

## What is Smart Gardening?

Smart Gardening is an easy way to get a great looking yard while conserving water, energy and resources. You will also save time and money, all while doing something that helps make Malibu a nicer place to live.

## How can I be a Smart Gardener?

- 🗑️ **Bag, compost or recycle grass, tree limbs, leaves and other yard waste.** Soggy yard waste is a major contributor to clogged storm drains, street and neighborhood flooding.
- 🗑️ **Make sure you “grasscycle.”** Grasscycling is a helpful waste prevention activity in which grass clippings are left on the lawn after mowing, enabling the nutrients to return into the soil. Nearly 20 percent of the waste buried in landfills is from our yards – like grass and tree trimmings.
- 🗑️ **Don't overwater your lawn.** Excess water will carries contaminants through the stormdrain system to the ocean, untreated.
- 🗑️ **Be smart when you apply pesticides or fertilizers.** Do not apply pesticides or fertilizers before it rains. Not only will you lose most of the chemicals but you will also harm the environment.
- 🗑️ **Use native plants.** Native plants benefit the environment because they are naturally drought-resistant, more resistant to natural pests and diseases, and are better suited to provide natural cover and habitat for native wildlife.

## Share these tips with your landscaper!

For more Smart Gardening tips, log on to [www.888CleanLA.com](http://www.888CleanLA.com) or visit your local Smart Gardening demonstration center at:

**Gates Canyon Park**  
**25801 Thousand Oaks Boulevard**  
**Calabasas**

### NON-TOXIC PESTICIDE RECIPES:

Here are a couple of recipes for non-toxic sprays that are sure to keep the bugs away!

#### Hot Pepper Spray

1. Boil 2 or 3 very hot peppers, 1/2 onion and 1 clove garlic in water.
2. Steep for two days and strain.  
*(This spray will not damage indoor or outdoor plants and can be frozen for future use.)*

#### Soap Sprays

- Liquid soaps: Mix 2 tbsp. of soap per quart of water.
- Dry soaps: Mix 4 tbsp. per quart of water.  
*(Use only pure soap, as detergents will damage your plants.)*

Be sure to rinse the plants with fresh water after pests have been controlled!





PROJECT  
Pollution  
PREVENTION

City of Malibu  
Clean Water Program  
23815 Stuart Ranch Rd.  
Malibu, CA 90265  
[www.ci.malibu.ca.us](http://www.ci.malibu.ca.us)



# Get Smart...

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## ...about Gardening