

# Want to know more?

Guide to safe yard products:  
[www.GrowSmartGrowSafe.org](http://www.GrowSmartGrowSafe.org)

Tips on lawns, gardens, and pests:  
<http://gardening.wsu.edu>

Soil and composting:  
[www.kingcounty.gov/soils](http://www.kingcounty.gov/soils)

Yard and garden:  
[www.kingcounty.gov/natural-yard](http://www.kingcounty.gov/natural-yard)

Using less toxics:  
[www.govlink.org/hazwaste/house](http://www.govlink.org/hazwaste/house)

Right plant for the right place:  
[www.GreatPlantPicks.org](http://www.GreatPlantPicks.org)

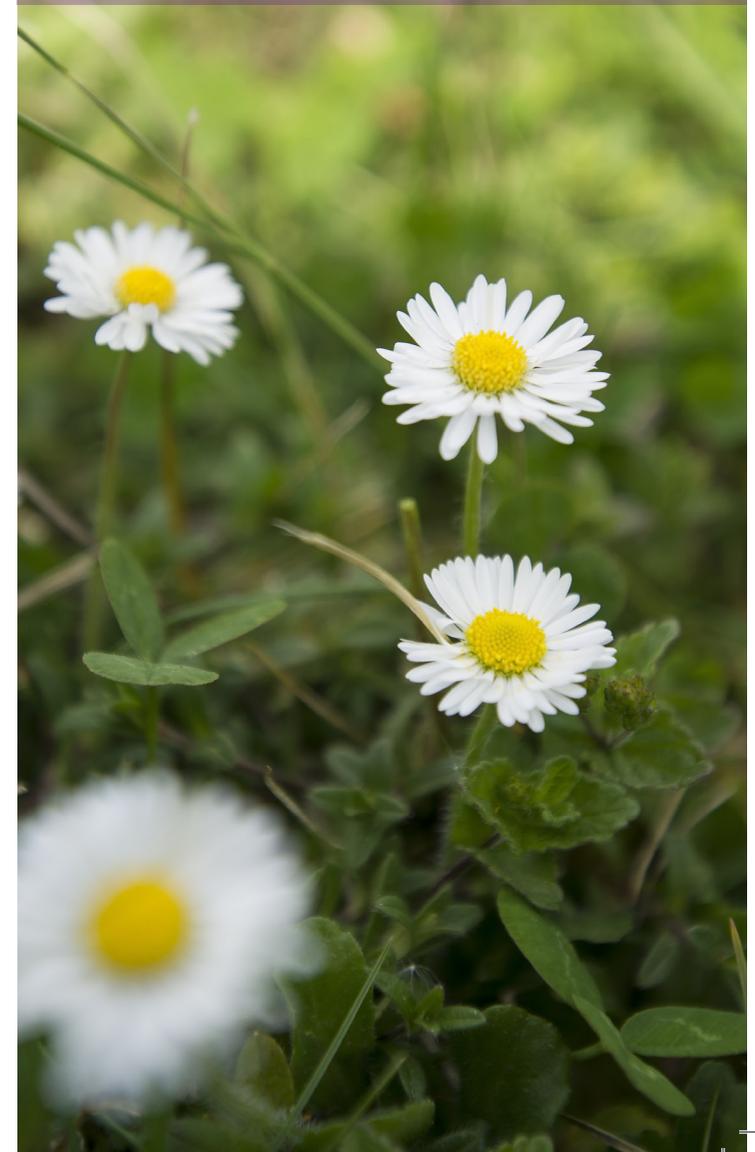
Information on native plants:  
[www.kingcounty.gov/gonative](http://www.kingcounty.gov/gonative)



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# Natural Yard Care

*Five easy steps for healthy yards,  
healthy families, and healthy lakes.*



# Why Go Natural?

Going natural can help you:

**Save Money** on watering, fertilizers, and chemicals.

**Keep family and pets healthy** by limiting their contact with chemicals.

**Protect the environment** by limiting the amount of chemicals and nutrients that run off of your property into our nearby lakes.



## 1 Build Healthy Soil

Adding compost, mulch, and other natural amendments helps build healthy soil. Healthy soil retains more water and helps to reduce run-off into local waterways. It also leads to healthier plants that are more resistant to pests, lessening the need for chemical sprays.



## 2 Practice Smart Watering

Too much or too little water can both be harmful to your plants, making them more likely to suffer from pests and disease. Instead, water infrequently but deeply, create healthy soil that water can soak into, and maintain your irrigation system.



## 3 Use Less Sprays

Use natural pest and weed control practices first. Try using pest traps, fabric row covers, and natural repellents to fight insects and weeds before picking up the chemical sprays.



## 4 Plant Right for Your Site

Every plant has different needs, and different parts of your yard may be better suited for some plants over others. When you put the right plant in the right place, all your plants will thrive and your yard will be easier to care for.



## 5 Practice Natural Lawn Care

Lawns are where we often use the most pesticides, water, and fertilizers. Proper mowing, using “slow release” or “organic” fertilizers, aerating your soil, and smart watering will help you create a lush, green lawn, naturally.

