

# What is prohibited in the allotment gardens of the City of Zurich?

According to the allotment garden rules, the following products and practises are prohibited. Failure to comply with these regulations may result in the termination of the allotment lease.

## Crop protection

Herbicide use is prohibited. Anyone who uses herbicides on paths and open spaces or along waterways is liable to prosecution.

Herbicides quickly enter the groundwater.

The use of all chemical-synthetic pesticides, as well as herbicides, is prohibited!

Their toxic agents kill animals, pollute our groundwater and our drinking water, and damage our health.

## Soil and fertiliser

The use of chemical-synthetic fertilisers is prohibited. Also, do not use chicken manure and guano in the garden.

Compost and low-phosphorus organic fertilisers are sufficient. Chicken manure and guano pollute the soil with too much phosphorus (P).

The use of peat is prohibited in the garden! Also bought soil must not contain peat.

Peat extraction destroys precious landscapes. Peat does not belong in the garden. We use compost as soil improver and for soil mixtures.

Do not use rotary cultivators.

Rotary cultivators kill earthworms and destroy the soil structure.

## Protect nature and the environment!

Do not burn waste. Noncompliance is punishable by law and will be reported to the police.

Dispose of it via the refuse collection service by using a «Züri-Sack» bag.

Do not compost barbecue ashes or scatter them in the garden.

Ashes contain heavy metals and belong in the household waste. Only use natural wood or charcoal for barbecuing (no waste wood!).

Do not dispose of excavated material, stones, or garden waste outside of the garden or in the forest.

Use as much of it as possible in the garden or dispose of it via the refuse collection service.

No invasive neophytes in the gardens: no Canadian goldenrod, buddleia, cherry laurel, annual fleabane, ragweed, Japanese knotweed, cotoneaster or juniper species.

Invasive neophytes are displacing native plants. Remove them completely before they spread and dispose of them via the refuse collection service. Do not compost! Some transmit dangerous plant diseases.

Do not use non-native evergreen plants: no thuja, cypresses, false cypresses, cherry laurel, bamboo, etc.

They have no value for biodiversity and the animals in the garden.

# I respect Nature and the Environment in my Garden. The Essentials:



# Simple Measures for Success – The Pyramid of Success for Organic Gardening:

**Only in an emergency:** Use biological agents in a targeted manner.

**Home remedies and beneficial organisms:** Extracts, teas, soft soap, whey, nematodes, bacillus thuringiensis.

**Pest control:** Promote habitats for beneficial organisms, catch pests, hang traps, use crop protection nets.

**Care for crops:** Choose resistant varieties, plant mixed crops, keep to planting distances, use fermented plant extracts and rock flour.

**Care for the soil:** Work manually, use compost, hoe regularly, cover the soil with mulch and green manure. Use only small amounts of organic fertilisers containing mainly nitrogen (N) and potassium (K).

The method of cultivation in the allotment gardens of the City of Zurich is organic and close to nature.

You agreed to this in your lease agreement!

Organic gardening is good for our health, nature, and the environment.

Vegetables, fruits, and flowers grow well using simple and natural methods. In addition, we protect our soil and groundwater, which is the basis of our life.

It is easier to work together:  
It is fun to watch, exchange ideas and learn from each other!

**For more information about organic gardening go to:**  
**[stadt-zuerich.ch/biogartenwissen](http://stadt-zuerich.ch/biogartenwissen)**

