



CLIMATE CHANGE WHAT CAN GARDENERS DO?

1. Green Your Living Space

Wherever possible, plant a large tree or shrub and green up any bare patches. Trees and shrubs remove heat-trapping CO₂ from the atmosphere, reduce the risk of flooding, and some species can even capture particulate pollution.

2. Plant a Diverse Range of Plants in Your Garden

Plant a diverse variety of pollinator friendly plants with different flowering times.

3. Avoid Wherever Possible the Use of Chemicals in Your Garden.

4. Adopt New Ways of Growing

Green walls and roofs can result in year-round energy savings due to a cooling effect in summer and an insulating effect in winter.

5. Water Use and Management in Gardens

Install large water butts to ensure a sufficient water supply over the summer. Select drought tolerant plants for dry sites.

6. Avoid Peat

Peatlands store considerable amounts of carbon. Look, ask for and use peat-free composts.

7. Invasive Species

Ensure that cultivated plants remain in the garden, and that legislation is adhered to during plant disposal. (Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and

Countryside Act and the Horticultural Code of Practice)

8. Compost Your Kitchen and Garden Waste

Garden and kitchen waste provide excellent nutrients for the garden, but if thrown away produce potent greenhouse gases in landfill sites.

9. Adopt the 4R's

Reduce the use of resources in your garden
Reuse household materials and seasonal items year on year
Recycle garden waste, plastic, glass and metals
Reinvest - buy recycled items

Text based on *Gardening in a Changing Climate* (RHS)
By Eleanor Webster, Ross Cameron and Alastair Culham

Further information

<https://www.ruralsprout.com/rainwater-collection/>
<https://www.renewableenergyhub.co.uk/main/rainwater-harvesting-information/benefits-of-rainwater-collection/>

<https://www.gardenersworld.com/how-to/maintain-the-garden/how-to-make-compost/>

<https://www.hotbincomposting.com/hotbin-composting-science.html>

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/recycling-waste-and-environment/recycling-and-waste/wasteaware-campaigns/composting.aspx>

<https://www.recyclenow.com/reduce-waste/composting>

<https://www.cumberlows.co.uk/about-the-compost/>

<https://www.gardenorganic.org.uk/>

<https://www.positive.news/society/positive-news-stories-from-week-36-of-2021/>



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