



# MCBH Environmental Compliance & Protection Division

## REUSE, RECYCLE, REPURPOSE!

We all have items at home that can be reused, recycled or repurposed. Wooden dressers can be repainted; over-stuffed furniture can be refurbished, re-stuffed and recovered to look like new.

Simple items like clothing that you can't wear anymore but still have life in them can be cut to create a whole new purpose! That favorite shirt or dress you can't part with or reminds you of a loved one can be repurposed into items that accentuate your creativity and brings memories into your home. Homemade creative projects can also make wonderful gifts for holidays and birthdays!

Pictured are results of a project made from men's shirts that were cut into squares and strips then joined together to create bed covers, lap blankets and pillow covers. All it takes is a little time, creativity and a simple sewing machine. The results can be fantastic!



## PLASTIC BOTTLE HERB PLANTERS

Reuse your plastic bottles, by turning them into herb planters. They can turn into a self-watering garden right in your home.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED: Marker, sturdy 1-liter plastic bottles with caps, utility knife, scissors, label remover or vegetable oil, potting soil & Herb seedlings

### Instructions:

1. For each planter, mark a line 5 inches from the bottle's base. Use the utility knife to puncture the bottle at the mark, then use scissors to cut all the way around the bottle at the mark.
2. Remove the label if desired. You can use a label remover or vegetable oil to get rid of any extra adhesive.
3. With the cap in place, invert the bottle's top portion and insert it into the base. Cut a circle using a coffee filter about 2 inches in diameter and place it in the top portion of the bottle to prevent loss of soil. Now, fill it part way with soil.
4. Transplant a seedling, adding soil and pressing it gently until the seedling is secured in the planter.
5. Lift out the soil-filled top portion and remove the cap. Add about an inch of water to the planter's base, enough to cover the lip of the inverted bottle top when you replace it.
6. Give the seedling some more water to help it get established, then place it in a sunny spot in your house, possible near a window.
7. Following the care instructions that came with the herb, add water as needed to the planter's base.

