

# Common Natural Herbicides

## 1. Corn Gluten Meal

- Natural weed and feed fertilizer
- Broadcast Application
- Prevents weed germination from seed

## 2. Flame Weeding

- Propane torch to burn weeds
- Will tend to get neighbors excited...

## 3. Molasses

- Light application for fertilizer
- Heavy application for weed control.
- Dry molasses reputed to be fire ant repellent

## 4. Vinegar

- Most common natural weed control
- Contact Killer
- Be careful applying on windy days

# Vinegar Herbicide Formula

- Place one gallon of undiluted white vinegar in 1 gallon pump sprayer
- Add 1 – 2 teaspoons of liquid dishwashing soap (plain)
- Shake well prior to each spraying.
- Apply directly to weeds on hot sunny day.
- Keep spray drift from nearby desirable plants.
- Multiple applications may be required.
- Some recipes call for the addition of table salt – your call

# Top 12 Garden Pests and what to do...

(per Mother Earth News)

1. Slugs
  - Eggshell / DE
  - Beer Trap
2. Squash Bugs
  - Handpicking
  - Neem Oil
3. Aphids
  - Soapy Water
  - Beneficials (Lady Bugs)
4. Cabbageworms
  - BT (*Bacillus thuringiensis*)
  - Beneficials (Paper Wasps)
5. Squash Vine Borers
  - Cover until first flower
6. Japanese Beetle
  - N/A
7. Tomato Hornworm
  - Handpicking
  - BT (*Bacillus thuringiensis*)
8. Cut Worms
  - Rigid Collars
  - Late Planting
9. Grasshoppers
  - Handpicking
10. Cucumber Beetles
  - Neem Oil
  - Handpicking
11. Corn Ear Worms
  - Few drops of oil at first silk
12. Whitefly
  - Soapy Water

# Eggshells – Pest Control and Fertilizer!

## **Eggshells as organic pest control:**

Allow the eggshells to dry out before crushing them.

Grind the eggshells into a powder using a food processor or coffee grinder.

Works the same way as DE but also adds calcium back into the soil...

Will need to reapply after heavy rain.

# Soap Spray Insecticide Recipe

For a 1 quart spray bottle:

1 teaspoon plain dishwashing soap

Add soap to a spray bottle and fill with water.  
Shake well before each use.

Spray the mixture directly on unwanted pests.  
The spray smothers them so they need to be as  
coated as possible.

Works on aphids, spider mites and whiteflies

# Garlic Spray Insecticide Recipe

1 whole garlic bulb

2 cups of water

1 gallon of water

Combine in blender the entire garlic bulb and two cups water, and blend on high speed until garlic is finely pureed. Put in storage container and set aside for a day. Strain out pulp, and then mix liquid with one gallon water in sprayer. Spray tops and bottoms of leaves thoroughly. Apply about once a week, and after a rain.

Works on aphids, spider mites and whiteflies

# Baking Soda Fungicide Recipe

1 gallon of water

3 tablespoons of baking soda

1 teaspoon of dishwashing liquid

Mix all the ingredients in a sprayer and apply to leaves of affected. It is best to remove leaves that are seriously infested if possible. Treat every one or two weeks.

Works on Powdery Mildew and other fungus

# Garlic and Pepper Spray Recipe

- 6 cloves of garlic
- 1 tbsp dried hot pepper
- 1 minced [onion](#)
- 1 tsp liquid soap
- 1 gallon of hot water

Blend all ingredients and let sit for one to two days. Strain and use as spray. Ground cayenne or red hot pepper can also be sprinkled on the leaves of plants (apply when leaves are slightly damp) to repel chewing insects or added to the planting hole with bone meal or [fertilizer](#) to keep squirrels, chipmunks, dogs and other mammals away from your gardens. Be sure to reapply after rain.

Works on cabbageworms, caterpillars, aphids, flea beetles and other insects



# Snail and Slug Trap

Place a small, shallow saucer full of stale beer in the area where you encounter snail and slug activity

The snails and slugs are drawn to the beer, but then drown once they climb in the saucer.

# Ant Traps

1/4 cup of sugar

1/4 cup of borax

Mix the sugar and borax, then sprinkle around any hills and travel paths.

The ant will think it is all sugar and take the borax back to the nest.

The borax is poisonous to ants.

# All Round Natural Pest Control

## ORGANIC GARDEN PEST CONTROL

Insect spray for soft bodied bugs  
(aphids, etc.)

