



GROWING GREEN for THE YUBA

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR CANNABIS CULTIVATION



RESPONSIBLE WATER USE

- **Water during early morning** hours, before the sun is high.
- Regularly **check** your water delivery and storage system **for leaks**.
- Build a **rainwater catchment** system.
- Use **drip irrigation**.
- Install **float valves** on tanks to prevent tanks from overflowing.
- Learn how your soil holds water and how much evaporation is taking place, then **make smart choices** about how to adjust watering.
- Use **mulch or cover crops** to increase water retention.
- Use **compost tea or mycorrhizae** to increase water retention.

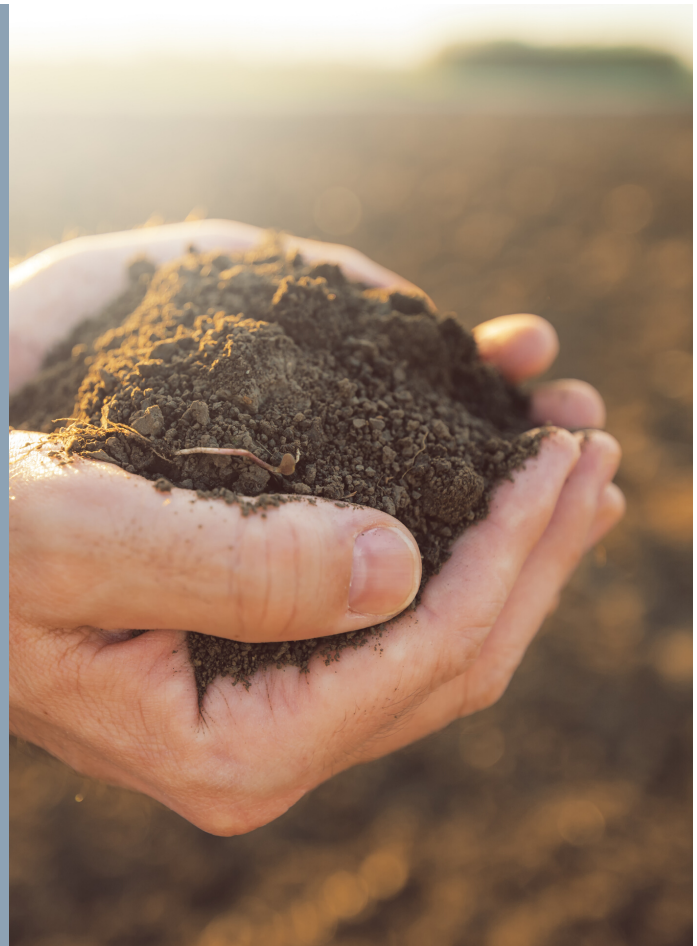
PESTICIDE ALTERNATIVES

- Use an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to prevent pests using a combination of techniques such as use of **beneficial insects, organic & nontoxic (state approved) spray regime and cultural controls**.
- Control pests with **comfrey, nettle and horsetail**. This works to slow insects and promote plant vitality.
- **Companion planting** invites beneficial bugs and draws pests away, bush beans work well with cannabis in Nevada County.
- Use the **least toxic** pest control product available. Consult with your local County Agricultural Commissioner for further information on pesticide laws and regulations.
- For a review of organic materials check out OMRI: Organic Materials Review Institute: **www.omri.org**.
- Contact your County Agricultural Commissioner to be safe.



OPTIMAL USE OF FERTILIZERS

- Know what's in your soil, **healthy soil means less** additives and better crops.
- **Use compost tea or biologic catalysts to increase biologic** activity in your soil. Increasing biologic activity optimizes efficient nutrient use in your soil by increasing nutrient uptake without having to use more nutrients.
- Lasagna composting, the process of **layering compost and mulch**, will help create healthy soil as well.
- Plant **cover crops to boost soil fertility** and protect from storm events.
- **Know when to use fertilizers** and follow the manufacturer's suggested application rates. Do not apply in a way that will result in runoff.
- **Install buffer strips, or vegetation** down slope of cultivation site to filter runoff of chemicals from irrigation.



- **Store all bags and boxes of pesticides and fertilizers off the ground** on pallets or shelves and away from wellhead or riparian areas.
- **Have a spill kit on hand** and use secondary containment to prevent spills from getting into the natural environment.
- **Cover compost piles** with tarp or impermeable surface prior to rain events to prevent run off.

About: Through *Growing Green for the Yuba*, SYRCL aims to inspire the community to engage in sustainable and ecologically sound cannabis cultivation in the Yuba River watershed while navigating the new regulatory regime. Cannabis Cultivation can create water quality concerns in our watershed such as sedimentation, pesticide pollution, nutrient run-off and bacteria, in addition to trespass grows and illegal water diversions. With the support of the Resources Legacy Fund and in consultation with Nevada County, SYRCL has produced educational materials to help everyone "Grow Green" for the Yuba River watershed. Learn more at www.growinggreenfortheyuba.org.