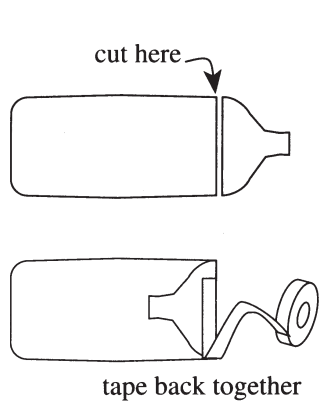


Tom Tomato's Clean Water Gardening Tips

Directions for building your own Slug Hotel...

- Get together all the supplies you'll need:
 - An empty plastic sodas pop container (1 or 2 liter size)
 - Scissors, or an Xacto® knife
 - Duct tape or electrical tape
 - Apple juice
 - Your own customized Slug Hotel sign
 - Crayons or waterproof markers
 - Tape or glue



- Carefully cut the bottle just before it starts to taper toward the opening.
- Take the piece you just cut off and stick it in the bottle backwards.
- Tape the two pieces together with duct or electrical tape.

- Color your very own Slug Hotel sign to welcome all the slugs. When you're finished, tape or glue the sign on.
- Fill the trap half full with apple juice.
- Partially bury the hotel in your garden where you think slugs might be.
- When your hotel is full, untape the top, empty it into the garbage or compost, fill it up with more juice, and reuse.

For composting, worm bin, and watershed protection information contact The Open Line at (360) 337-5777 or visit our website at www.kitsapgov.com/sw.
For more information on gardening, contact the Master Gardener Program of WSU Extension at (360) 337-7158.

Billy Basil says....

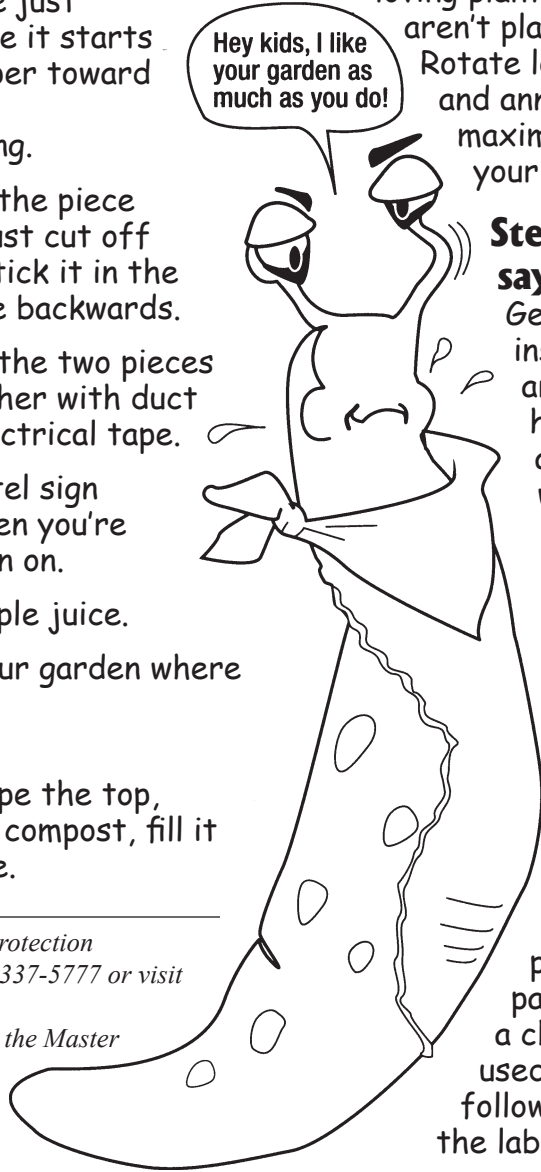
A healthy garden starts with healthy soil. You can build healthy soil by adding compost and other organic matter. You can make your own compost with your leftover vegetables and lawn clippings. Find out more by visiting our website at www.kitsapgov.com/sw.

Patty Pansy says....

When planning your garden choose disease resistant plants suited to our climate. Plant them in their preferred location...sun-loving plants won't thrive if they aren't planted in a sunny spot. Rotate locations of vegetables and annuals every year to maximize the health of your garden.

Stewart Strawberry says....

Get to know your insects, most of them are helpful, not harmful. Ladybugs and green lacewings eat lots of the bugs that feed on your plants. Depending on the kind of pests you have, you may be able to spray them off with a fine stream of water from your hose, wipe them off with a soap and water solution, or pick off the affected part of the plant. If a chemical pesticide is used, carefully read and follow the instructions on the label.



Tom Tomato Says....

Planting nitrogen fixing legumes such as peas between other plants helps reduce the need for fertilizer. If you do apply fertilizers, use the appropriate amount. Excess fertilizer can cause significant water quality problems. You might consider using organic fertilizers which are readily available at local nurseries. They are made from natural ingredients which stay in the soil longer.

Linda Lettuce says....

If you're lucky enough to live next to a stream or lake, leave some natural landscaping. This helps filter out lawn or garden chemicals before they reach the water. If they do reach the water they can kill fish and aquatic bugs.

Natasha Nasturtium says....

Build a few slug hotels for your yard and garden. They are a great non-toxic way to keep slugs from munching on your flowers and vegetables.



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