ADD TO BLENDER FULL OF WATER:

1 lg. sharp onion, chopped  
3 cloves garlic  
1 tsp. hot sauce  
Dash chili powder  
Dash cayenne pepper

BLEND.

STRAIN TWICE.  
STORE IN FRIDGE  
UP TO 1 YEAR.



IN A SPRAY BOTTLE: 2 inches strained mixture, 1 inch biodegradable dish soap. Top up with water & spray directly on pest infestation.

# Pepper Plant Fertilizer Spray

For a 1 quart spray bottle:

Dissolve 2 tablespoons of epsom salts in a spray bottle of warm water.

Shake well before using.

Spray conservatively on pepper plants once flowers start to form and as long as the plant is fruiting. The magnesium in the epsom salt help the pepper hold on to its fruit as it grows

# Seaweed Fertilizer Spray

In a one gallon container:

Add 1 oz of dried seaweed to the gallon container and fill with warm water. Shake well.

(Note: this is your concentrate ... do not use full strength)

In a one gallon sprayer:

Add 3 tablespoons of concentrate and fill with water. Use as foliar spray or root soak.

# Coffee Ground Fertilizer

Acid loving plants (tomatoes, blueberries, roses and azaleas) thrive with the application of spent coffee grounds.

Just spread on the ground around the plants or mix into the soil.

Water well...

You can make a soil drench by mixing 6 cups of spent coffee grounds in five gallons of water. Let set for a few days then saturate the soil around the plants.

# Other Sources of Natural Fertilizer

1. Bananas add a source of potassium to your soil.
  - Either bury them in the garden or mix with water and use as a soil drench.
2. Hardwood Ash
  - A great source of calcium, potassium and phosphorus
  - Perfect for alkaline loving plants

# Compost Teas

Compost teas can be made from a variety of materials and usually better when several ingredients are used.

Take a selection of compost and let it soak in a five gallon bucket full of water in the sun for a few days.

Strain, add Azomite, molasses or other minerals. Add a cup to a gallon of water and use as a soil drench or foliar spray.

Black Soldier Fly Composting results in an excellent compost tea!



# Essential Oils Pest Control Chart

Essential Oils Pest Control Chart	
ANTS	Peppermint, Spearmint
APHIDS	Cedarwood, Hyssop, Peppermint, Spearmint
BEEETLES	Peppermint, Thyme
CATERPILLARS	Spearmint, Peppermint
CHIGGERS	Lavender, Lemongrass, Sage, Thyme
FLEAS	Peppermint, Lemongrass, Spearmint, Lavender
FLIES	Lavender, Peppermint, Rosemary, Sage
GNATS	Patchouli, Spearmint
LICE	Cedarwood, Peppermint, Spearmint
MOSQUITOES	Lavender, Lemongrass
MOTHS	Cedarwood, Hyssop, Lavender, Peppermint, Spearmint
PLANT LICE	Peppermint, Spearmint
SLUGS	Cedarwood, Hyssop, Pine
SNAILS	Cedarwood, Pine, Patchouli
SPIDERS	Peppermint, Spearmint
TICKS	Lavender, Lemongrass, Sage, Thyme
WEEVILS	Cedarwood, Patchouli, Sandalwood

# Companion Planting

**COMPANION PLANTING**

IN NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS, PLANTS PERFORM FUNCTIONS THAT CAN EITHER HELP OR PREVENT OTHER PLANTS TO GROW. THE SAME IS TRUE IN OUR GARDENS. CERTAIN PLANTS GIVE NUTRIENTS BACK TO THE SOIL, WHILE OTHERS NEED TO TAKE UP NUTRIENTS. PLANTS AROUND AND FLOWERS CAN ATTRACT POLLINATORS OR DETER PESTS. BELOW IS A CHART TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND WHICH PLANTS GROW WELL TOGETHER AND WHICH TO PLANT FAR APART.

