*ORGANIC WAYS TO REMOVE GARDEN WEEDS*

* *Use mulch to smother weeds. Covering garden soil with mulch blocks weeds. Use three inches of shredded bark, wood chips, straw, cocoa bean hulls, gravel or rocks. These types of mulches will also keep moisture in the soil so you’ll have to water less frequently.*
* *Douse weeds with boiling water. Weeds burn when exposed to boiling water. This method also kills weed seeds.*
* *Soap weeds by destroying them. Mix 5 tablespoons of liquid soap (dishwashing liquid) in one quart (4 cups) of water in a spray bottle. Coat the weeds with the soapy water. This method works best on very hot days.*
* *Pour household vinegar into a spray bottle and evenly coat weeds with it. Vinegar is really five percent acetic acid in water, and it burns the plant, especially on sunny days. For extra strength weed killer, look for pickling vinegar, which is nine percent acetic acid. Don’t get the vinegar on your garden plants, as it can kill them too.*
* *Use alcohol. Mix one to five tablespoons of alcohol – depending on how stubborn the weeds are – with one quart (4 cups) of water in a spray bottle. Shower weeds with the spray. Don’t let the alcohol get on garden plants as it may damage their leaves.*
* *Use corn meal gluten as a pre-emergent herbicide and fertilizer. Corn meal gluten prevents weeds from growing, then breaks down to provide nitrogen to your plants or lawn. Use it on lawns or established perennial beds, as it won’t kill already growing plants. That does mean, of course, that it won’t work on already existing weeds. :) OPAL*

