



FAIRY AND ELF GARDENS :

Angel Madison, "Go for a Walk on NJ's Fairy Trail," NJ Family, Staff Photograph, May 8, 2020 (online)

Outdoor fun exploring the textures of the earth.

A "together" project for families and for whomever has an imaginative vision.

You will create fairy houses using materials from the earth. A picture of your creation will be posted on the Sustainable Highland Park website. For more information, see below.

What is a Fairy and Elf Garden?

Imaginative places where the wee folks live. They are made from natural and recycled materials.

Where Can You Build Them?

You can build them in your backyard, near trees and shrubs, or in gardens, flower pots and saucers, in bird baths, and in small spaces, wherever fairies and elves hide.

RULES:

1. You must use things that are found **ON** the ground and that are dead.
2. Do **NOT** pull out grasses, mosses or lichens, or pick flowers or leaves or berries that are presently growing.
3. Items from the house: Use sparingly and try not to use plastic.

MATERIALS (some suggestions—add your own)

1. A bit of land—near trees, shrubs, or in a garden—or a container such as a clay pot or a saucer or a birdbath or some other container—e.g. an old Frisbee.
2. Dead leaves, twigs, branches, flowers, cones, tree bark, nuts, and grasses, which are lying on the ground.
3. Pebbles, stones, shells (nut or sea), gravel.
4. Broken pieces of ceramic.
5. Soil or dead leaves (if using a container).

HOW?

1. ON THE GROUND:
 - a. Find your space, about 8"-12" dia. (or smaller or larger).
 - b. If you like, mark the space with pebbles or twigs.
 - c. Build your structure(s) using twigs (e.g. for support or as logs) bark, stones, etc. You can use bark or leaves for the roof or sides. Use twigs, sticks or pebbles to hold the leaves in place,.
 - d. You can decorate the house with tree cones, acorns, shells or pieces of ceramics.
 - e. You can "landscape" the house with stones and twigs and bits of green conifer needles that have fallen to the ground or with shells, ceramic pieces, stones, and gravel.
2. IN A CONTAINER:
 - a. Find a container: E.g. a clay pot—one side may be somewhat broken—or a saucer or a birdbath or some container, e.g. an old Frisbee. Something shallow, 3"-4" like a flowerpot saucer, is good since it requires less soil or fewer leaves to fill in the ground.
 - b. Fill the container with soil or with leaves or with a mixture of the two and tamp it down.
 - c. See c-e above.
3. Give your construction a name.
4. Create a story about the wee folk who live there.

TO ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN:

1. Take a photo of your "Wee House"
2. Follow the instructions of submission on the Sustainable HP webpage
3. DON'T FORGET TO INCLUDE YOUR NAME(S) AND YOUR HP ADDRESS

***... i hope you enjoyed creating these fairy homes ...
thank you for participating and uploading***

<https://www.fairyhouses.com/about-fairy-houses/how-to-build/>

[https:// www.thesprucecrafts.com/how-to-make-fairy-houses-1244393](https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/how-to-make-fairy-houses-1244393)

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/fairy-houses-on-a-new-jersey-trail>
(about the Fairy House Trail at South Mountain)