



Soil Association

SOUTH EAST ESSEX ORGANIC GARDENERS

We meet six times a year in January, March, May, July, September and November at The Cheryl Centre, Growing Together Westcliff, 47 Fairfax Drive, Southend-on-Sea SS0 9AG (corner of Fairfax Drive and Prittlewell Chase) from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m.

Single Membership is £8 per annum

Family Membership is £12 per annum and includes members of one family living at the same address

For further details, contact Carole Shorney, 19 Folly Lane, Hockley, Essex SS5 4SE
Telephone: 01702 201914 E-mail: caroleshorney@hotmail.com

I / we wish to apply for membership of South East Essex Organic Gardeners and enclose my / our remittance for £8 / £12. Please make cheques payable to SEEOG.

Name.....Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other.....

Name.....Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other.....

Name.....Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other.....

Name.....Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other.....

Address.....

.....

.....Post code.....

Telephone..... E-mail.....

Please return this form to Graham Oster-Ritter, 380a London Road, Hadleigh, Benfleet, Essex SS7 2DA



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It is now recognised that, in the face of the destruction of our countryside by chemical pesticides, British wildlife finds a safe haven in our gardens. How important, then, to ensure that the very chemicals which do so much harm to wildlife in the countryside do not contaminate and despoil our own private patch.

It was to encourage the development of organic, healthy, non-toxic, gardening that South East Essex Organic Gardeners (affiliated to Garden Organic and the Soil Association) was set up in 1994 and they are now a thriving group with meetings held six times a year in January, March, May, July, September and November, a regular newsletter and visits to a wide variety of organic farms and gardens.

If you are already or would like to become an organic gardener, the group is a mine of information and what we don't know we can find out! You'll soon find out that life is healthier - for you and the wildlife - without slug pellets and chemical pesticides and fertilisers.

Organic growing involves:

- Treating the soil and growing environment as a resource to be husbanded for future generations, rather than misused and neglected for short term gain.
- Providing plants with a balanced food supply by feeding the many soil living creatures that live with composts, manures and other organic materials.
- Choosing renewable resources.
- Reducing pollution of the environment, by recycling garden, household and other wastes, rather than dumping or burning them.
- Combating pests and diseases without using pesticides that may prove harmful to human health and that of domestic and wild animals.
- Encouraging and protecting wildlife, by creating suitable habitats and by minimizing use of harmful pesticides.
- Creating a safe and pleasant environment in which to work and play.
- Moving with the times - taking new scientific discoveries and ideas into account, as well as the best traditional knowledge.
- Using good horticultural practices.
- Recognising the importance of genetic diversity and hence the preservation of threatened plant varieties.

If you'd like to find out more about S E Essex Organic Gardeners, please phone Carole Shorney on 01702 201914, who will give you information about the next meeting, or you can visit <http://www.seeog.org.uk>

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