

# Landscaping



The end result of this Try-It will be the troop planting a garden to beautify a place in their community. Each of the requirements helps to prepare the girls for this project. It is recommended that the troop complete at least five of the first six requirements and activity 7.

- 1.** Landscaping an area means to plan for the trees, shrubs, and flowers that will be planted there. Choose a site in your community that your troop would like to landscape. It could be at your meeting place, at your school, in a public park, or in a vacant lot. Make a plan to beautify the site or plant a flower garden. Draw a picture of what you would like your landscaping project to look like.
- 2.** Find out about plants that will grow well at your site. Do the plants need sun or shade? Do they need special soil? Visit a nursery or have someone knowledgeable about plants come to talk to your troop about what you can plant. Obtain the plants for your landscaping project.
- 3.** Learn how to prepare the soil so that it is right for the kinds of plants you will be planting. What kind of plant food will they need? How deep will you need to plant the new plants? In what kind of soil do you need to plant seeds? Try growing a plant from a seed. Prepare your soil in a small cup or peat pot. Plant flower seeds. Learn what to do to take care of the seeds and new plants. Take them home and see how they grow.
- 4.** Find out what kinds of animals and insects you would like to bring to your site. You can plant flowers and plants that will attract birds and butterflies. What else can you add to your plan that would help attract birds and butterflies? Find out what kinds of animals you want to keep away from your flowers and plants. How can you keep deer, rabbits, etc., from eating your flowers?
- 5.** Learn about composting — what it is and how to do it. Visit someone who has a compost system or draw a picture of what would go in a compost pile. How do you use compost and when is it ready to use?
- 6.** What tools do you need to plant a garden of flowers and plants? Learn how to safely use a rake, shovel, and hand trowel. Learn how to take care of and safely store tools. Find out about what kind of clothing and safety equipment you should have when working in your garden (work gloves, protection from the sun, a first aid kit, etc.).
- 7.** Create your landscape project using the plants you have obtained and all that you have learned from the other requirements in this Try-It. Maintain your garden by watering and weeding it regularly.

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