



PLANT NURSERIES

- **Bennett Valley Gardens**, Santa Rosa
(707) 569-8624
- **California Flora Nursery**, Fulton
(707) 528-8813
- **Cloverdale Nursery**, Cloverdale
(707) 894-6654
- **Cottage Gardens of Petaluma**
(707) 778-8025
- **Emerisa Gardens**, Santa Rosa
(707) 525-9644
- **Friedman's**, (707) Santa Rosa 584-7811;
Petaluma 774-8400; Sonoma 939-8811
- **Harmony Farm Supply**, Sebastopol
(707) 823-9125
- **King's Nursery**, Santa Rosa
(707) 542-4782
- **Mostly Natives Nursery**, Pt. Reyes
(415) 663-8835
- **Prickett's Nursery**, (707) Santa Rosa
539-3030; Healdsburg 433-8904
- **Sonoma Mission Gardens**, Sonoma
(707) 938-5775
- **Urban Tree Farm**, Fulton
(707) 544-4446
- **Wild Garden Farm**, Petaluma
(707) 769-9114
- **Wine Country Garden Center**, Sonoma
(707) 938-2727

IRRIGATION SUPPLIERS

- **Central Valley Builders Supply**, Healdsburg
(707) 473-9722
- **Harmony Farm Supply**, Sebastopol
(707) 823-9125
- **Horizon**, Santa Rosa
(707) 584-7272
- **Site One Landscape Supply**, Santa Rosa
(707) 526-1171
- **Watersavers Irrigation**, Petaluma
(707) 763-5415
- **Wyatt**, Santa Rosa and Petaluma
(707) 578-3747 or (707) 762-3747

HELPFUL RESOURCES

UC Master Gardener Program of Sonoma County

<http://sonomamg.ucanr.edu>

Information about lawn removal, water-wise gardening, low water-use plants, and sustainable garden practices.

Sonoma & Marin Water Smart Plant Guide

www.sonoma.watersavingplants.com

Comprehensive low water use plant database, searchable by common name or botanical name; helpful lists of plants for specific uses, photographs of waterwise gardens, ability to create your own list of plants, and more!

Version 5.20



Garden Sense is a cooperative program between the UC Master Gardener Program of Sonoma County and the Sonoma County Water Agency



Photo Courtesy of Daily Acts

Do-It-Yourself Lawn Removal

Resources, Tips, & Advice
for Completing Your Garden



SHEET MULCHING IS . . .

. . . An easy way to remove your lawn without digging it out or using chemicals!

It eliminates the labor of lawn removal, the cost of disposing of the old sod, and it allows you to plant a gorgeous garden immediately.

. . . An easy way to recycle cardboard and newspapers!

Simply cover the lawn with the material, overlapping everything at least 6 inches to prevent light from reaching the grass. The cardboard and grass will compost in place, adding nutrients to the soil.

. . . An easy way to build your soil fertility!

Worms and soil organisms will love feeding on your lawn as it decomposes, creating great soil for your new plants to thrive in.

Just Follow These Steps:

1. If you have an automated sprinkler system, convert it to drip irrigation. (see our irrigation conversion flyer or our website)
2. Cut the grass as low as you can. Bevel (cut away at an angle) all edges that contact hard-scape to accommodate the addition of about 5" of compost and mulch.
3. If planting 5 gallon or larger plants, be sure that the rootball of the plant is 3 to 4 inches above the existing soil surface to account for the inches of soil/compost that will be added in the next steps. The width of the hole should be 2-3 times as wide as the plant container. Turn the dug out sod upside down around the



plants and water thoroughly.

4. Lay the cardboard and/or newspaper over the lawn, overlapping each piece at least 6 inches. If using newspaper, be sure to use a thickness of at least 5 sheets, and wet them as you go to keep them in place.
5. Add 3-4 inches of soil (if planting right away) or 1-2 inches of compost (if planting in 6-9 months) on top of the wet cardboard. In Sonoma County, fall is the ideal time to plant.
6. Plant smaller plants directly into the soil, then water thoroughly.
7. Install drip irrigation after planting.
8. Add 2 inches of mulch around the plants to deter weed growth, maintain soil moisture, and moderate soil temperatures. **Be sure to keep the mulch well away from the trunk and crown of trees and shrubs, and avoid contact with the stems of perennials and groundcovers.** Water everything thoroughly.

Be sure to monitor new plants for drought stress – even low water use plants require regular irrigation until established!

SHEET MULCHING SUPPLIES

FREE cardboard can be found at bike, mattress, and appliance stores, solar panel suppliers, and at the landfill. Tree services will often deliver arbor mulch free of charge.

Retail Suppliers:

- **Den Beste Soil**, Cloverdale
(707) 975-5901
Soil, compost, mulch, and rock
- **Grab N' Grow**, Santa Rosa, (707) 575-7275
Cardboard rolls, compost, and mulch
- **I-ROC**, Cloverdale, (707) 894-2879
Soil, compost, mulch, and rock
- **Laguna Compost Facility**, Santa Rosa
(707) 543-3442 • Compost
- **MIX Garden**, Healdsburg, (707) 433-4327
Soil, compost, mulch, and gravel
- **Sequoia Landscape Materials**, Santa Rosa,
(707) 527-5512
Soil, compost, mulch, and rock
- **Soils Plus**, Sonoma, (707) 996-3400
Cardboard rolls, compost, and mulch
- **Sonomarin Landscape Materials**, Petaluma
(707) 762-0505
Soil, compost, mulch, and rock
- **Wheeler-Zamaroni**, Santa Rosa,
(707) 543-8400
Soil, compost, mulch, and rock

NEED ADDITIONAL HELP?

Qualified Water Efficient Landscapers (QWEL) are trained in water efficient landscape design and maintenance. QWEL certified professionals can be found at www.qwel.net