



Organic Land Care with

SOUL Member Newsletter Fall 2017

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SOUL News

SOUL is hiring a new Executive Director! We're looking for an innovative and driven individual to take SOUL to the next level. You can find out more about the position on our [website](#).

AGM Announcement Mark your calendar - our AGM will take place Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at 7 pm EST (4 pm PST). Agenda and call-in details to follow.

Error in June Newsletter

Laurie Balch was accidentally left off the list of Accredited Practitioners in our June Newsletter. We apologize for the error and want to acknowledge Ms Balch's efforts as well.

Congratulations to all our Professional Members!

New on the Science News Blog

Discarded orange peels at the heart of a controversial biodegradation plan in Costa Rica resulted in a lush and overgrown forest. Read the post [here](#).

Mulching

Mulching is spreading organic, or inorganic, material over exposed soil to protect soil and plants from the elements. In the warmer months mulch keeps the soil cool so less water is lost to evaporation, in the cooler months it insulates the ground. Additionally, mulch may also suppress weeds and prevent soil compaction and erosion. If it's done properly, it can add a finished look to the garden. There are many benefits to mulching, but it needs to be done right.

Both organic and inorganic mulch are available for your garden. Inorganic mulch is not allowed under the SOUL organic standard. Organic mulch, however, will break down, adding organic matter to the soil.

Types of Mulch

Organic Mulch

- Chopped leaves;
- Wood chips;
- Hay or straw;
- Compost;
- Seaweed

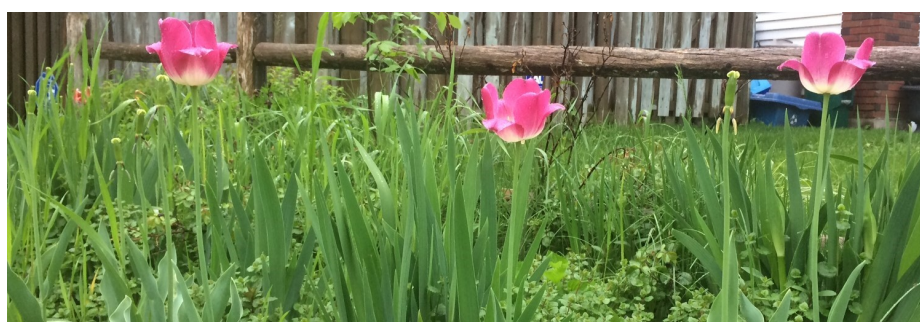
Inorganic Mulch

- Rubber wood chips
- Landscape fabric
- Rocks

Spreading mulch

- Start by clearing old mulch and debris like grass and twigs away from the area;
- Around trees apply 3 to 4 inches of mulch, keeping it away from the trunk;
- Around plants apply 1 to 3 inches of mulch;
- Ensure mulch is flat and flush around the base of plants;
- Too much mulch will attract rodents and cause root rot. Opt for total cover, but not more than a few inches thick.

- SOUL Executive Director



If you have a garden picture you would like to share, send it to us at administrator@organiclandcare.org