

Resources:

Cornell Cooperative Extension, Westchester County
www.gardening.cornell.edu/lawn/almanac/

New York Department of Environmental Conservation
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/44290.html>

Grassroots Environmental Education
<http://www.grassrootsinfo.org/ghlpindex.html>

North East Farming Association
www.organiclandcare.net/

Environmental Protection Agency: Lawn and Garden
<http://www2.epa.gov/safepestcontrol/lawn-and-garden>

Soil testing:

Cornell Soil Health
<http://soilhealth.cals.cornell.edu>

Brooklyn College
<http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/centers/esac/services/soil.php>



City of Rye

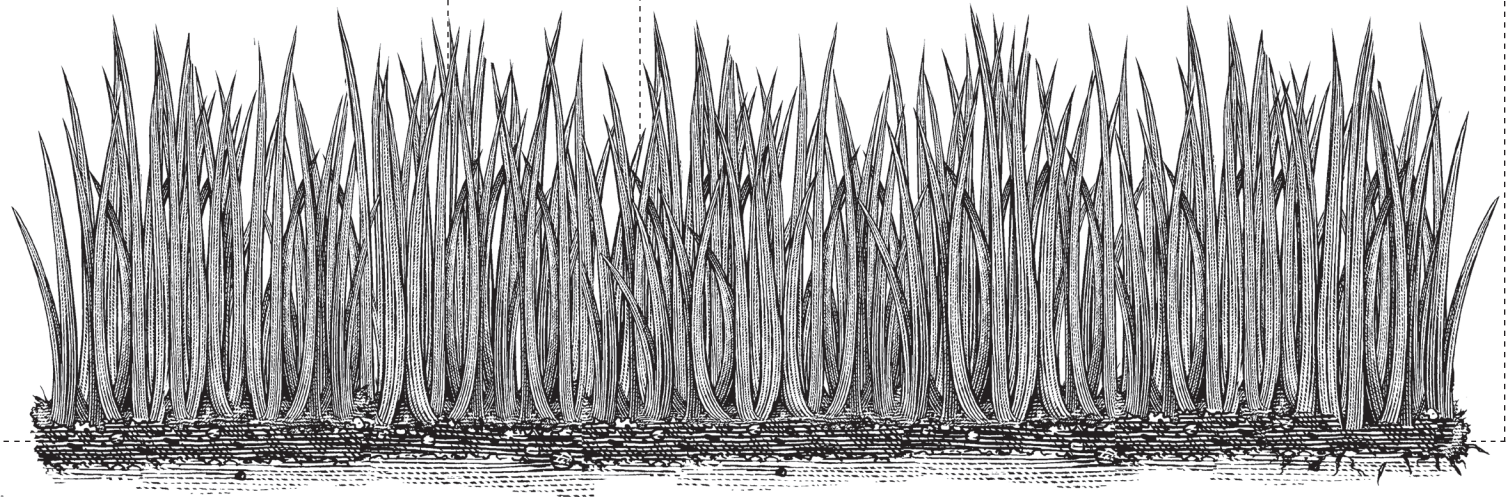
Rye Healthy Yard Program

What is the Rye Healthy Yard Program?

The Rye Healthy Yard Program seeks to promote awareness about the health and environmental benefits of using natural landscaping practices in our community.

Why Do We Need Healthy Yards?

Our yards are an important part of our homes where we spend time with children, friends and pets. They can be beautiful showcases but how we achieve that beauty can have a profound effect on our family and our natural surroundings. Creating a healthy yard is not just good for us; it's good for all living things in our area.



Healthy is Good

- ◆ **Good for the community:** Rye is home to many families; young children are especially vulnerable to the effects of chemicals and other pollution.
- ◆ **Good for the environment:** As part of the Blind Brook Watershed, our storm water directly impacts an important estuary that supports all kinds of wildlife.
- ◆ **Good for your wallet:** Natural yard care can be less expensive than conventional yard care. Get off the spray & pay treadmill and buy only what you need, when you need it.

Turn Your Yard Into A Healthy Yard

- ◆ **Landscape with native plants.** Select species that fit the sun, soil and water conditions in your yard. Healthy yards are complex systems that support people, plants and animals.
- ◆ **Healthy soil means healthy plants that can withstand pests and disease.** Consider testing your soil to learn what you may need to improve it.
- ◆ **Water your lawn deeply when needed and at the right time of day.** Use mulch and compost to help retain moisture and add nutrients to your garden beds.
- ◆ **In most cases, you don't need chemicals to grow a beautiful garden.** Avoid routine use of herbicides and fertilizers. Identify problems, then choose the least toxic solution.
- ◆ **Start now.** There are many ways to achieve a thriving, natural garden but it starts with deciding to take action. Redefine perfection: A healthy yard is a beautiful yard.

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Easy Steps to Take Today

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Ask your lawn care professional to switch to organic or natural gardening techniques.

②

If you enjoy doing your own gardening, consult our website for tips and strategies.

③

Ask for a healthy yard sign to help spread the word!



Don't wait! Make the switch today!

Rye Sustainability Committee:

<http://www.ryeny.gov/sustainability.cfm>