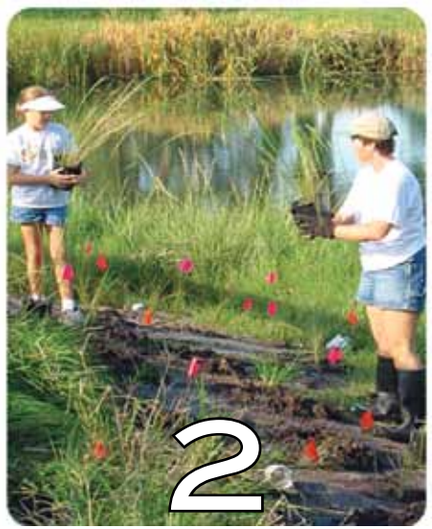
10 GUIDELINES
FOR CLIMATE-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING

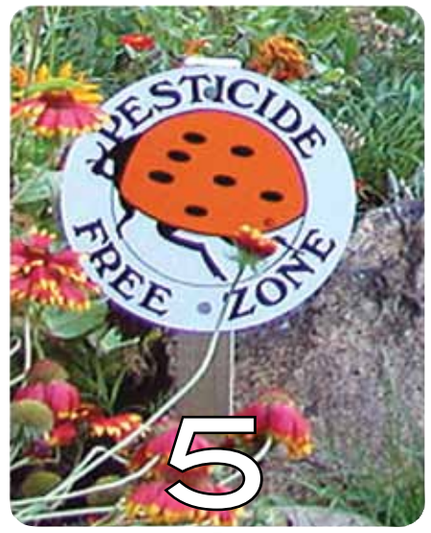
Minimize Mowing
Lawns require carbon and nitrogen intensive maintenance.
- Expand plant beds
- Use groundcovers
- Use electric or manual lawn equipment



Incorporate Native Plants
Native plants are adapted to local conditions and need less carbon and nitrogen intensive maintenance.

Reduce Hardened Surfaces
Driveways and sidewalks heat up quickly and radiate that heat. Break-up these heat islands by reducing hardened surfaces with landscaped beds and trees.

Conserve Energy by Conserving Water
It takes energy to pump, filter and distribute water. Capture and reuse rainwater with:
- Rain barrels
- Rain gardens
- Green roofs



Minimize/Eliminate Fertilizers & Pesticides
Reduce emissions associated with the use of chemicals in your yard.

Reuse Yard Waste
Recycle carbon and nitrogen back into the soil naturally.

Increase Tree Canopy
Keep mature trees and plant new trees to decrease your carbon footprint.

Create Biodiversity
Plants absorb more carbon and nitrogen than mowed lawns. Diversity plantings also attract birds and butterflies!

Naturalize the Shoreline
Plant native vegetation to buffer against storm surge and rising sea levels.
Remove seawalls.
Create low maintenance buffer zones along all shorelines.

Engage Your Neighborhood
One person can make a difference. But more people can make an even bigger difference!

FYI DID YOU KNOW?

According to EPA-

- A power push mower emits as much pollution in an hour as 11 cars
- A riding mower emits as much pollution in an hour as 34 cars
- Native plants work much better than traditional mowed grass as a carbon sink due to their extensive root systems and increased ability to retain and store water
- The few ounces spilled during each refueling of lawn and garden equipment adds up to 17,000,000 gallons of gasoline nationwide, every summer
- Annual U.S. nitrous oxide emissions began rising sharply from 2003 to 2006, largely as a result of increases in the application of synthetic fertilizers (DOE EIA)
- It requires 22,159 Btu of energy to produce one pound of nitrogen (USDA). That's equivalent to 111 tons of CO_2 or emissions from 20 cars
- It requires about 180,000 Btu of energy to produce one pound of insecticide or herbicide (USDA). That's equivalent to 900 tons of CO_2 or emissions from 165 cars

Sarasota Bay Estuary Program www.sarasotabay.org	941.955.8085
Sarasota County www.scgov.net www.scgov.net/sustainabilty	941.861.5000
Florida Native Plant Society www.fnps.org	321.271.6702
Association of Native Plant Nurseries www.afnn.org	877.352.2366
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) www.epa.org www.epa.gov/greenacres	800.424.8802
US Climate Science Program www.climatescience.gov	
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration www.noaa.gov	202.482.6090

SARASOTA BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM

Sarasota County

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A Better Way to Landscape

Conventional landscapes require energy intensive, polluting, and expensive maintenance practices through demands for irrigation, fertilizers and frequent mowing.

