

Oxford Lawns & Gardens



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Introducing our newsletter

WE ARE GOING ORGANIC!

We are making a change. Read about why it's the right time.

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Why a Newsletter?

Welcome to the Oxford Lawns and Gardens first newsletter. We thought it would be lovely way to share what we are doing within the gardens, including our latest news with input from the team and any relevant updates from the horticultural world. We will share NGS garden open days and events, along with any gardens locally we fell are worth a visit.

We have an established Instagram account at 'oxfordlawnsandgardens' which is updated regularly with photographs and we also have a blog which can be accessed via our website or through a link in the bio on Instagram. Our most recent blog 'Lets talk about Wildflower Gardens' draws on our experiences over the years on developing wildflower gardens and includes the 'pros and cons' of the different methods we have used and how we are still learning and adapting to achieve a wildflower garden to suit different clients wishes.

We hope you enjoy hearing our news and musings.

Organic! Our way forward.

I have toyed with making the move to becoming an organic Company for several years and I suppose it really has been a case of being brave enough to go for it without it impacting too much on our current demands within your garden. I feel it is now accepted as a very positive step forward for the health of the OLG team, local wildlife, soil, and the wider environment.

Today there are many proven and widely accepted methods to garden organically making it much easier for us to implement. OLG team member Lucy is passionate about organic principals and up to date on latest methods providing invaluable advice to the whole team.

Over recent years we have been frugal in the use of herbicides and have started tackling areas of weeds by either heavily mulching or regular cutting. In most of our gardens we have been producing compost from leaves, plant pruning's and some grass cuttings. We will be looking to add composting areas in all our clients' gardens, attempting to implement a self-sustaining 'closed loop system'. Several of our clients have invested in woodchippers to allow us to chip woodier material to be composted or used for paths. We have also opted in the last couple of years to use seaweed fertiliser as a liquid fertiliser or blood fish and bone.

In the last year we have had great results using an organic pesticide/fungicide and we will be swapping over to using this fully from now on.

We look forward to working with you on achieving a better working environment for the OLG team and creating a more environmentally sustainable approach to maintaining your garden.

I will over the next few months be writing a blog expanding on the processes we will be using to implement organic practices in your gardens.



Autumn in the Garden.

This year we have had a long autumn with the weather staying mild and dry well into October. We have seen the growing season extended by several weeks with little rain until recently. The grass has kept growing and we have been waiting for a good frost.

Dahlias are amongst several plants which require a frost to stop them growing, after which we can cut down, dig up and store the tubers over winter in the dry. In other gardens we can now cut them down and heavily mulch the tubers, uncovering them late next spring.

We plant large numbers of bulbs over the autumn months. Bulbs are a brilliant and very inexpensive way to add colour to a garden from January through to June and there is a bulb to suit and brighten most areas of your garden and pots.

Now is the time we do our planting projects. Gardens are ever changing and never stay static. Some plants have a life span whilst others outgrow their space. We have several projects where we are replanting existing borders along with a couple of new designs. We are also planting trees and sowing seed in wildflower gardens.

As we cut down the perennial plants to be composted, we add compost back to the borders. We now also deposit leaves on to borders and allow the worms to do their work.