

Sustainable OVERLOOK



*Sustainable Overlook is a committee of the Overlook Neighborhood Association.
Our mission is to foster resilience and build community.*

Natural Gardening Tips

2014

Appreciate Diversity

A few weeds in your lawn or a few nibbles on the leaves of your veggies are a sign of a healthy garden ecosystem.



Go pesticide-free

'Use tools not toxics'. Pull weeds and squish pest insects instead of spraying. Choose pesticide-free (untreated) lumber for landscaping projects. Dispose of old pesticides safely at a household hazardous waste site.

Soil

Start from the ground up by feeding your soil with compost and mulch. If you need to fertilize, opt for organic products. Protect and enrich your soil by using cover crops.

Water

Choose low-water use plants, then water deeply but infrequently to encourage deep roots.



Habitat

Plant natives and provide habitat for pest-eating birds and beneficial insects. Help wildlife with bird, bat and bee houses and provide water for birds and bees.

Lawn

Make your lawn an eco-lawn and replace unused turf areas with pollinator-friendly plantings.



Sustainable Overlook

We're a group of volunteers working to build community and make our neighborhood more sustainable. We're also a Transition Initiative which means we're using positive, local approaches to foster resilience in the face of climate change, energy descent, economic instability and natural disaster.

Get Involved

Do you have an idea for a sustainability project? Want to start a group in your own neighborhood? Check out the tips and resources on the back of this sheet. There are lots of ways to get involved!

Upcoming Events

- **May 31 Intersection Repair Party**
- **June 28 Overlook Garden Tour:** a tour of ten gardens that celebrates our Pesticide Free Neighborhood project. The sites vary widely, but they are all maintained without the use of toxic chemicals. Some are designed to encourage interaction between neighbors or provide resilience. They provide habitat, sustenance, sanctuary and so much more. Join us!

More at: www.sustainableoverlook.org

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Resources

See our website for links.

- [Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides](#)
- [Beyond Pesticides](#)
- [Backyard Habitat Certification Program](#)
- [Xerces Society](#)
- [Metro Natural Gardening](#)
- [Transition Initiative](#)
- [Bee Friendly Sabin Neighborhood](#)
- [Pesticide Free Zone](#)
- [Portland Urban Bee Keepers](#)
- [Friends of Overlook Blu](#)
- [Overlook Neighborhood Association](#)

Books

- [The Transition Companion](#) by Rob Hopkins
- [Gaia's Garden: A Guide to Homescale Permaculture](#) by Toby Hemenway
- [Food Not Lawns: How to Turn Your Yard into a Garden and your Neighborhood into a Community](#) by Heather Flores
- [A Householder's Guide to the Universe](#) by Harriet Fasenfest
- [The Post Carbon Reader](#) edited by Richard Heinberg and Daniel Lerch