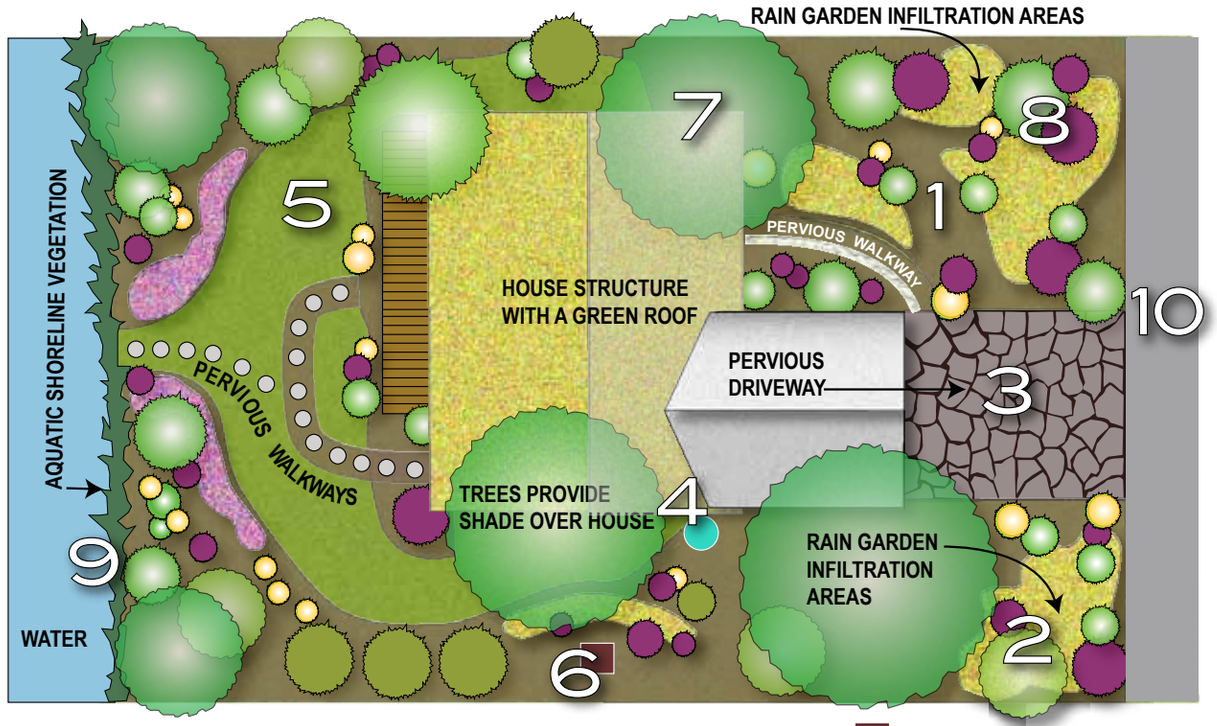
When we reduce our carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide emissions we are preserving the vitality of the communities that we appreciate today for generations of tomorrow. Landscaping for climate change strategies can help to offset the emissions footprint of our everyday activities.

Trees and other vegetation benefit the climate in many ways: human comfort, energy conservation, cooling urban climates, and reducing air pollution.

Using Climate Friendly Landscape Guidelines reduce the demand for non-renewable resources and improves the water and air quality. Within this brochure are steps you can take to make your yard climate friendly.

Reduce Greenhouse Gases such as Carbon Dioxide (CO_2) & Nitrous Oxide (N_2O)

Climate Friendly Landscape Guidelines



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2. Incorporate Native Plants
3. Reduce Hardened Surfaces
4. Conserve Energy by Conserving Water
5. Minimize/Eliminate Fertilizers & Pesticides
6. Reuse Yard Waste
7. Increase Tree Canopy
8. Create Biodiversity
9. Naturalize the Shoreline
10. Engage Your Neighborhood

Compost Bin

Rain Barrel / Cistern

LANDSCAPING TO SAVE ENERGY

Making a Difference for Tomorrow

Climate Friendly Landscaping