



Organic Fertilizers and Soil Amendments

At a minimum, please choose a product that is labeled as “organic”.

The East Brunswick Community Garden is committed to organic gardening. The term “organic”, as it applies to fertilizers, means that the product should be derived solely from the remains, or a by-product, of a once living organism (Rutgers Master Gardeners).

The following is a list of recommended organic fertilizers and soil amendments, but is by no means exhaustive. If unsure, feel free to consult with the community garden board or sales representatives at garden centers. We’re more than happy to help!

Please avoid over-fertilizing. Always follow the label directions and consider have your soil tested first.

Fertilizers guarantee labeled nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium (N-P-K) ratios.

- Animal based meals (blood, feather, bone, fish, hoof, etc)
- Plant based meals (alfalfa, cottonseed, kelp, etc)
- Fish emulsion
- Seaweed fertilizers
- Fertilizer premixes – if labeled “organic” (Espoma tone®, Miracle-Gro® Organic Choice®, etc)
- Mineral-based fertilizers* (greensand, potash)

Soil amendments provide N-P-K, organic matter, micronutrients, minerals, microorganisms, balance soil pH, and/or improve soil structure.

- Manure (Chicken manure/litter, cow, bat guano)
- Compost
- Peat moss
- Vermiculite*
- Perlite*
- Earthworm castings
- Lime*
- Coco coir
- Azomite*

*Not derived from a once living organism. But are naturally occurring, minimally processed and approved by the OMRI.

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After a quick perusal through our local East Brunswick home and garden stores (Spring 2016), I was able to find these organic products available on the shelves. With the exception of the manures and composts (by definition organic), everything listed here is OMRI approved! This list is neither exhaustive nor a product endorsement.

Manure and Compost:



Soil Amendments:



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Fertilizers:

