

Benefits of Lawn Improvements

Transitioning away from grass lawns can help to:

Reduce air, land, and water pollution from lawn-care

Improve local biodiversity

Keep your family, pets, local wildlife, and ecosystems happier and healthier!

Resources to get started

homegrownnationalpark.org

Identify native plants:
nativeplantfinder.nwf.org/plants

Purchase native plants:
prairienursery.com

EPA Lawn and Garden Page:
epa.gov/safepestcontrol/lawn-and-garden

foodrevolution.org/blog/community-gardens/

CCAC Resources:

Compact.org/download-ccac-resources

Email: CCAC@compact.org

Instagram: [@CampusCompact](https://www.instagram.com/CampusCompact)

Climate Action Guide

How to Transform Your Lawn





How can I start?

Step 1. Decide on your lawn replacement/improvement

Identify native plants and food crops that grow in your area, or create a pollinator garden. Consider grass alternatives like moss, clover, and native grasses.

Step 2. Remove grass lawn and test soil

Wait for the grass to die or tear it up. Different plants have different soil pH preferences. Soil test kits are available at home centers, plant nurseries, or online. You can also send a soil sample to a lab to test for nutrients and deficiencies.

Step 3. Install your new lawn-alternative

Research instructions for tending to your specific plants. Remember, native plants typically require less maintenance since they naturally evolved to survive in your area.



Improve Your Lawn:

Plant native species and pollinator gardens



Benefits to the Environment:

They **provide vital resources** like habitat and food that local pollinators and ecosystems need to survive.

Benefits to you:

Save **time, money, and water!**

Native plants are already well adapted to the local climate so they require less maintenance and upkeep!

Want to keep a “lawn?”



You don't have to tear out your lawn entirely to improve its environmental impact. Try these tips to maintain a safer, healthier lawn:

Grass alternatives

Incorporate or switch to moss, clover, or native grasses, which provide similar lawn space but require less maintenance

Go pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer-free

Prevent unnecessary chemical pollution: consider natural alternatives like composting and homemade pesticides

Downsize

Keep your grass but dedicate some lawn space to native plants, trees, and gardens

Water more efficiently

Understand how much water your lawn really needs and prevent water loss from evaporation by watering in early morning/late evening