













# TOP TEN EARTH-FRIENDLY STEPS YOU CAN TAKE AT HOME

 <p><b>Conserve Water</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adjust irrigation to avoid runoff &amp; overspray</li> <li>Use drip irrigation</li> <li>Avoid evaporation; irrigate when it's cooler</li> <li>Replace lawns with unthirsty, drought-tolerant plants</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Select Unthirsty Plants</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Select drought-tolerant plants to:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimize water use</li> <li>Maximize water uptake</li> </ul> </li> <li>Check out UC Davis' <i>Arboretum All-Stars</i> List for planting ideas &amp; recommendations <b>(1)</b></li> </ul>
 <p><b>Apply Mulch</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conserve moisture; minimize water use</li> <li>Reduce weed growth</li> <li>Moderate soil temperature</li> <li>Encourage beneficial soil organisms</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Plant a Vegetable Garden</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant anywhere—in a back yard, a front yard, a container, or a community garden</li> <li>Improve health by eating more vegetables</li> <li>Reduce carbon footprint—garden to table</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Compost at Home</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turn organic waste into a nutrient-rich soil amendment</li> <li>Improve the fertility &amp; health of the soil</li> <li>Reduce the need for chemical fertilizers</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Landscape with Edibles</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant strawberries instead of evergreen ground covers</li> <li>Plant berry hedges, grape vines</li> <li>Plant trees that produce edible fruit</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Manage Pests</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Control pest problems with an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach <b>(2)</b></li> <li>Use a combination of control methods: biological, cultural, physical</li> <li>Use the least toxic method for the desired result</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Plant Trees</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conserve energy by shading buildings and paved surfaces</li> <li>Filter airborne pollutants and reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide</li> <li>Reduce storm water runoff</li> <li>For more info, visit <i>The California Garden Web</i> <b>(3)</b></li> </ul>
 <p><b>Attract Bees &amp; Other Pollinators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant native plants that attract native bees</li> <li>Don't use pesticides</li> <li>Choose a variety of plants with staggered bloom times</li> <li>For more info, visit <i>How to Attract and Maintain Pollinators in Your Garden</i> <b>(4)</b></li> </ul>	 <p><b>Create Wildlife Habitat</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invite wildlife to dinner by providing food sources: berries, seeds, pollen and nectar</li> <li>Provide a water source for drinking/bathing</li> <li>Establish shelter and a place to raise young with shrubby plants and trees</li> </ul>

(1) All Stars Info [https://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/arboretum\\_all\\_stars.aspx](https://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/arboretum_all_stars.aspx)

(2) IPM Info <https://www2.ipm.ucanr.edu/What-is-IPM/>

(3) Tree Info [http://cagardenweb.ucanr.edu/Landscape\\_Trees/?uid=3&ds=411](http://cagardenweb.ucanr.edu/Landscape_Trees/?uid=3&ds=411)

(4) Pollinator Info <https://anrcatalog.ucanr.edu/Details.aspx?itemNo=8498>