

GardenSmart Troubleshooter

Try some of these ideas in your garden instead of reaching for a chemical control.

Aphids: A blast of water removes aphids and their eggs effectively while leaving their natural enemies (our allies) unharmed.

Powdery mildew (fungus): Mix 1 part low-fat milk to 9 parts water. Apply every week for three weeks.

Carrot rust fly: Cover young carrot seedlings with fabric row covers to prevent adult insects from laying eggs.

Flower bed weeds: Cover any exposed soil with grass clippings or fallen leaves. This provides a physical barrier for weed seed germination.

Backyard Compost Bins

\$40 at the North Shore Recycling Drop-off Depot - 29 Riverside Drive, North Vancouver (cheque or money order only) or www.nsrp.bc.ca (follow the links for online credit card ordering).



Various Resources

UBC Botanical Garden Help Forum -

www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org/forums

GVRD Compost Hotline - 604.736.2250

Evergreen Garden Consultations - 604.689.0766 or www.evergreen.ca

Fraser Richmond Soil & Fibre - 'Recycled' Soil for top-dressing, mulch, etc. - www.fraserrichmond.ca or 604.980.5413

North Shore Garden Stores

Avant Gardener (avantgardener.com)

Dykhof Nurseries (dykhofnurseries.com)

GardenWorks Stores (gardenworks.ca)

Maple Leaf Garden Centres (mapleleafgardencentre.ca)

West Van Florist Home and Garden (westvanflorist.com)

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North Shore GardenSmart

GardenSmart is a joint program of the District of North Vancouver, the City of North Vancouver, and the District of West Vancouver, and is administered by the North Shore Recycling Program (NSRP). **GardenSmart** provides information to North Shore residents through community workshops, school programs, and our award-winning North Shore Natural Gardens Tour. For program details and information, call the NSRP at 604.984.9730 or visit the website at www.gardensmart.ca.

North Shore Natural Gardens Tour

www.naturalgardentour.com

GardenSmart Workshops

A series of informative, practical and **free workshops** offered every spring. Topics include lawn maintenance, garden pest control, and composting. Check your municipality's **Garbage & Recycling Guide** or visit gardensmart.ca for details.

Natural Garden Parties

A limited number of fun, informative **backyard gardening workshops** are offered each year to North and West Vancouver residents. A minimum of 15 participants is required per workshop. Call the NSRP at **604.984.9730** or email info@gardensmart.ca for details or to book.

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North Shore Recycling Program

604.984.9730

www.gardensmart.ca

District of North Vancouver

City of North Vancouver

District of West Vancouver



GardenSmart



7 Simple Steps to a Great Garden

(on the North Shore)

www.gardensmart.ca

garden care that makes sense...

GardenSmart

garden care that makes sense



Did you know... this is what an aphid-eating ladybug youngster looks like? Keep an eye out for these good guys and keep them around!

Getting a great garden doesn't have to be complicated.

Even one simple step, like mulching with leaves every year, will have you well on your way to a healthier and more disease-resistant garden (of course, adding some of the other steps will get you there even faster).

"Find out what you can grow well, and grow lots of it." - Lord Abercrombie

STEP

1

Pick the Right Plants

Ask your local garden centre for help choosing plants that are pest and disease resistant. These plants are naturally more reliable and they won't let you down!

STEP

2

Put Them in the Right Place

Before you bring a new plant into your garden, think about its sun and soil requirements. If you're not sure, ask an expert for advice. Local garden stores have a great deal of expertise, and can help you choose plants suited to your unique garden conditions. They'll help you get your new plants off to a great start.

It's good to know... For information on lawn maintenance, pick up a copy of our GardenSmart **7 Steps to a Great Lawn**.

STEP

3

Build the Soil

Good soil is the foundation for a great garden! Ensure your plants have the nutrients and space they need to develop healthy root systems. Build your soil often by digging in some compost in the spring and fall. The compost adds nutrients and beneficial soil microorganisms and improves the structure of your soil.

STEP

4

Mulch

Mulch is essential for preventing weeds. It's a layer of material (like leaves) used to cover the soil and retain moisture. Cover bare soil with whatever you have available: grass clippings and leaves work well.

Save yourself a few trips to the curb - and build the soil in your garden at the same time!

STEP

5

Keep it Clean

Clean up and remove any *diseased plant parts* and set them out as part of your weekly garbage collection. This will help prevent plant disease from spreading in your garden.

STEP

6

Welcome Good Bugs

There are many native beneficial insects that can help make your gardening job a lot easier. Attract them to your garden by planting yummy herbs like dill, fennel, caraway and cilantro, as well as flowers such as sweet alyssum, calendula and candtuft. These flowers attract predator insects such as aphid-eating ladybugs and hover flies.



GardenSmart Tip: Add extra water to the kettle when making your tea, then pour the excess boiling water on weeds sprouting between pavement cracks. Over time this technique will take care of pesky patio weeds.

STEP

7

Water Wisely

While new plants and annuals require generous watering, established trees and shrubs need much less. For plants that require watering, water early in the morning - plants will be more receptive to the water at that time, and you'll lose less to evaporation. Avoid overwatering or too frequent watering, which encourages shallow root systems and can promote stress and disease. If you're unsure, ask for advice at your local garden centre.



Sometimes plants just don't work out... Consider replacing problem plants with trouble-free varieties that are better suited to your yard.

