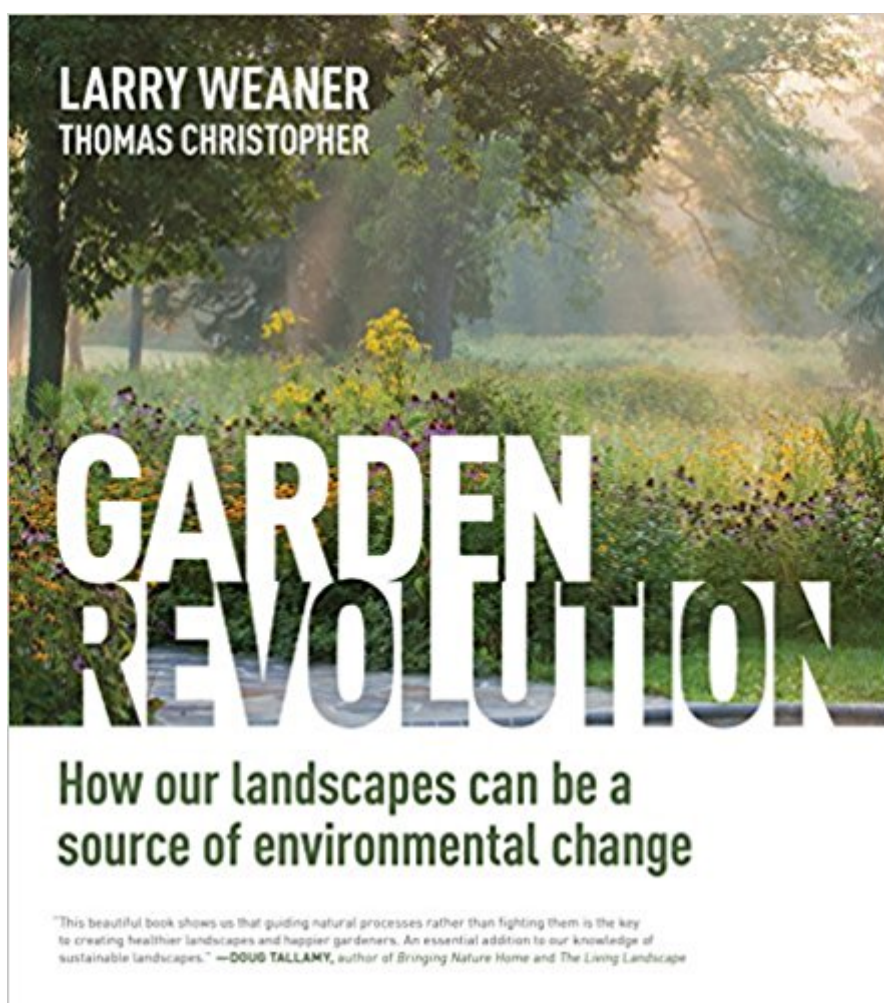


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# Garden Revolution: How Our Landscapes Can Be A Source Of Environmental Change



## Synopsis

AHS Book Award winner This lushly-photographed reference is an important moment in horticulture that will be embraced by anyone looking for a better, smarter way to garden. Larry Weaner is an icon in the world of ecological landscape design, and now his revolutionary approach is available to all gardeners. Garden Revolution shows how an ecological approach to planting can lead to beautiful gardens that buck much of conventional gardening's counter-productive, time-consuming practices. Instead of picking the wrong plant and then constantly tilling, weeding, irrigating, and fertilizing, Weaner advocates for choosing plants that are adapted to the soil and climate of a specific site and letting them naturally evolve over time. Allowing the plants to find their own niches, to spread their seed around until they find the microclimate and spot that suits them best, creates a landscape that is vibrant, dynamic, and gorgeous year after year.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"This beautiful book shows us that guiding natural processes rather than fighting them is the key to creating healthier landscapes and happier gardeners. An essential addition to our knowledge of sustainable landscapes." —Doug Tallamy, author of Bringing Nature Home "An essential reference for conservation-minded home gardeners and stewards of larger landscapes." —Rick Darke, author of The Living Landscape and The American Woodland Garden "There's inspiration here, from the honesty with which the authors address climate change to the experiential wisdom they bring to every aspect of the complex process of creating a landscape." —Booklist

