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Make a difference to the environment with these easy tasks

Plant a tree – even a small one. Trees are brilliant at drawing down carbon from the atmosphere. If every UK gardener planted a small tree in their garden and nurtured it to maturity, they would store enough carbon equivalent to drive you more than 11 million times around our planet.



Peatlands are the world's largest carbon store on earth. They provide valuable ecosystems for plants and animals and act like sponges, reducing the risk of flooding.

When we take peat for our gardens, carbon is released and habitats are damaged. Keeping peat in bogs – not bags – is a crucial part of the fight against

climate change. Our planet's billions of acres of peat hold more carbon than all the world's forests combined. **Use peat free soil to plant your flowers and grow your seeds.**

Switch from mains to rains in your garden to save carbon.

Use a water butt containing water that falls onto your roof instead of turning on a tap from the mains supply, or use a watering can instead of a hosepipe.



Garden soils and perennial plantings play an important role in storing carbon.

If the UK's 30 million gardeners pulled up a paver and planted 1m² of perennial plants in their garden and allowed it to develop to maturity, this could be equivalent to heating between 86,000 to more than one million homes for a year!

Carbon saving quantities linked to home composting are equivalent to 1.85 miles saved per kg of home compost made. Every 1kg of homemade compost typically saves over 0.1kg fossil CO₂ emissions, which could save more than 5.1 kg carbon, per gardener, every year.



Pollinators need our help. Loss of habitat is one of the main reasons why we see fewer bees, butterflies and other insects visiting our gardens.

Help slow and reverse the declines in bees, butterflies, moths, hoverflies and other pollinators by growing a wide variety of plants including a mixture of plants to support pollinator diversity.

ideas from www.rhs.org.uk