



GO PESTICIDE-FREE

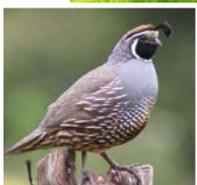
Why a Poison-Free Garden is a Healthy Garden

As gardeners and landscapers, we love to see the lush growth and abundant flowers and fruits of our labor. But did you know that the pesticides which you use to keep pests and weeds at bay, including rodenticides, herbicides, and insecticides, could be harming the very plants and soil you're trying to nurture? Not to mention the impact they have on our environment, health and the wildlife that eat the pests!



Here are some compelling reasons to go pesticide-free in your garden:

- 1. PROTECT BENEFICIAL INSECTS:** Pesticides don't just kill the "bad" insects like aphids and caterpillars, they also harm the "good" ones like bees, butterflies, and ladybugs that help pollinate and control pests naturally. By going pesticide-free, you can create a healthy ecosystem that supports a diverse range of insect life.
- 2. PROTECT LOCAL RODENT PREDATORS:** Owls, bobcats, mountain lions, foxes and other predators rely on rodents as their primary source of food. If these rodents are poisoned by rodenticides in your garden, the predators that feed on them can also be poisoned. When predators are sickened or killed we lose a natural source of pest control, allowing rodents to thrive. By removing rodenticides from your property you can help save local birds of prey and other predators and naturally keep down the rodent population at the same time.



NEVER USE THESE PRODUCTS

Atrazine
 Bromethalin
 Cholecalciferol
 Chlorphacinone
 Chlorpyrifos
 Clopyralid
 Diphacinone
 EDTA
 Glyphosate

Metaldehyde
 Methyl Bromide
 Napathaline
 Picloram
 Sulfuryl Flourid
 Triclopy
 Warfarin
 Zinc Phosphid
 2,4-D

3. **HEALTHIER SOIL:** Pesticides and herbicides can strip the soil of essential nutrients and beneficial microorganisms that plants need to thrive. By avoiding these chemicals, you can promote a more fertile and healthy soil that nourishes your plants and helps them resist disease and pests.
4. **SAFER FOR PETS AND WILDLIFE:** Pesticides and rodenticides are toxic not only to insects but also to other animals, including your pets and local wildlife. By avoiding these chemicals, you can create a safer environment for your furry friends and the creatures that call your garden home.
5. **BETTER FOR YOUR HEALTH:** Exposure to pesticides and herbicides has been linked to a range of health problems, including cancer, neurological damage, and reproductive disorders. By going pesticide-free, you can protect yourself and your family from these harmful chemicals.
6. **COST-EFFECTIVE:** Pesticides and herbicides can be expensive, and their effectiveness is often short-lived. By using natural methods like composting, crop rotation, and companion planting, you can create a sustainable garden that saves you money and reduces your environmental impact.

By going pesticide-free in your garden, you can create a beautiful and healthy environment that supports a diverse range of plant and animal life. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or working with a landscaping company, there are many resources available to help you make the switch to a more sustainable and eco-friendly approach.



Visit the [Town Website](#) for educational links and please share this brochure with your landscapers and gardeners.

Your garden—and the planet—will thank you for it!

The Town of Woodside [Environment & Open Space Committee](#)