

Township of  
Langley



Est. 1873



## HOW TO GROW A HEALTHY, CHEMICAL FREE LAWN AND GARDEN

**Beautify your lawn and garden without the use of herbicides and pesticides.**

### **BUILD HEALTHY SOIL**

- Add compost to your garden to grow strong, insect and disease resistant plants.
- Top dress your lawn with compost to build a soil base that holds moisture and feeds pest-resistant grass.

### **MAINTAIN STRONG GRASS**

- Promote deep roots by letting the rain water your lawn or by watering for no more than one hour, once per week, in the dry season.
- Mow high (6-8 cm/2-3 in) and leave clippings on the lawn to give your grass 50% of the required nutrients.

### **ADD BIODIVERSITY**

- Plant a variety of flowering plants to encourage beneficial insects, such as ladybugs and bees, to eat pests and pollinate crops.
- Add compost to feed micro-organisms.

# USE HERBICIDES AND PESTICIDES ONLY AS A LAST RESORT. CHOOSE PRODUCTS THAT AREN'T MARKED WITH A HAZARD SYMBOL.

## GOT WEEDS?

Corn gluten meal must be applied early in the spring before weeds emerge in your lawn. The corn gluten meal is effective in controlling broad leaf weeds including dandelions.

This non-toxic recipe kills weeds along sidewalks, patios, driveways, and paving stones (not recommended for use on lawns).

- 4 cups vinegar
- ¼ cup salt
- 2 teaspoons dish soap

Put mixture into a spray bottle.  
Spray directly on unwanted plants on a sunny day.

## GOT BUGS?

- The most effective way to control aphids is to use a sharp blast of water. The blast damages the aphid's mouth parts, preventing the aphid from feeding.
- **Horticultural oil** targets scale insects, spider mites, white flies, and mealy bugs. Oils may harm beneficial insects, as well as some plants. Time of year for application can vary.
- **Diatomaceous earth** targets many insects and can be used cautiously both indoors and outdoors. Timing of application varies with the target pest.

## GOT DISEASES?

**Lime sulphur** targets powdery mildew, downy mildew, black knot, rust, scab, and black spot. Time of year for application can vary.

Hosted in partnership with Langley Environmental Partners Society

For more information:

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