

7 Tips to Adapt to Gardening

1) Use supplies you have

If you have any leftover soil from last year, you can still use it around your yard. By mixing it in with other soil or compost it can still be useful.

You were going to order more mulch to freshen up your beds, but now can't get a definite delivery date or even buy any. Get your bow rake out and start roughing up your mulch so you expose the mulch below the surface and fluff it up so it looks newer.

Containers need new potting soil. If you can't get new potting soil you can loosen up the potting soil in the container right now to keep using and even mix in some compost or other organic matter for the short term so you can plant any new plants or revitalize the plants already in there.

If plants are in the container, loosen the soil carefully so you do not sever or disturb established roots.

2) Buy online and have it delivered

Online retailers still have the ability for you to shop, purchase, and set up delivery of different items you need for your garden.

You will need to check online to see what is available to purchase, what is available for delivery, and then how long it will take to get to you. Lots of possibilities here so start shopping to fill your shopping cart.

4) Support local and take advantage of curbside pickup or delivery

You might not know it, but plant and landscape nurseries have been deemed "essential" businesses during this trying time and they are mostly still open.

They might have different hours of operation and very different shopping procedures, but you can still get plants, soil, seeds and other supplies they have.

Check out their websites and give them a call to see if they have curbside pick up available or if they offer delivery.

5) Be creative with containers

So, you can't find the right container pot online or your local nursery can't tell you if they have what you want. What do you do?

First, look around your garden and yard for other containers you can use as plant containers or flower pots. This could be an old bucket, watering can, basket, tub, or anything else that:

- can hold and retain soil,
- can be moved around,
- can hold and retain water to drain through the bottom, and
- can have enough depth for any plant roots to grow into and get anchored.

6) Grow your own new plants (seeds and cuttings)

Yes, you can grow your own plants from seed, cuttings, tissue culture, grafting, or layering.

7) Reinvigorate old plants (pruning and other methods)

If you have a huge older plant that you were going to replace with a smaller one, but can't get to the nursery or they don't have what you want, keep what you have and start over with it.

Most of your hardwood evergreen or deciduous perennial plants can be pruned really hard and regrow.

This can be a great restarting of the plant in your yard. A chance to retrain the plant from the ground up, in some cases.

When you prune about half or more of many evergreen or deciduous plants, they will react with massive growth and start to regrow.

Some plants react differently to this, so try to do some homework before going this route.