

Ways to Save: Around Your Home

Whether you rent or own your home, we all have bills to pay. Lots of bills, it seems.

We can help.

Our "Ways to Save" project provides a range of cost-saving tips on many of the common expenses you face every day, like utility bills and food costs. Find advice and information in our videos, classes, projects, blog posts and more, including this fact sheet, which shares some easy ways to cut costs around your home.

Save... on Landscaping

Incorporate Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ principles into your landscaping plans. While the Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ program was developed to protect and conserve our natural resources, such as water quality, it can also help save you money. Learn more at ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/plants.

Right plant, right place

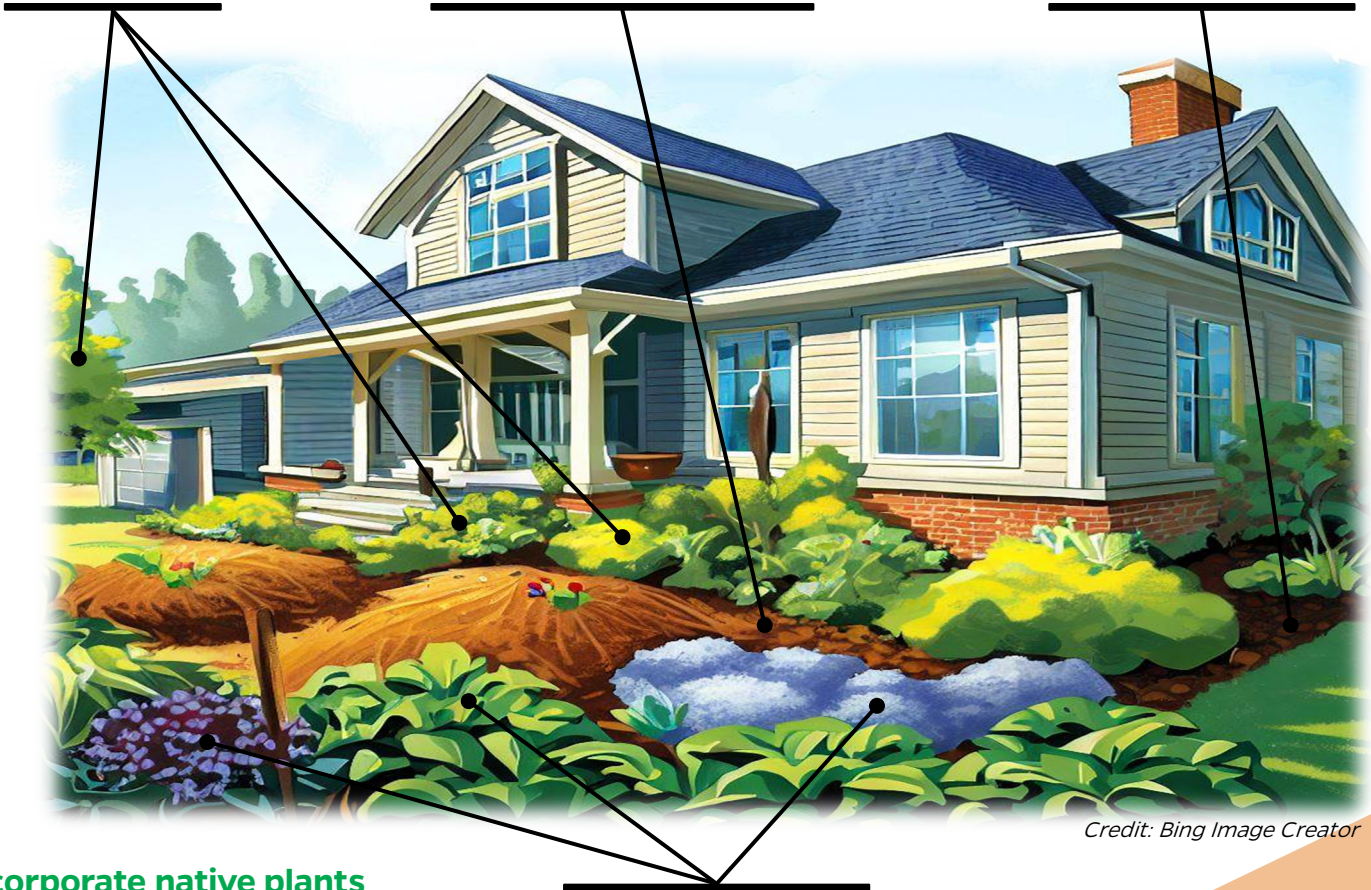
Design your landscape with Florida-friendly choices to use less water, fertilizer, and pesticides.

Recycle yard waste

Putting leaves and grass clippings into landscape beds can cut down on fertilizer use, increase your topsoil quality, and keep nutrient-filled waste out of landfills.

Mulch

Adding 2-3" of mulch around your landscape plants boosts soil quality, cuts the need for water and fertilizer, and helps control weeds.



Credit: Bing Image Creator

Incorporate native plants

Native plants are adapted to local soil and climate conditions within their natural growing range, and can save you money in numerous ways including:

- Lowered water use: established native plants require little to no irrigation.
- Decreased chemical use: native plants thrive without soil amendments and fertilizers, common for ornamental non-native plants.
- Greater pest resistance: native plants evolved with local pests, and don't need costly pesticides.
- Less frequent plant replacement: native plants generally establish quickly and survive well, unlike non-native plants.

