

Going Green

Carbon gardening is about gardening in a way that understands the carbon footprint that is associated with various gardening products and also providing solutions to help gardeners become carbon neutral or even carbon negative.

Carbon gardening aims to plant species that are effective at capturing and storing carbon as well as gardening in such a way as to recover organic materials that would otherwise become waste and end up in landfills. Organic materials that end up in landfills decompose in a way that generates gas contributing to greenhouse gas emissions.

Carbon gardening encourages the practice of gardening in such a way that it reduces your households carbon footprint. This is done by capturing and storing carbon within the garden, thereby offsetting the carbon that is being released into the atmosphere, contributing to global warming.

Carbon gardening products can bring carbon offsets into your garden and these include composts, soil conditioners and mulches. These products provide your garden with vital nutrients, storing carbon in an environmentally friendly way, avoiding the need for non-organic fertilizers and pesticides, and divert them from landfill sites.

Here are a few tips on how to **Go Green** in you garden:

- Use recycled or artificial stone
- Source all wooden products from plantations
- Grow your own produce - this reduces the emissions and chemicals produced by large businesses and farms
- Use natural pesticides
- Remove weeds as soon as they occur
- Use environmentally safe cleaning products that way you can recycle waste water on the garden
- Use slow growing, drought tolerant lawn varieties
- Install a rainwater tank
- Use plants that are indigenous to your area
- Plant trees - these suck in carbon dioxide and store it away