

# Houston's Guide to Planting Organic

presented by

  
**MicroLife**<sup>TM</sup>

ALL ORGANIC, BIOLOGICAL FERTILIZER



planthoustonorganic.org

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It's a new era, a new time of social responsibility and a new age of personal commitment to doing what is right. No longer do we buy into the garbage of a chemical lifestyle or that 'fast food' is good for us. We have entered the era of Organics.

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## We need Organic Landscapes and Gardens everywhere

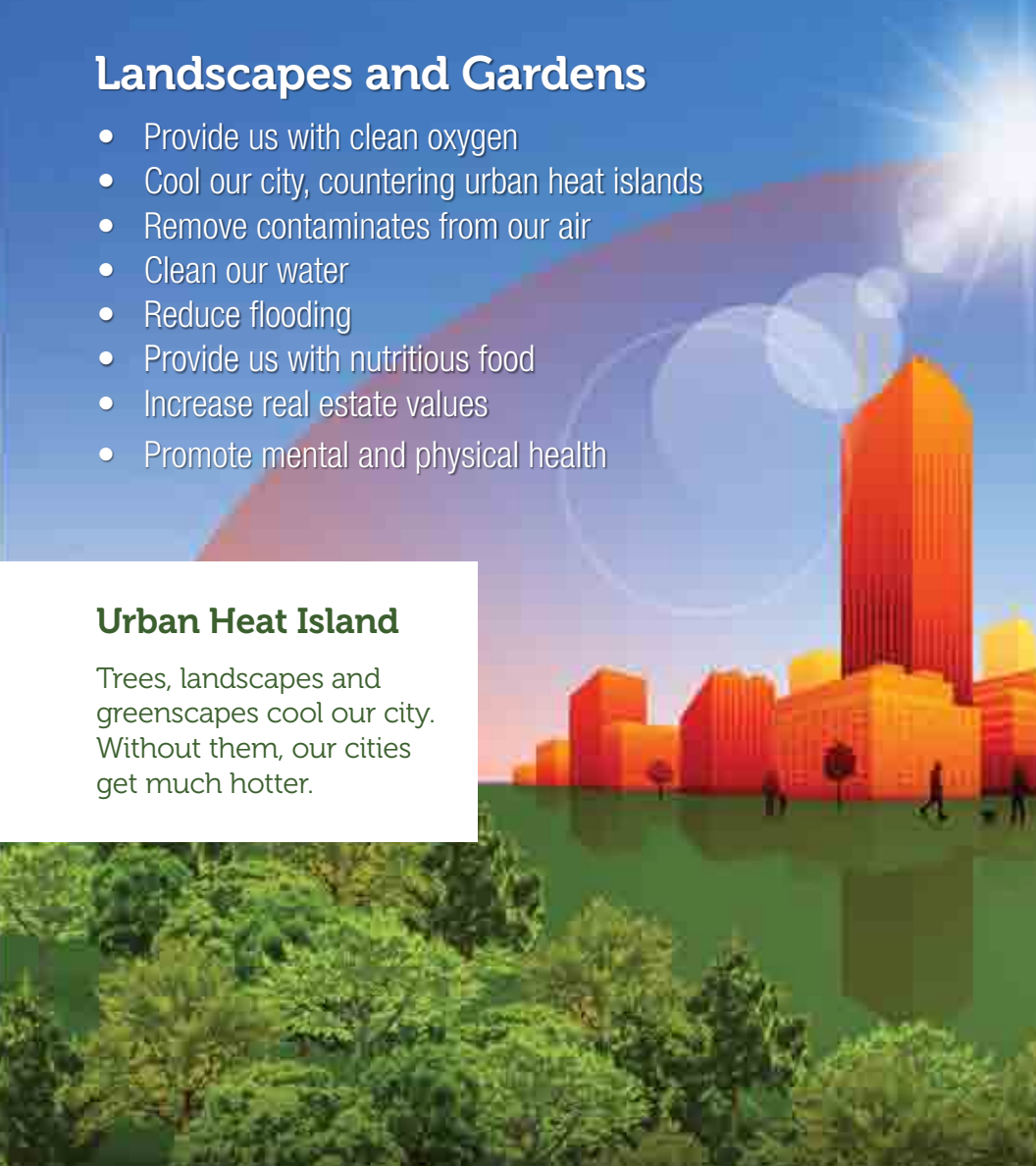
Organic landscapes and gardens provide us with incredible economic and essential health benefits. We need our home, Earth, to be clean and free of contaminants. We need our home and workplace environment to be safe, vibrant and 'life giving'. A few of the crucial benefits of Organic Landscapes –

