

# Gardening in a Changing Climate

WAYS TO COOL YOUR SPACE, USE RAINWATER AND GROW RESILIENT PLANTS

## SIMPLE UPGRADES



Maintain existing shade trees, which act as a buffer to extreme weather like heat, snow and wind.



Add potted plants or hanging plants to balconies and decks.



Remove invasive species from your garden and choose drought-tolerant native species instead.



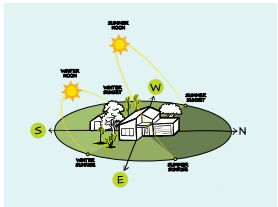
Reduce water consumption in your garden by mulching, using rain barrels, and/or installing drip irrigation.



Use human-powered tools instead of gas-powered ones.

## MORE COMPLEX UPGRADES

### Create cool areas



Plant new shade trees along south, east and west facing walls. Ensure trees are planted far enough from structures, utilities and hard surfaces so they have room to grow to maturity.

### Increase drainage



Convert paved areas to vegetation, which retains less heat and absorbs more water.



Install a rain garden, at least 5 metres from the foundation to collect storm water.

### Get creative with vegetation



Diversify your lawn with meadow grasses and wildflowers to support pollinators and increase biodiversity.



Install a green roof to help manage storm water, provide habitat for birds and insects, and reduce the temperature of the roof surface and surrounding air.

## IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Participate in environmental stewardship initiatives:

- remove invasive plants
- join bird counts
- participate in local nature challenges
- reduce chemical use



Healthy plants are better able to withstand stress, disease and insect damage. To choose the best plants for your garden, consider light preferences, soil types and amount of water needed.

For more information, visit [GrowGreenGuide.ca](http://GrowGreenGuide.ca)



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