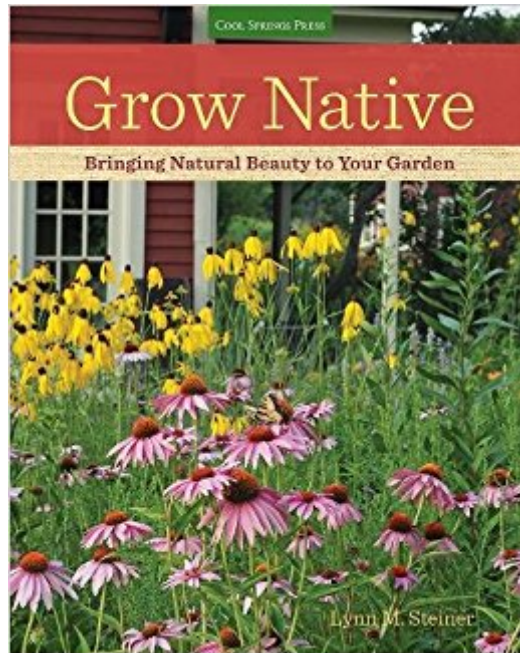




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Grow Native: Bringing Natural Beauty To Your Garden



Synopsis

Learn how to transform your yard into a beautiful landscape using native plants! You don't have to compromise beauty for natural landscapes with ecological responsibility and sustainability. In master gardener Lynn Steiner's book *Grow Native*, you'll find guidance for planting stunning gardens using native species that support your local ecosystem. Organized in an easily accessible way, the book offers instructions for planting, maintenance instructions, helpful tips about soil, watering and fertilizing as well as gorgeous photography. With guidance about how to weave native plants into your landscape and replacing common ornamentals with natural plants, this book should have a place on every gardener's bookshelf. *Grow Native* combines inspirational garden shots of native landscapes with plant specific chapters and photos. Topics covered include:- Hardiness Zone Maps- Inspiration Gallery: Gardens Full of Native Plants- Why Grow Natives?- What Do You Mean by "Native"?- Lower Water Usage / Drought-Tolerant- Hardier / Tougher- Easier Care- Sustainability- And more. Additionally, sidebars throughout *Naturescape* offer pointers for attracting specific butterflies, birds, bees and other beneficials to your yard--all through plant selections.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"One of the particularly helpful sections is an extremely thorough list of invasive species and specific suggestions for alternatives to each of the problem species. Instead of just saying don't plant this, specific solutions are provided depending on the situation - The Oregonian's Steiner provides

deeply informed plant profiles with instruction on each species's value to wildlife and how each one can be used and maintained in a garden. Most welcome in these profiles is an especially valuable section evaluating available varieties and cultivars. • - Texas Gardener's SEEDS

Lynn Steiner is one of the Upper Midwest's best-known garden writers and a frequent speaker at gardening and environmental events. She is the author and photographer of several books that advocate for the effective use of native plants in the typical home landscape.

Landscaping with Native Plants of Minnesota, the first book designed to identify Minnesota's native plants and plant communities and to demonstrate how to use them effectively in a typical home landscape, was a finalist in the 2006 Minnesota Book Awards in the Science and Nature category. Lynn is the author and photographer of several other books, including *Rain Gardens: Sustainable Landscaping for a Beautiful Yard and a Healthy World*, published in February 2012. Other titles include *Landscaping with Native Plants of Wisconsin*, published spring 2007, and *Landscaping with Native Plants of Michigan*, published in 2006 and named a Michigan Notable Book for 2007. She also helped develop, wrote, and provided photographs for *The Complete Guide to Gardening* series, ten regional gardening books published in 2012 by Cool Springs Press. For fifteen years, Lynn was the editor of *Northern Gardener* magazine, the official publication of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. Under her direction, *Northern Gardener* received several Overall Excellence awards from the Minnesota Magazine & Publication Association, and several individual contributors received Garden Writers Association Media awards. She now writes a column for the magazine titled "Northern Natives." Lynn lives with her husband and two cats on a 115-year-old farmstead in northern Washington County, Minnesota, where she enjoys tending her gardens and watching the progress of her restored prairie, savannah, and oak woodland.