### Landscapes and Gardens

- Provide us with clean oxygen
- Cool our city, countering urban heat islands
- Remove contaminants from our air
- Clean our water
- Reduce flooding
- Provide us with nutritious food
- Increase real estate values
- Promote mental and physical health

#### Urban Heat Island

Trees, landscapes and greenscapes cool our city. Without them, our cities get much hotter.



# Planting Guidelines

We know that Organic landscapes far outperformed chemical landscapes during the **Drought of 2011**. And even more important, Organic landscapes are safe for children and pets. Chemical landscapes, to put it simply, are not. With Organics, we have better performing and more resilient plants which require less water.

We have put this booklet together to give you an easy and reliable guideline for all of your new plantings. All specifications listed have been battle-tested and proven for over 26 years. The core of a successful organic program is sound nutrition. Using products like MicroLife All Organic Biological Fertilizer gives you that core strength to be successful.

**This is where MicroLife reigns supreme.**



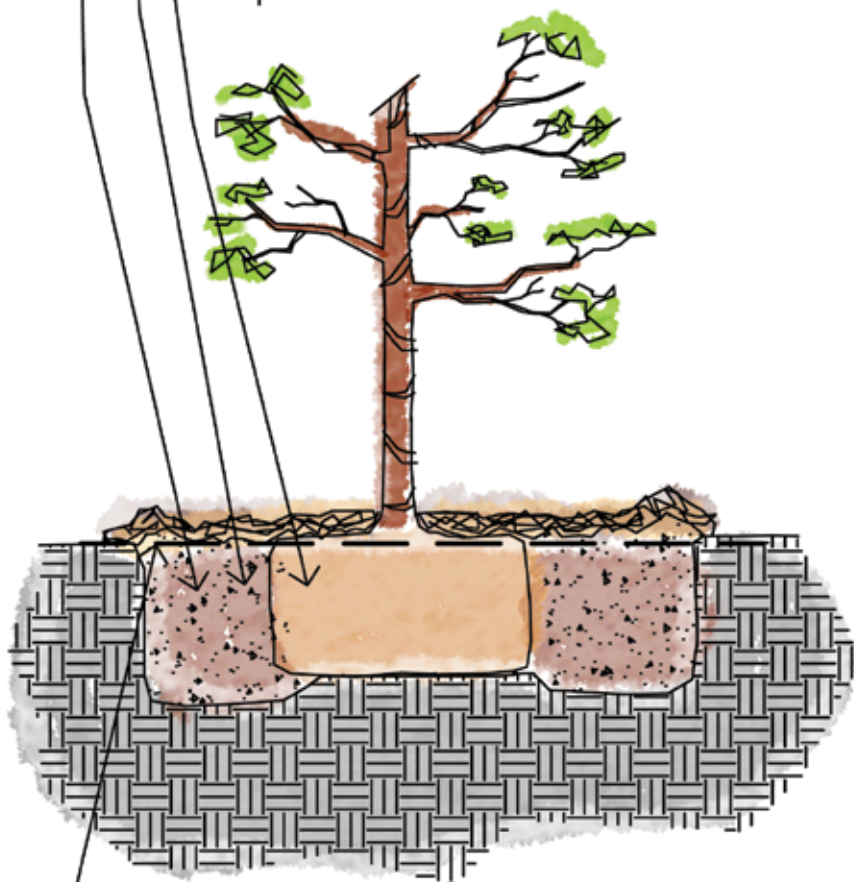
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# Tree Specifications

