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Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principle #4: Mulch

Today on Gardening in a Minute: Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principle #4: mulch.

Mulch is an attractive way to help control weeds, retain soil moisture, and moderate soil temperatures. Organic mulches can also help improve soil as they decompose.

Many different materials can be used for mulch. Choose environmentally friendly mulch made from melaleuca, eucalyptus, or pine straw or bark. Avoid using cypress mulch, which is often harvested from delicate wetlands.

Let fallen leaves stay under your trees to create self-mulching areas.

Cut down on mowing by replacing grass with mulch in shady areas where grass won't grow.

Apply mulch as needed to maintain a two- to three-inch layer, and pull it away from the base of plants to avoid disease.

Add mulch to provide that finishing touch to any landscape!

For more information about Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ and many other gardening topics, contact your county extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida's Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.

your solution for Florida-friendly gardening