



## Supplies: Reusing Pots

Growing your own seedlings from seed takes some time and effort but can be fun and helps you save a little money. However, purchasing clean, new seed starting supplies every year, like plastic trays and inserts, can be costly.

For our Grow Pittsburgh programs, we reuse some of our seed-starting supplies from year to year. Because we want to avoid spreading any pests or fungal, bacterial, or viral diseases that may have developed on the previous year's seedlings, we carefully clean the trays with a solution of vinegar and water. This method works well with any size of plastic pot, so it's a great idea for container gardens too.

These pictures and captions explain how:



*Remove loose soil from the pots, trays, or inserts, by soaking them in water and rinsing.*



*Soak in a solution of 1 part distilled white vinegar and 4 parts water, for at least 30 minutes.*



*Rinse the trays thoroughly and dry in the sun.*

After taking these steps, your trays, inserts, and pots are clean and ready to use for this season!