

Your Perfect Front Yard  
Linn-Benton Community College  
Spring 2003  
Beth Young, Instructor

## RECOMMENDED BOOKS

### GENERAL DESIGN / SPECIAL SITUATIONS

The Front Garden: New Approaches to Landscape Design by Mary Riley Smith, 1991. Ideas for creating more than lawn-and-foundation-plantings in your front yard. Avail. at Corvallis-BC Library.

Gardening with Nature by James Van Sweden, 1997. The author is co-founder of Oehme, Van Sweden and Associates, a dynamic landscape architecture firm in Washington D.C. This firm specializes in innovative designs which, among other things, take the lawn out of the front yard. Photos and detailed planting plans illustrate their case studies. (BBB)

Landscaping for Privacy by Sunset Books, 1985. (There most likely are more recent editions).

Hillside Landscaping by Sunset Books, 2002. If you have a sloping site, this book is full of well-thought-out ideas.

### DO-IT-YOURSELF

Making Paths and Walkways by Paige Gilchrist Blomgren, 1999 (\$25). A very good how-to book with inspirational photos and creative ideas. (BBB)

The Art and Craft of Stonescaping: Setting and Stacking Stone by David Reed. this book brought a new appreciation for the beauty, utility and versatility of the art. A very good how-to book.. (BBB)

Great Decks and Porches by Rick Peters. At under \$15, this is a great investment to make before you start hammerin' those nails. This book has actual photos of actual hands working with actual wood through every step of the process.. (BBB)

Trellises and Arbors by Sunset Books, 1999. Good ideas about all of the options available to purchase or build yourself.

Sprinklers and Drip Systems by Ortho Books, 1998. Colorful, well-illustrated with all the facts about designing and installing an irrigation system yourself.

Reliable Rain by Hendrix and Straw, 1998 (\$20). Everything you would ever want to know about irrigation (and probably more).

How to Design and Install Outdoor Lighting by Ortho Books, 1984. Sound design ideas plus step-by-step how-to info. (BBB)

(BBB) = available online at [www.bygardendesign.com](http://www.bygardendesign.com), "Beth's Best Bets" section.

## NORTHWEST LANDSCAPING / ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Gaia's Garden: a Guide to Home-Scale Permaculture by Toby Hemenway, 2001. This book introduces and clearly explains the practice of creating a self-sustaining landscape,

Gardening with Native Plants of the Pacific Northwest by Arthur R. Kruckeberg, 1993. Originally published in 1984, this has become the bible of Northwest natives.

Landscaping for Wildlife in the Pacific Northwest by Russel Link, 1999. Ways to attract the animals that make the Northwest special, as well as dealing with "pests." Includes an extensive plant list with detailed information on which animals are attracted to the plant, and why.

An Illustrated Guide to Attracting Birds by Sunset Books, 1995. A good introduction to landscaping with birds in mind. Photos of birds help identify the species.

Backyard Battle Plan: The Ultimate Guide to Controlling Wildlife Damage in Your Garden by Cooper Rutledge, 1998. Thorough study of each potential pest in your garden, and ways to deal with it.

## PLANTS

Time-Tested Plants: Thirty Years in a Four-Season Garden by Pamela Harper, 2000. (\$40). I like this book because it un sentimentally talks about each of her favorite plants, and why. Sage advice from someone who has worked with the plants. for many years.

The Four-Season Landscape by Susan A. Roth. This smallish book encourages good design principles and gets the reader to look beyond flowers for a lovely landscape. Good how-to info, too. (BBB)

The Sunset Western Garden Book by Sunset Books, 2001. Good for choosing plants, and perhaps identifying plants that you already have. There is an extended "Plant Selection Guide" in the latest edition which may help you if, for instance, you want to know of plants for windy areas. (BBB)

The Western Garden Problem Solver by Sunset Books, 1998. If you have something in your garden that is not thriving--and who doesn't?--this book is for you. You will be able to figure out what is going wrong, and the ways that you can solve the problem. (BBB)

The Pacific Northwest Plant Locator by Susan Hill and Susan Narizny. If you can't find that plant you want, don't fear! This book tells you exactly which Northwest nurseries carry your plant,, and whether they will mail it to you or if you need to pick it up yourself. Updated annually. (BBB)

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