For every 15 gal. size, add 6 oz. Microlife 8-4-6 Organic Fertilizer and one package of Rhizanova Tree Transplant to backfill mix

Add high quality compost like Nature's Way Resources Leaf Mold Compost to mix with backfill materials

Water plants thoroughly with Microlife Super Seaweed Root Stimulator



Top Dress with Native Hardwood Mulch from Nature's Way Resources

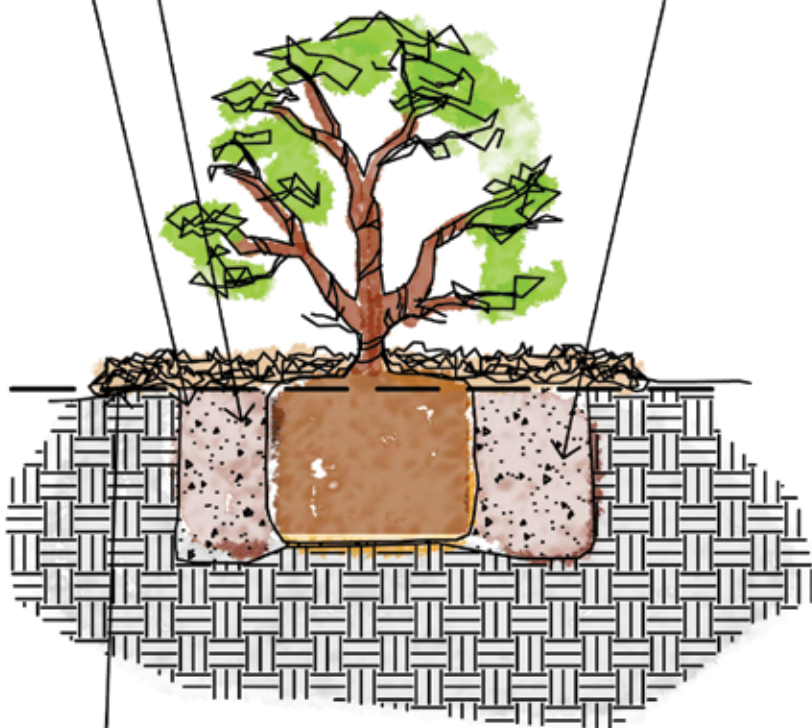


# Ornamental Shrubs and Perennial Specifications

For every 5 gal. size add 2 oz. of Microlife 8-4-6 Organic Fertilizer and 1 oz. of Soil Moist Crystals around the roots

