

Steps towards a Sustainable Garden

- Compost
- Mulch
- Use water wisely
- Use recycled and waste materials
- Don't remove green waste off site, even weeds – you are robbing your garden of nutrient – compost or mulch it, turn weeds into liquid feed or solarise them in a black plastic bag
- Grow plants suited to the local environment – local indigenous plants, local vegetable seed
- Reuse – pots, larger prunings for plant supports
- Grow plants for pollinators and beneficial insects
- Don't use pesticides
- Avoid unsustainable products (such as those using peat moss, coir peat is ok)
- Avoid petrol driven garden tools such as blower vacs and consider a hand push mower
- Make the garden insect, bird, plant and mammal friendly
- Use natural weedicides - such as 1 cup salt in a litre of vinegar
- Build a nutrient rich soil that will produce strong and healthy plants in your vegetable or fruit garden
- Be mindful that many 'water wise' plants have weed potential. We already have too many garden escapees in our local bushland
- Minimise soil disturbance – it upsets the ecology and beckons weeds

Some useful websites:

- Sustainable Gardening Australia www.sgaonline.org.au
- Permaculture – www.permaculture.org.au
- Gardening Australia – www.abc.net.au/gardening
- Organic gardening – www.thevegetablepatch.com
- Very edible gardens – www.veryediblegardens.com