Organic Gardening & INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

Sarasota’s community gardens are proud to be organic. Organic gardening and Integrated Pest Management emphasize preventing problems before they occur, soil building, working with nature, and using the least toxic substance possible if intervention is required. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a key part of organic gardening, and uses a tiered approach consisting of cultural, physical, and biological methods first and chemical as the last resort.

**WHAT’S ALLOWED?**

Below are approved fertilizers and soil amendments:

- N-nitrogen, P-phosphorus, K-potassium
- Compost (N, P, K)
- Animal manures, composted before use (N)
- Alfalfa meal (N)
- Blood meal (N)
- Hoof and horn meal (N)
- Kelp or seaweed, liquid or powder (N)
- Fish emulsion (N, P)
- Wood ashes (K)
- Granite or feldspar dust (K)
- Greensand (K)
- Charcoal or Biochar
- Bioinoculants approved for organic farming
- Natural organic fertilizers
- Compost teas

**WHAT’S NOT ALLOWED?**

- Synthetic fertilizers of any kind
- Formulations containing sewage sludge
- Earthworm castings
- Beneficial microbes (e.g., Azotobacter, Bacillus spp.)

For more information on organic gardening and Integrated Pest Management, please visit: sarasota.ifas.ufl.edu/Hort/commgarden.shtml