

# Region 2's Lawn & Garden Challenge

It's easy to **FREE** your lawn and garden from fertilizers & pesticides. Begin by following the tips below.



For a low maintenance future, **replace lawns areas** with site-appropriate native plants that are naturally pest resistant. Select plants (including grasses) suitable for your site (including sun exposure) and your needs.



**Accept diversity** in your yard. Your lawn might not be as green as the next but embrace the flowering plants, like clover & dandelions. If certain “weeds” bother you, use your hands or tools to remove them, instead of chemicals.



**Mow your grass higher** (3 inches), mow only as needed and leave the grass clippings on the lawn. This enriches the soil, requires less water & chokes out weeds.



**Make compost** from plant materials and leaves. Use it to enrich garden soils or top dress your lawn.



If you chose to irrigate, **water deeply yet infrequently** – irrigation plus rainfall should not exceed 1 inch per week. Use ground covers or mulch to maintain soil moisture.



**Encourage your family, friends and neighbors** to join you.

To learn more tips about greenscaping and to ‘free your self,’ please visit [www.epa.gov/region2/p2/greenscaping](http://www.epa.gov/region2/p2/greenscaping)