PLANT	GOOD COMPANIONS	BAD COMPANIONS
BEANS	MAIZE, SUNFLOWERS, LAVENDER, CABBAGE, CUCUMBER, STRAWBERRIES, BRINJAL	ONION, GARLIC, FENNEL
BEETROOT	BEANS, ONIONS, GARLIC, LETTUCE, CABBAGE	
BRINJAL	CALENDULA, MARGOLDS, MINT, PEAS	
BROCCOLI, CABBAGE, CAULIFLOWER, KALE	AROMATIC PLANTS, DILL, SAGE, ROSEMARY, POTATOES, BEETROOT, CELERY, GARLIC, ONIONS, GERANIUM	TOMATOES, POLE & RUNNER BEANS, PEPPERS
CARROTS	LETTUCE, CHIVES, LEEKS, ROSEMARY, SAGE, PEAS, WOODWOOD	STRAWBERRIES, FENNEL, CABBAGE
LETTUCE	CARROTS, RADISH, STRAWBERRIES, CUCUMBER, BEANS	CELERY, PARSLEY
MAIZE	SUNFLOWERS, AMARANTH, BEANS, PEAS, & OTHER LEGUMES, PUMPKIN, SQUASH, CUCUMBER, MELONS, & OTHER CUCURBITS, PARSLEY	CABBAGE, TOMATO, CELERY
ONION/ GARLIC	CARROTS, BEETROOT, STRAWBERRIES, TOMATOES, LETTUCE, CABBAGE	PEAS, BEANS, PARSLEY, LEEKS
PEAS	LAVENDER, CARROT, TURNIP, RADISH, CUCUMBER, MAIZE, BEANS, GROWS WELL WITH MOST VEGETABLES & HERBS	ONION, GARLIC
PEPPERS	TOMATOES, GERANIUM, BASIL, CARROT, ONION	BEANS, KALE, CABBAGE FAMILY
POTATOES	CORIANDER, MARGOLD, BEANS, MAIZE, CABBAGE FAMILY, BRINJAL	PUMPKIN, CUCUMBER, SQUASH, MELONS, SUNFLOWERS, TOMATOES
SPINACH	STRAWBERRIES, BROAD BEANS, PEAS	POTATOES, FENNEL, CABBAGE FAMILY
TOMATOES	BASIL, OREGANO, PARSLEY, CHIVES, NASTURTIUM, ONIONS, CARROTS, CELERY, CALENDULA, GERANIUM, BORAGE	GENERAL PEST DETERRANT, PLANT THROUGHOUT GARDEN
CALENDULA	TOMATOES- REPELS TOMATO WORM!	COMPOST ACTIVATOR. USE LEAVES TO MAKE COMFREY TEA FERTILIZER!
COMFREY	FAST-GROWING NUTRIENT ACCUMULATOR. PLANT ALONG EDGES & USE LEAVES FOR MULCH	REPELS CABBAGE MOTH. PLANT ON BORDERS TO KEEP FLYING PESTS AWAY!
CHILE PEPPER	CABBAGE, MAIZE	USE MARGISOLD LEAVES TO MAKE AN ORGANIC GENERAL INSECTICIDE SPRAY!
MARIGOLD	PLANT FREELY THROUGHOUT THE GARDEN - REPELS SOIL NEMATODES, APHIDS, BEAN BEETLES & MANY MORE.	REPELS WHITE FLIES & SPIDER MITES
NASTURTIUM	TOMATOES - IMPROVES FLAVOR!	DETERS CABBAGE WORM
THYME	CABBAGE	DETERS CABBAGE MOTH, BEAN BEETLES & CARROT FLY!
ROSEMARY	CARROTS, CABBAGE, SAGE, BEANS	KEEPS ANIMALS OUT! ALSO REPELS WHITE FLY
WORMWOOD/ ARTEMESIA	AROUND GARDEN EDGES	PLANT NEAR AROMATIC HERBS TO ENHANCE ESSENTIAL OIL PRODUCTION
YARROW	PLANT FREELY THROUGHOUT THE GARDEN. REPELS SOIL NEMATODES, APHIDS, BEAN BEETLES, AND MANY MORE!	

**A DIVERSE GARDEN IS AN ABUNDANT GARDEN. HAPPY PLANTING!**

# Citrus Cleaning

## Wards off Household Bacteria

### 1. Copper and Metal Cleaner (Brass, Aluminum, SS)

- Half a lemon dipped in salt
- Make paste with lemon juice and cream of tartar

### 2. Ink Removal

- Apply lemon juice ASAP ... lots

### 3. Chew Gum Remover

- The mild acid in lemon or lime juice will disintegrate chewing gum

### 4. Clean and Sanitize Grater

- Rub both sides with half a lemon, will remove food particles while sanitizing. Use toothbrush to finish the job if necessary.

