Gardening Online

“If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need.” ~ Marcus Tullius Cicero

Informational Garden Sites

.Execution a credible search

- Use only literal terms; avoid the, and, of in most cases.
  - Plant tree instead of How to plant a tree
- For information about a specific plant, use the Scientific name.
- If you do not know the scientific name, use a common name to find it.

.Use qualified sources

- Friend & expert recommendations
  - Floridata - http://www.floridata.com/
  - Learn2Grow - http://www.learn2grow.com/
  - efloras - http://www.efloras.org/
  - Landscape Plants for South Florida - http://www.plantbook.org/

- Sites that end in .edu, .gov and sometimes .org.
  - USDA, NRCS - Factsheets & Guides - http://plants.usda.gov/java/factSheet
  - National Gardening Association - http://www.garden.org/home


- Florida - http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/

- Botanical Gardens
  - McKee Botanical Gardens - http://www.mckeegarden.org/
Some Commercial sites, once you vet
- Learn2Grow - http://www.learn2grow.com/
- Proven Winners - http://www.provenwinners.com/plants/
- Monrovia - http://www.monrovia.com/
- Top Tropicals - http://www.toptropicals.com/
- Killer Plants - http://www.killerplants.com/

Magazines & Newsletters Online - Newspapers too!
Log on and read, by subscription.
A few favorites.
- Southern Living - http://www.southernliving.com/home-garden/gardens/

Social Networking
A social networking site is an online place where a user can create a profile and build a personal network that connects him or her to other users.
- Any topic, specialty or niche
- Participation level is by choice
- Many sites and options
Gardening social media sites provide places for:
- Sharing
  - Experiences
  - Information
  - Photos

Allow the creation and exchange of user-generated content.
- New & exciting relationships, techniques and tools.
- User Beware
Forms & Opportunities
- Blogs - Short for Web Log.
  - Personal, personable and usually not reviewed.
  - A great way to share.

Check these out -
- Garden Rant - http://www.gardenrant.com/
- Tom’s Digs - http://blogs.orlandosentinel.com/features_gardening_blog/
- DragonFly Garden - http://yearroundgarden.blogspot.com/
Blogs - try your hand at one
- Blogger - https://www.blogger.com/start
- Learn2grow.com - http://community.learn2grow.com/go/browse/blogs

Microblogs
- Allows users to send brief text updates or media such as photos or audio clips and publish them.
- Updates can be made from any device linked to the web such as cell phones.
- Viewed by anyone or by a restricted group which can be chosen by the user.
- Twitter is a microblog. Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn, and XING also have microblogging features.

Forums - Online bulletin boards. Used for questions, polls, rants, raves and opinions.
- One of the fastest ways to post info and receive help. Use search to find specific info.
A few popular garden forums:
- Dave’s Garden - http://davesgarden.com/community/forums/

A few popular garden forums
- Garden Guides - http://my.gardenguides.com/forums/
- University of British Columbia (UBC) Botanical Garden discussion forums - http://www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org/forums/
- Learn2grow - http://community.learn2grow.com/go/forum/viewboard

Other opportunities are as limited as your imagination.

Photo Sharing
- Webshots - http://www.webshots.com/
- Flickr - http://www.flickr.com/
- Learn2grow - http://community.learn2grow.com/go/browse/photos?view=mr
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Get Involved

- Invite Your Friends
- Search Plants
- Participate on a Blog
- Follow Us on Twitter
- Ask an Expert
- Take a Course
- How Does It All Work? GO

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