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(cont'd)

Save... with Edible Gardening

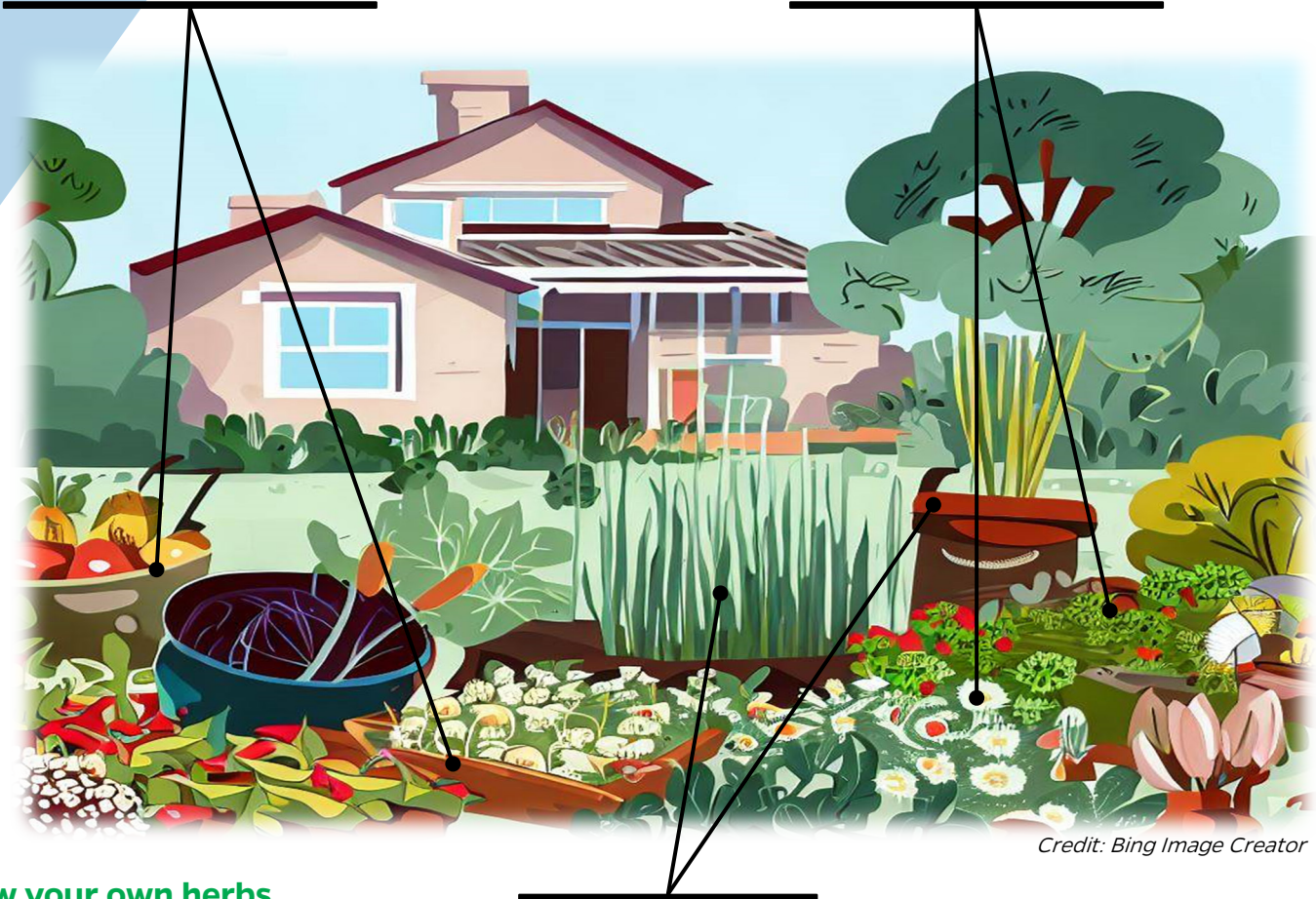
Repurpose food containers

Clean and use food containers, like leftover cartons as seed starters, transplant trays or even a planter. Note that some recyclable plastics, like #2 and #5, might hold up better to Florida heat or grow lights.

Edible flowers

Get double the value by growing edible flowers. They add beauty to your landscape, and also dress up salads, infuse flavor into foods, and more.

Learn more: tiny.cc/ifas_edibleflowers.



Credit: Bing Image Creator

Grow your own herbs

Whether planted as seeds or propagated from existing plants, growing your own herbs helps you keep costs in check. Herbs provide a wallop of seasoning and flavor to homemade meals, without adding salt! Sprigs of aromatic herbs, like rosemary, can dress up gifts, and small plants make great gifts. Learn what, when and how to grow at tiny.cc/ifas_herbs and tiny.cc/edis_herbs.

Learn more "Ways to Save"

- Follow us on social media for the latest tips:
Facebook.com/ufsarasotaext | Instagram.com/ufsarasotaextension | Twitter.com/ufsarasotaext
- Watch our "Ways to Save" YouTube playlist: tiny.cc/ufsaraext_waystosavevideo
- Attend our Ways to Save" classes and events: eventbrite.com/cc/1380639
- Read our savings-related blog posts:
 - "Ways to Save" series: blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasotaco/tag/waystosave
 - General saving information: blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasotaco/tag/save

Find general savings information at our websites: sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasota and scgov.net/extension

Questions? sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasota | sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu | **941.861.5000**