Backfill with high quality planting mix like Nature's Way Resources Rose Soil

Water plants thoroughly with Microlife Super Seaweed Root Stimulator

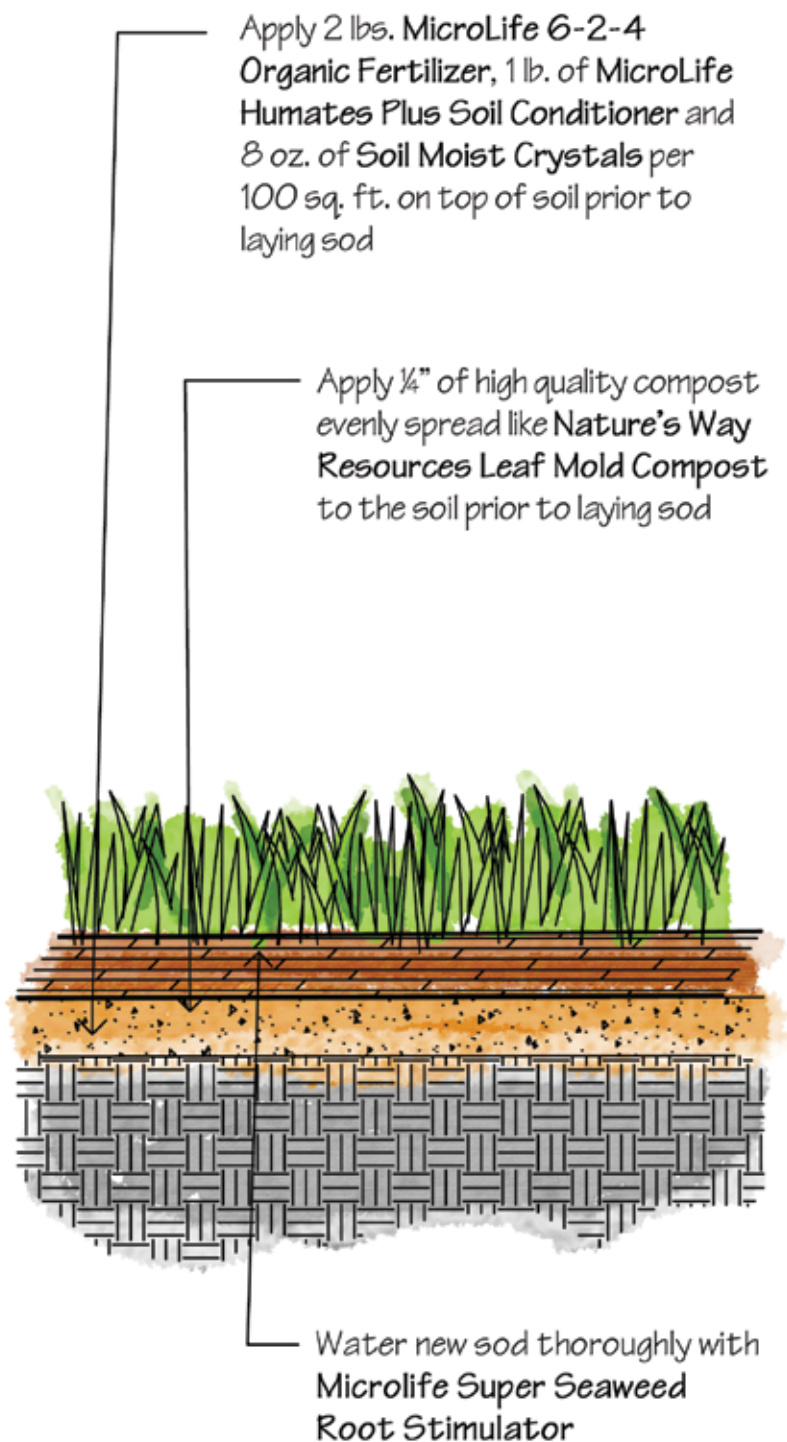


Top Dress with Native Aged Hardwood Mulch from Nature's Way Resources

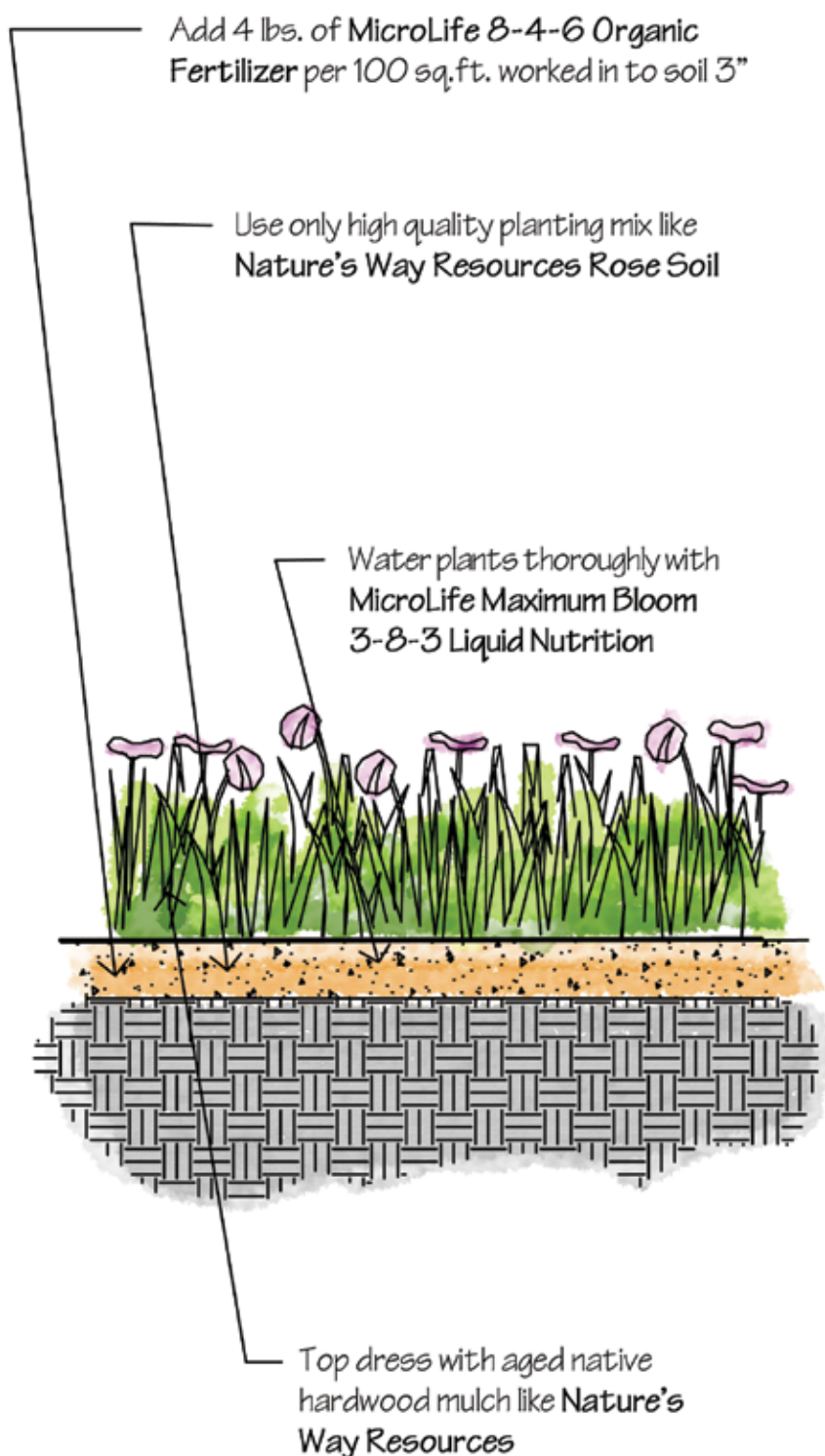
# Turfgrass Specifications

*When turfgrass is installed correctly we can have awesome yards that are safe for children and pets, without using a lot of water.*

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# Flowers & Vegetables Specifications



# Water, Precious WATER

Water each year becomes more expensive as our population numbers go up and water is consumed at a greater rate. We are in a new era where temperatures are getting hotter, water is becoming scarce, and we are concerned about chemical toxicity. The answer to a healthy, sustainable future is Organics. This is where MicroLife reigns supreme.

Only through the use of Organics can we have landscapes that are truly water efficient. This is because only Organics improve soil health. When soil health is improved we need less water because

- More water enters the soil
- More water is stored underground
- Plants develop bigger and deeper roots to access water better

**This translates to over \$3,000.00 per acre per year in actual water savings by Going Organic.** That is a significant amount of money and translates to \$70.00 per 1,000 sq ft each year for homeowners.

Consistently using MicroLife All Organic Biological Fertilizers as outlined in this book will make your landscapes much more water efficient, more beautiful and will reduce your water costs.

**Organic  
Landscapes**  
require  
**25%-50%  
less water**  
than conventional  
landscapes



# Water-Wise Plants

Use plants that can perform well under adverse conditions; hot/dry summers, very cold winters and periods of lots of rains. We've listed a few of the great plants available. Ask your favorite independent nursery center or landscape professional what they recommend.

