



## Five Steps to a Climate-Smart Lawn and Garden

Taking responsible care of your lawn and garden can be one of the most important things you do to help calm our climate. Here are five steps that you can take that will help tackle climate change, protect your local environment, save money and provide your home with a lush and beautiful landscape, year after year.

### 1 Stop digging

Soils are living ecosystems, teeming with beneficial organisms that support plant growth and health. These organisms are your underground workforce. Digging, tillage and other forms of soil upheaval destroy underground communities and reduce the benefits these organisms can provide.

### 2 Keep soil well rooted

Roots are the main source of food for your microbial workforce, secreting sugars and other nutrients to feed them. Never leave soil without plants growing in it.

### 3 Nurture the soil

Respect your underground workforce; use carefully considered and gentle methods to feed the soil and protect plants.

### 4 Shield the soil

A bare soil is a vulnerable soil; your workforce needs to be protected - extreme temperatures and moisture levels harm and deplete your microbial workforce. Protect them by keeping soil covered.

### 5 Welcome diversity

Your lawn and garden are complex eco-systems. Different plants tend to attract and nurture different soil microbes. Strive for plant diversity.

