

FLORIDA YARDS: DITCH THE TOXINS, GO GREEN INSTEAD

BEACHES GO GREEN 2.0



HEALTHY PLANET
HEALTHY YOU



A GREENER YARD STARTS AT HOME

Florida's beautiful landscapes are worth protecting—but many everyday yard care habits are harming the very environment that we love. From synthetic fertilizers that wash into our waterways to herbicides/weed killers that harm native wildlife and deplete our soil to gas-powered tools that pollute the air, what we use in our yards doesn't just stay in our yards - it spreads. The good news? Simple, sustainable swaps as well as choosing to use LESS chemicals in and around our yards can help keep our beaches clean, our wildlife safe, and our families healthier.



TOXINS HIDING IN FLORIDA LAWNS

- **Synthetic Fertilizers**
 - Run off into storm drains and local waterways, contributing to algae blooms, dead zones, and fish kills.
- **Weed Killers (like glyphosate/Roundup)**
 - Linked to cancer, toxic to pets, and harmful to native plants and pollinators.
- **Pesticides & Insecticides**
 - Kill more than just pests—many harm necessary pollinator butterflies, bees, birds, and even affect human health.
- **Gas-Powered Lawn Equipment**
 - Produces more air pollution per hour than most cars—and adds to Florida's air quality problems.





WHY IT MATTERS:

FLORIDA'S COASTLINES, RIVERS, AND AQUIFERS ARE ALL CONNECTED TO WHAT YOU DO IN YOUR YARD.

SAFER YARDS PROTECT KIDS, PETS, WILDLIFE, AND OUR FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS.

GREENER LANDSCAPING SAVES WATER, CUTS COSTS, AND SUPPORTS POLLINATORS.

EVERY SUSTAINABLE YARD HELPS PROTECT THE OCEAN FROM HARMFUL RUNOFF.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

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TO LEARN MORE:



www.beachescogreen.org

GIVE US A FOLLOW:



SUSTAINABLE SWAPS

Use Florida-native plants— They're drought-resistant, pest-tolerant, and thrive without chemicals.

Replace chemical fertilizers with compost, worm castings, or seaweed emulsions.

Ditch synthetic pest sprays. Try neem oil, insecticidal soap, plant companion plants that naturally ward off pests or attract beneficial insects.

Use vinegar & salt, boiling water, or manual weeding instead of chemical herbicides.

Choose to have LESS grass! Switch to electric or manual lawn tools— quieter and cleaner.

Mulch garden beds with UNDYED bark & mulch to retain moisture and block weeds.

Collect rainwater in barrels to irrigate naturally & make your own compost with food and yard waste