## Trees

- Burr Oak
- Cedar Elm
- Chinquapin Oak
- Chitalpa
- Desert Museum Palo Verde
- Mexican White Oak
- Montezuma Cypress
- Mexican Sycamore
- Palms
- Texas Olive
- Vitex
- Walter's Viburnum
- Yaupon Holly

## Perennials & Flowers

- Angelonia
- Cleome
- Firecracker
- Gulf Coast Muhly
- Hummingbird Bush
- Lantana
- Portulaca
- Purple Coneflower
- Rudbeckia
- Ruellia – Katie & Upright
- Salvia
- Society Garlic

## Shrubs

- Bougainvilla
- Bottlebrush
- Brakelight Red Yucca
- Caesalpina
- Cape Honeysuckle
- Dwarf Yaupon
- Earthkind Rose
- Jasmine
- Mexican Bush Sage
- Oleander
- Pineapple Guava
- Plum Yew
- Saw Palmetto
- Sweet Olive
- Thornless Prickly Pear
- Red Yucca
- Wax Myrtle

## Turfgrass

- St. Augustine
- Zoysia
- Bermuda

## Fruit Trees

- Republic of Texas Orange
- Celeste Fig
- Tropic SnowPeach

## Granular Fertilizers



### MicroLife 6-2-4 All Organic Biological Fertilizer

Multi-Purpose Houston's # 1 selling Organic fertilizer. Use everywhere. Very nutritious. Contains over 70 minerals and billions of beneficial microorganisms. Available 40 lb \* 7 lb



### MicroLife 8-4-6 All Organic Biological Fertilizer

Great for starting all new plantings. Contains extra amounts of Humates, Rock minerals and Phosphate. Has over 70 minerals and billions of beneficial microorganisms. Available 40 lb \* 7 lb



### MicroLife Humates Plus All Organic Biological Soil Amendment

'Concentrated Compost in a Bag'. Improves all soils and loosens clay soils. Has over 70 minerals and billions of beneficial microorganisms. Available 40 lb



### MicroLife Hybrid 20-0-5

Inexpensive way to get into the world of Organics. Contains man-made Nutralene, Potassium Sulfate & Humates. Great for all turf and shrubs. Available 20 lb



### MicroLife Azalea 6-6-4

Contains extra Sulfur and Humates that makes this MicroLife perfect for all acid-loving plants and high pH situations. Contains over 70 minerals and billions of beneficial microorganisms. Available 7 lb \* 40 lb

# Recommended Products

For full description of products listed please go to

**[microlifefertilizer.com](http://microlifefertilizer.com)**

## Liquid Fertilizers



### **MicroLife Liquid Super Seaweed Root Stimulator**

This very unique health mix stimulates roots right way and provides an instant pick up for all plants.

Available Qt \* Gal



### **MicroLife Liquid Ocean Harvest 4-2-3**

Very powerful, 'Great for all plants all the time' as a foliar spray or root drench.

Available Qt \* Gal



### **MicroLife Liquid Maximum Blooms 3-8-3**

All Organic Bloom and Flower producer. Great for all flowers and vegetables

Available Qt \* Gal

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### **Rhizanova Tree Transplant Packs**

This makes starting new trees much more successful. Each pack contains Soil Moist Water Crystals, Mycorrhizal Fungi and starter Humates. Available 3 oz pack



### **Soil Moist Water Absorbing/Releasing Crystals**

Little tiny polymer crystals that absorb and release water back to the plant. Cuts water need by 50%. Must be used at time of planting. Available 3oz \* 1 lb \* 3 lb \* 8 lb \* 50 lb

PLANT HEALTH PRODUCTS

## How You Can Help

Plant Houston Organic is a mission that benefits and unites us all. It is an opportunity to build a greater and healthier future for us all on a permanent basis. We need beautiful landscapes, we need clean water, we need clean air, we need safe homes and landscapes. We need to plant Organic.

## More Information

[microlifefertilizer.com](http://microlifefertilizer.com)

On this website you will find the complete 'How To Go Organic' manual which contains Organic maintenance programs and Organic problem solving. You will also find valuable information and complete product descriptions.

[ohbaonline.org](http://ohbaonline.org)

OHBA, Organic Horticulture Benefits Alliance is a 501-c-3 educational nonprofit that offers 6 – 8 high level, non-commercialized seminars that teach the science, how-to and economics of 'Going Organic'

[planthoustonorganic.org](http://planthoustonorganic.org)



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