

Natural Lawns & Gardens Ten Quick Tips



- 1) Choose plants/grasses that match property conditions. Choose native, drought resistant plants and use a variety of species.
- 2) Over-seed grass every Spring/Fall. Choose a blend of pest-resistant seed (blue grass/perennial rye/fescue) or try Dutch White Clover.
- 3) Aerate your lawn three times a year.
- 4) Keep lawnmower blades sharp and at a 7.5cm(3 in.) height. Long grass has strong roots and chokes out weeds.
- 5) Leave grass clippings on lawns to retain nutrients and moisture.
- 6) Lawns need only 2.5 cm (1 in.) of water weekly. Measure rainfall and water only if needed. Soaker hoses in garden beds give deep watering and minimize moulds/ disease on leaves.
- 7) Pull weeds by hand, when soil is moist. Re-seed weeded areas to discourage weeds. Remove insects by hand.
- 8) Spread organic material (eg. compost, seaweed) on lawns or gardens annually to add nutrients and soil structure.
- 9) Use natural fertilizer (following directions) in late Spring and Fall.
- 10) Mulch garden beds and around trees to keep moisture and control weeds.



Avoiding the unnecessary use of pesticide conforms to the precautionary principal aimed at maintaining a safe and healthy environment for Sechelt residents, pets and wildlife.



For more information visit:

www.fraserinfo.org/004CPR-Index

www.eartheasy.com

www.sechelt.ca

www.nysaes.cornell.edu/ent/biocontrol



District of Sechelt Guide to Natural Lawn & Garden Care and Pesticide Bylaw #441



Inside!

A clip-out wallet size reference card of allowed ingredients to take to your local garden centre!



Helpful ideas & alternatives for natural weed and pest prevention and control.

Pesticide Bylaw #441

Sechelt restricts non-essential use of pesticides and herbicides to protect environmental and community health. Studies have shown positive associations between these chemicals and some cancers, with children and pets being more susceptible (due to their size, rapid growth and tendency to be in close contact with lawns).



Should you consider use of a product not allowed (see list/reference card) you have one of two options.

- Consult the District of Sechelt in advance, apply for a Permit, and pay a \$50 fee, and
- abide by all Bylaw requirements (i.e. post notices, seek permission of neighbouring property owners, obey setbacks from public use areas and waterways, etc.).

or

Use the services of a licenced pesticide/herbicide applicator or firm.

For more information on Sechelt's Pesticide Bylaw No. 441, 2007, contact:

District of Sechelt
2nd Floor 5797 Cowrie Street
Telephone 604-885-1986, Fax 604-885-7591
email info@sechelt.ca website: www.sechelt.ca

Natural Garden Pest Control

as sourced from www.eartheasy.com More online!

Beneficial Insects

Beneficial insects which prey on harmful insects or their larvae, can be attracted to your garden or bought. There are many different species for specific problems.

Brachonids, Chalcids and Ichneumon Wasps

These insects destroy leaf-eating caterpillars. You can attract them to your garden by planting carrots, celery, parsley, caraway and Queen Anne's lace. Some of these plants should be left to flower, as that attracts the insects.

Ladybugs

Ladybugs consume aphids, mites, whiteflies and scale and can be attracted to your garden by planting members of the daisy family, tansy or yarrow.

Lacewings

Lacewings are avid consumers of aphids, and their larva eat aphids and other varieties of pests. They are attracted to "composite" flowers, such as yarrow, goldenrod, black-eyed susans and asters.

Hover-flies

Hover-flies are avid consumers of aphids, and their larva eat aphids and other pests. Like the Lacewings, they are attracted to yarrow, goldenrod, black-eyed susans and asters.

Nematodes

Effective against cutworms nematodes are also effective against beetles and root weevil larvae and are harmless to humans and pets.



**Take this Clip Out
Reference Card With
You to Your Local
Garden Centre!**



Non-Toxic & Homemade Remedies

Homemade remedies are inexpensive and you know what is going into your garden. Many homemade sprays have been used with good results to control harmful insects. They usually involve noxious (but non-toxic) ingredients such as garlic, cayenne, stinging nettles or horsetail which are diluted in water and blended to be sprayed on the plants.

Soft-bodied insects (mites, aphids, mealybugs):

Mix one tblsp of canola oil and a few drops of Ivory soap into a quart of water. Shake well and pour into a spray bottle. Spray plant from above down, and from below up, to get the underside of the leaves.

Mites and other insects:

Mix two tablespoons of hot pepper sauce or cayenne pepper with a few drops of Ivory soap into a quart of water. Let stand overnight, then stir and pour into a spray bottle and apply as above. Shake container frequently during application.

Grubs:

For lawn or garden grubs, there is a natural remedy called milky spore. One treatment is said to last 40 years. The grubs are actually the larvae of Japanese beetles. When you kill the grubs you kill the beetle.

Earwigs, slugs, and other soft-bodied garden pests:

Sprinkle diatomaceous earth over plants and around edges of garden beds. The diatoms particles are very small and sharp – but only harmful to the small exoskeletons of insects, slugs and snails.



Reference Card for Products Allowed Under Bylaw No. 441

- Insecticidal/Herbicideal Soaps
- Mineral / Dormant / Horticultural Oil
- Silicon Dioxide
- Borax(boracic/boric acid)
- Ferric Phosphate
- Acetic or Fatty Acids
- Pyrethrum or Pyrethrins
- Sulphur(Copper Sulphate, Lime Sulphur)

