

PLANT NATIVE

Planting native plants and flowers creates a beautiful yard while supporting and sustaining bees, butterflies and songbirds. Native plants build healthy soil, create wildlife habitats, and often require less fertilizer and water.

1

- **Create a backyard habitat:** Providing native plants, feeders and houses is a great way to invite birds, bees, bats and beautiful butterflies into your yard. Bees and other pollinators help with crop production, while bats and birds can help reduce the mosquito population in your yard.
- **Go native with your landscaping:** Creating space in your landscaping for native grasses and wildflowers not only provides a source of beauty for you to enjoy, native plants often require less water, fertilizer, maintenance and herbicides. They also tend to have longer roots which helps them better tolerate drought and sequester surplus carbon.

2

- **Reduce your lawn maintenance emissions:** Using electric and manual tools, including mowers, trimmers and rakes, reduces the need for gasoline and the emissions gas motors cause. Mowing your lawn less frequently, and/or reducing the amount of grass in your landscaping means less hassle for you and a healthier environment.

2

- **Install a rain barrel:** Installing a rain barrel to collect water for use in watering your landscaping reduces water consumption and wastewater run-off. Homeowners in Johnson County can even receive reimbursement for a rain barrel purchase!

3

- **Build a rain garden in your yard:** Rain gardens collect water from rain, reducing the wastewater run-off and recharging aquifers. Pollutants carried by rainwater runoff account for 70% of all water pollution. Rain gardens also prevent erosion, provide habitat for butterflies, frogs and turtles, and eliminate the need for you to mow in marshy areas.
- **Avoid pesticides, herbicides and chemical fertilizers:** Planting native grasses and using organic gardening techniques reduce your exposure to harmful chemicals and reduces their impact on the planet. Did you know that baby birds only eat insects? No insects means no baby birds.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Kansas City Native Plant Initiative
kcnpi.org

Missouri Prairie Foundation
moprairie.org

Kansas City Food Circle
kcfoodcircle.org



These links and other local resources are available at [cor.org/earth](https://www.cor.org/earth)

The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection
13720 Roe Ave. | Leawood, KS 66224 | [cor.org](https://www.cor.org)