

Build a planter to start your Spring Garden, out of recycled materials you already have!

Not only will you be getting an eco-friendly start to your garden, but you will be re-using and therefore reducing waste. We will be using an empty toilet paper tube, and the best part about this planter is that it can go right into the ground! The paper tube will dissolve and not harm the soil around it. Let's get started!

What you need:

- ❖ Soil
- ❖ Empty toilet paper tube
- ❖ Scissors
- ❖ Preferred seeds – some easy to grow seeds include green beans, carrots or other native WI plants and flowers!

Step one: Make sure your empty toilet paper tube is completely void of leftover tissue. Take the empty toilet paper tube and make 4 vertical cuts about 1-inch long. Do your best to make these symmetrical! You will end up with 4 different flaps to fold over.



Step two: Take these flaps and fold them as you would a cardboard box. These don't always end up perfectly, and that's okay 😊

Step three: Flip the tube over and fill it with soil, it is a good idea to do this over a plate or outside in-case some soil slips out the bottom of the container. The flatter the bottom of your tube is, the better it will stand up on its own without tipping over.



Step four: Choose your seeds, and be sure to check the seed packet for growing instructions. Use your pointer finger to make a hole in the soil. Then, drop your seed in and re-cover with soil.

Put this in a window or another sunny place inside until it is time to plant outside. Again, check your seed packet for specific growing instructions. Typically, vegetables can be planted outside mid-May and native WI flowers can be planted anytime, as often they are already adapted to WI climate and know when to pop-up for spring. Once it's that time, dig a hole just deep enough to fit the tube while leaving the soil surface of your planter exposed.