

# ALTERNATIVES TO TOXIC CHEMICALS FOR YARD AND LAWN

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Toxic chemicals can negatively impact people's health, especially children and pregnant women. Pesticides can drift in air and water, contaminate private and public water sources, and negatively affect many non-targeted plants, animals, and people. More information:

- > [Tips for Weeds, Lawns and Landscaping](#)
- > [Taking Care of Your Lawn Without Using Pesticides](#)
- > [Tips for Indoor and Outdoor Pests](#)
- > [Pesticide and Herbicide Factsheets](#)
- > [Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides \(NCAP\)](#)

	Alternatives to toxic synthetic chemicals
WEEDS	Manually pull weeds, wilt with boiling water or steam, or mix and spray 1 gal. vinegar, 1 cup Epsom salts, and ¼ cup Dawn dish detergent directly on leaves of targeted plants. Use caution.
MOSS IN LAWNS	Please consider moss as an economical ground cover. To keep moss out, maintain a healthy lawn. <a href="#">More information</a>
DANDELION	Please consider keeping all or some for bees and other pollinators.
BLACKBERRY	Use goats or cut / mow vines to the ground, dig out roots.
INSECTS	Seal cracks and holes, wipe surfaces, remove clutter, keep area clean and dry. <a href="#">More information</a>
ANTS	Homemade ant bait: 1 cup of warm water, ½ cup of sugar, 3 tablespoons of Borax. Soak the mixture into the cotton balls or paper towels. Place these in shallow dishes near where you've seen the ants. Do NOT kill the ants you do see, as it would prevent them from taking the toxic food back to the nest and feeding it to the rest of the colony. <a href="#">More information</a>
RATS/MICE	Rat-proofing, good sanitation and trapping. <a href="#">More information</a>
SLUGS	Remove manually and place them in a remote forest location or use sparingly "Sluggo Pet & Wildlife Safe Slug and Snail Killer"
MOLD/MILDEW	Citrus seed extract (such as grapefruit) has citric acid and does not have an odor. Dilute about 20 drops of extract with 2 cups of water, mix in a spray bottle and spray onto the mold/mildew. Let it dry and do not rinse. <a href="#">More information</a>