



Make Your Mark 30 Day Challenge

FROM SEED TO BLOOM

From a small seed to a full flower bloom, water is critical for new life and growth. By planting a seed (or many!) on World Water Day and fueling it with water, sunlight and patience, you'll have a bloom by Earth Day.

GET PLANTING!

- Whether you plant in your backyard, a pot on a balcony or an eggcrate on a windowsill, you will be supporting biodiversity and demonstrating to others in your household the importance of water for the ecosystem and growth
- Post a photo or video on social media or Watermark in Action on Xylem Now featuring you planting, and post again at the end of the month to share your bloom! Use #FromSeedtoBloom and tag @xylemwatermark

TIPS

- Host an in-person or virtual event with friends and colleagues to share your progress at the end of the 30 days
- Use the [Native Plant Finder](#) to determine which plants will be best in your area or check in with your local gardening center

DIY SEED BALL ACTIVITY

Make this activity a bit more fun by planting with seed balls! Seed balls have been used in agriculture since ancient civilizations and were popularly revitalized in the 1930s with the Guerilla Gardening movement. Today, they are often used to re-vegetate areas burned by wildfires, but they are also an entertaining (and messy) way to celebrate sustainability and the water cycle while spreading the importance of native plants at home. In addition to being fun, the balls also protect seeds from wind, birds, squirrels and other critters.

After you make your own seed balls, drop off a few with friends and neighbors to help spread awareness while supporting your local community!

Materials Needed:

- 6 pieces of construction paper, assorted colors
- 3-5 packages of pollinator-attractant flower seeds
- Food processor
- Scissors

Directions:

1. Cut each piece of construction paper into 1-inch squares and place into a small bowl; keep each group of colored paper squares in its own separate bowl.
2. Fill each bowl with water until the paper is completely covered and leave to soak for 20 minutes.
3. Take each bowl of paper and wring out half the water so that the paper is still damp.
4. Using one color at a time, place the damp paper in the food processor and pulse the paper into a pulp.
5. Repeat this with all the paper colors and put the pulp back into each of their individual bowls.
6. Mix the seeds into each bowl of paper.
7. Press the pulp and seeds together to form into balls. If the pulp is dry, add a little more water to the pulp.
8. Place the seed balls on a sheet pan and leave overnight to dry.
9. Plant outside, cover with soil and add water. The seedling should be visible within 2-3 weeks, or quicker in warmer conditions.

