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Mulch Recreates the Forest Floor



Mulch is a bed of organic matter that provides many benefits as it decays.

Mulch is found in all forests as a bed of decaying leaves, twigs, and branches and is full of fungal, microbial, and insect life. It helps conserve moisture and prevent weeds. This layer stores nutrients and makes them available to plants as needed. Without mulch, bare soil requires regular fertilizing and more frequent watering.

A three-inch mulch layer, made from old pallets, was used in the Café Garden. The pallets were shredded and dyed with a soy-based dye. You can obtain recycled pallet mulch from the recyclers who haul away your yard trimmings. This mulch can also be used to cover other less appealing mulch materials. Mulch should be spread three to four inches deep for effective weed control.



Question:

The Café Garden and the Nectar Garden each use a different type of mulch. Can you find the difference?



Answer: The Café Garden uses recycled pallet mulch and the Nectar Garden uses natural Fir bark mulch.