

# How to Protect Your Garden from the Summer Sun

Written by Written by Julia Swem

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Arizona is blessed with garden-friendly weather but it's the summer months a gardener needs to look out for. Follow these steps to protect your plants against the brutal summer sun.



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## Invest in a Garden Sun Screen

This is a simple way to protect your plants and yourself when the temperatures start to soar. The sun screen serves as a breathable canopy creating shade and reducing temperatures by up to 15 degrees. Both you and your plants will be much happier under the protection of this innovative screen.



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## Water, Water, Water

This may seem like a no-brainer but it is key to the survival of your garden during the hottest months. Water everyday and in May and June some plants will require a watering twice a day. Just keep a lookout, if one of your plants doesn't look as lively as it should, don't hesitate to shower it again.



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## Protect Those Roots

Your plants' roots are by far the most sensitive and vulnerable aspect of your garden. Mulch everywhere the sun shines to shield young roots from harsh rays. You may also want to paint the trunks of your citrus trees with a diluted flat latex white paint that will safely reflect the glare of the sun.

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## Plant Companion Plants

Planting some companion plants such as perennials and ground covers will help fill out your garden as well as protect the roots underneath. Now you can have a luscious garden and fight the heat at the same time. Sounds like a win-win situation.