### 5. De-Greaser

- Use oranges to remove grease and oil from machine parts or your hands

### 6. Cutting Board Freshener

- Squeeze juice from half a lemon, rub in and let soak for 20 minutes.

# Citrus Vinegar

Don't throw away those peels...put them in a glass jar, cover with white vinegar and you are on your way to making a powerful cleaner. Let sit for 4 weeks, shaking every so often. Strain and dilute with water prior to using.

- Whiten and clean clothes
- Clean mirrors and glass
- Clean floors, countertops, appliances, stovetops
- To clean oven: spray full strength on burned areas, let sit for 2 hours. Wipe with warm water dampened sponge or rag. You may have to repeat.
- Toilet cleaner – use full strength, swish around, let sit and you should be good to go

# Citrus Oil

Making fresh orange juice and have an overload of rinds? Don't use a lot of citrus at once – just freeze till you collect enough for a batch.

1. Put rinds and water in ceramic or stainless pot, cover, let sit for several days.
2. Put rinds and water into large non-aluminum pot. Bring to a boil, turn down and simmer for several hours. Let sit overnight, strain, refrigerate or freeze
3. Method 2 but use a crock pot

Orange oil is a great de-greaser, add to your dish water or dishwasher. Greasy skillets...no problem. Attack those love bugs on your windshields. Clean and revitalize wood surfaces. Remove adhesive stickers

1 Cup Vinegar  
1 Cup Water  
1 tsp Olive Oil  
1 Lemon Rind  
2-3 Microfiber Cloths  
Jar with a lid



Directions: Mix the vinegar, water, and oil, in a bowl. Soak your microfiber cloths in the solution, squeeze out excess water, and place in the jar with lemon rinds wrapped around.

I usually make my cloths up in the morning some time and let them set till the afternoon when I am ready to dust. I like to let them sit for a while so they take on that wonderful lemon smell rather, than a strong vinegar smell.

Microfiber cloths are wonderful to use since they are great at trapping dirt and dust. You can pick up a pack of three, wash cloth size, at the Dollar Tree. The olive oil and lemon are wonderful at polishing furniture, wood baseboards and door frames, and even fan blades.

Give it a try! I have been thrilled with the results and the wonderful fresh lemon smell!

From Beautiful Somehow Blog



*All-Purpose Cleaning Solution:*

- 2 cups water
- 1/3 cup apple cider vinegar
- 25-30 drops essential oil blend

Some great oils to use for an all-purpose cleaner are tea tree, lavender, lemon and peppermint; all oils containing great antibacterial properties.

### **Homemade Soft Scrub**

- 3 tbsp baking soda
- 1 tbsp water
- 4 drops peppermint essential oil
- *Directions*
- Mix baking soda and water until you get a thick paste.
- Add 4 drops of peppermint essential oil and mix

# Carpet Cleaning Solutions

Perhaps one of the simplest carpet cleaning solutions to make is something that can be used in steam carpet cleaning machines. Vinegar and hot water in equal parts, instead of the strong chemicals usually purchased in stores, is an effective odor and stain remover for most carpets.

Many homemakers and house cleaners like to use carpet powder to freshen a room when vacuuming and to help deodorize any lingering smells that may be hiding in the carpet. Reading the labels will show that either there are several undesired chemicals in the carpet powder, or else so few ingredients it is easy enough to make it at home.

Baking soda is the primary powder to use in the carpet powder and while some use only baking soda, some house cleaners choose to use baking soda and corn meal together. To alter the scent, it is easy to mix in desired herbs for deodorizing, freshening, bug repellent or fragrance purposes. Try bay leaves, lavender, cloves or other herbs, finely ground, and mixed into the powder base.

Sprinkle generously onto the carpet and let the mix settle overnight. In the morning, vacuum the entire carpet area thoroughly to lift the powder mix out of the carpet.



# Borax

Borax is a natural mineral with a chemical formula  $\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . Borax also is known as sodium borate, sodium tetraborate or disodium tetraborate.

- insect killer, particularly in roach killing products and as moth-preventative (10% solution on wool)
- fungicide
- herbicide
- desiccant
- laundry booster
- household cleaner



# All Purpose Carpet Powder

Quick, easy, freshen and deodorize carpet, repel insects, get rid of fleas.

- Baking Soda
- Borax
- DE
- Lavender
- Wax Myrtle
- Rosemary
- Fennel
- Sage
- Lemongrass
- Peppermint
- Thyme