Was so happy with another of Lynn Steiner's book wanted to see what additional insight this one offered. I was not disappointed. The pages include which plants shrubs and trees have pollinator or wildlife value helping make choices for one's own garden.

Very useful interesting book. Looking forward to putting many of these recommended plants in my new flower beds in the Spring to enjoy for years to come.

Such a good deal to have someone to do your homework for you! I wish I'd had this book 25 years ago when I made my first uninformed choices of Minnesota native plants at the local farmers market

--- I am still pulling up the seedlings of several lovely but heavily seeding flowers. "Grow Native" is packed with useful information while remaining easy to read. You can tell a book that's not fluff because you are surprised to see that you are only a third of the way through it when you thought you must be near the end. It's a very satisfying read. I enjoyed the boxes about various pollinators (both the pretty popular ones like butterflies and also some of the important native bees) and plentiful handy lists such as "Shrubs That Can Be Pruned into Small Trees," natives for dry shade, and native plants that are suitable for container gardening. There are four pages of "Instead of This, Plant This": thoughtful recommendations for replacing harmful invasive plants with native plants that will do a similar job in the garden. This book also explains what a nativar is and outlines what characteristics to look for to find ones that are still beneficial. I learned a lot from this book and it made me feel like adding more natives and nativars to my garden.

This new book substantiates author Lynn Steiner's reputation as one of our leading experts in the native plant movement. The book has a nice flow to it, beginning with some insightful high level background (why use native plants) and concluding with an excellent section cataloging specific plant recommendations. For those of us who are novices to this important garden subject, there are plenty of special-use tables with suggestions of native plants for many specific applications. For my garden, I am paying close attention to the deer resistant plant table. The publisher's effort to highlight the book's excellent photography is also evident. The many beautiful full garden photos at the beginning support the underlying argument for natives, while the large portraits of individual species in the plant section will aid in selecting plants for your garden.

Whether you're a seasoned traditional gardener transitioning to sustainable practices or a complete novice, Lynn Steiner's new book, *Grow Native*, is for you! The first part of this comprehensive guide covers all aspects of gardening with native plants, including plant selection, soil preparation, landscape design, maintenance and, most importantly, ecological benefits. The second part of the book profiles in detail native plants recommended for the garden. (As a veteran native plant gardener who struggles with the consequences of choosing some species that are far too aggressive for the residential landscape, I applaud Steiner's wise plant selections!) If *Grow Native*'s magnificent photo illustrations don't convince you that native plant landscaping is the right choice, Steiner's eloquent arguments about the benefits of native plants for birds, native pollinators and other fauna surely will.

My household has zero green thumbs, but I enjoy having plants around. Knowing that, it made sense to approach gardening with plants that already integrate well into the local environment. This book is an excellent guide for that, teaching how to customize your garden to not only your aesthetic preferences, but your desired level of maintenance. It offers information on care, cautions, and even how not to pick plants that are too "weedy." It also outlines a huge selection of species in terms of the zones where they thrive, expected size, pollinator & wildlife value, directions & maintenance, and alternate plant suggestions.

If you're looking for a solid grounding in the basics of how to garden with native plants, then "Grow Native" is for you. If you're already an experienced native plant enthusiast, then there is a wealth of fascinating and useful information to be found here, including specifics on the pollinator and wildlife value of each profiled plant. I had no idea that wild ginger is the larval host of pipeline swallowtail butterflies, that ants are attracted to the smell of its fruit and take part in its seed dispersal, and that quail use wild ginger plantings for nesting! There are even photographs of many of the insects and butterflies sitting on their preferred plants. I found this book to be inspiring and encouraging.

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