Making Your Home Look Better and Last Longer on the Outside

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Do you have a Florida Friendly Yard?
Right Plant
Right Place
What Does that Mean?

- Is the place
  - Wet or dry?
  - Cold or hot?
  - Sunny or shady?
  - How much irrigation does it get?
  - Is it with other plants of “It’s Kind”
  - Is there enough room for it to grow to maturity? Do you know what that is?
It is important to know the pH of your soil
What’s wrong with this picture?

Frozen Fig
Replace turf with ground cover where it is difficult to grow
Shading the Air conditioner is a good thing,

But DO NOT do this!
Keep the Natives!
Water
Efficiently
Check Your System Regularly
Use a Rain Gauge
Fertilize Appropriately
Our Sandy Soils need a lot of Organic Material added to them
Use Slow Release Fertilizers
Mulch
What Can Mulch do for YOU?

- Add organic material
- Regulate temperature
- Suppress weeds
- Retain moisture
- Prevent erosion
- Protects the plant
- Adds esthetic value
What’s wrong with this bush?

Keep mulch 2 to 3 inches Away from the plant
Pine needles are used from near-by trees
Free!

Waste Management Transfer Station
Compost Bins come in all shapes and sizes
Control Yard Pests Responsibly
“Scouting” is the best tool
If You MUST use a Pest Control;

Choose the **least toxic** FIRST
Reduce Stormwater Runoff
Collect rain water in a barrel to use later on your plants.
Permeable walkways allow water to sink in. Rather than run off into the street, then the river.
Do not use pesticides or fertilizer within 20 feet of a body of water.
Attract Wildlife
Provide it and they will come

- Food
- Water
- Shelter
- space
A “snag” is a dead tree. It can provide food and shelter to dozens of species.
Butterflies need a place of their own
Bird feeders can supplement
What grows
In the garden
Year-round
Predatory wasps help keep the garden clean
Frogs aren’t fussy…
A water feature can be enjoyed by everyone!
Protect the Waterfront