In this text-heavy volume, a landscape designer and a horticulturist teach us that gardening can be a partnership with nature when gardeners shed conventional practices, exploit plants' life cycles, and embrace unpredictable plant communities. "Library Journal" What is marvellous about reading this book is the powerful sense of those lifetimes of knowledge and skill being shared, and so concisely "there is hardly a spare sentence here. . . . Illustrations are plentiful, clear and enticing. . . . I wholeheartedly recommend this book to anyone who wants to work with wild or ecological planting styles; we can all learn a lot from it." "Gardens Illustrated" A guide to every aspect of a new kind of garden based on age-old laws "nature's law." "Country Gardens" Weaner is a superstar in ecological landscape design. This photo-filled book shows you how to choose and maintain plants that will thrive and self-seed in your climate. "Herb Quarterly" There's a way to design and plant that's beneficial to the environment, that looks beautiful, and that saves you "the homeowner" from a lot of toil and trouble. . . . the principles he outlines can be adapted for almost any garden, so it's a book that you'll want on your bookshelf. . . . This is a book that's long, long overdue. "Garden Design Online" This book shows how [Larry Weaner] evaluates the natural habitat, chooses plants, and watches them grow and reseed, then edits if necessary. . . . This is a book that will guide a designer through a planning process, including a demonstration of the use of themed maps to show microclimates and other features of a site. "San Francisco Chronicle" Garden Revolution reinforces what we've been told again and again "and thankfully are beginning to heed" that as garden makers, we need to pay attention to the local ecology. . . . Throughout the book, practical content is presented alongside anecdotal planting examples. . . . their observations and analysis open our eyes and invite us to adopt an approach that can be deeply meaningful and filled with surprises and revelatory events. "Pacific Horticulture Magazine" Garden Revolution gives land managers the toolkit to work with land on large and small scales in order to create ecologically sensitive landscapes. For anyone who is a steward of land or interested in the topic, this is a book to find and read sooner rather than later. "NYBG's Plant Talk" A thoughtful meditation on ecology, garden design, and theory of native landscapes. "Garden Collage" More than a discussion. . . . it is a handbook for studying how plants and wildlife associate in a natural state and basing our gardening on that. . . . The revolutionary path of Weaner's work is something we should all consider when designing our garden. "The Designer

Liberate your landscape! Traditional gardening practices are time-consuming and labor-intensive, and result in landscapes that require constant upkeep. But there's a better way: by following

ecological principles, we can have landscapes that are alive with color, friendly to local wildlife, and evolve over timeâ€”with much less work and effort.Â€ Larry Weaner and Thomas Christopher show you exactly how to create these exciting, stimulating landscapes. Â€

Â€ Larry Weaner and Thomas Christopher's new book, "Garden Revolution", is the third in a trifecta of highly anticipated garden / landscaping books I have been eagerly anticipating for the last several years. The other two were *The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden* by Doug Tallamy and Rick Darke and *Planting in a Post-Wild World: Designing Plant Communities for Resilient Landscapes* by Thomas Rainer and Claudia West. Tallamy and Darke's book expanded brilliantly on the main idea presented in *Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants*, that being how native plants in the cultivated and managed landscapes can provide provide a lifeline to the wildlife we share our planet with. This book also offered real world info on plant selection and the gorgeous photography of Rick Darke to inspire us. I actually now recommend this book over *Bringing Nature Home*, as I feel it more effectively inspires action. While I like Rainer and West's book, to me it did fall a little short of expectations. It is a good read with much useful information on designing resilient plant communities. This is probably more the case of a book not being at the right spot in the reader's development than any problems with the book. This book just didn't strike a chord for me at the time I read it, but it very well might for you. This is not the case with Larry's book. *Garden Revolution* is groundbreaking and hit the perfect chord with where I am trying to take my knowledge and career. Think of it as a practical ecology book for gardeners and landscapers. While I have read other books that cover ecology and gardening, such as *Principles of Ecological Landscape Design*. That book seemed to focus on the science of ecology as much on the practicality of gardening. After reading this book, I will have to reread it though as I may be more ready for it. Larry's book is written from the viewpoint of a practitioner, while not dumbing down the content. It is easy to digest and a pleasure to read. I spent almost a decade as a gardener in a highly regarded Japanese Garden using pruning to exert tremendous control over plants to create the psychological effect of a natural scene. Now in this book, I am learning how to use natural processes to do the same thing, with a lot less effort I might add. The weed control strategies alone make reading this book extremely helpful. Whether talking about ecological concepts such as r- and K-selected species or explaining how to specify a seed mix for a meadow, the landscape professional has a wealth of practical and useful material to absorb here. There is a wealth of specific management techniques such as using Mother Colony expansion zones, I am sure most Landscape professionals have never considered. Larry and

Thomas have accomplished much with this book. I am convinced landscaping must be done differently and this book helps to show the way. This is and I am convinced it will stay for a long time my favorite gardening / landscape book. I can't recommend it enough.

This is a truly liberating book in the sense that it continues to push the garden design conversation to sustainable practices that mimic and embrace natural processes; what this does is bring wildness back into our daily lives, healing us as much as the species who compose the vast majority of our world. The stories and descriptive methods provide motivation on multiple levels from an expert in the field (pun intended).

This is by far one of the best books I have gotten for really understanding the ecological forces that shape my natural landscaping efforts. It goes beyond static design to really understanding and applying techniques to shape the landscape that I envision. I have been practicing permaculture and edible forest gardening for many years, and this is the piece that has been missing. This book will go on the shelf next to other greats, like Dave Jacke's Edible Forest Garden volumes.

Must-have for every landscape designer who would like easily accessible native-plant inspiration to show clients what 'could be' if they went the ecological route to their gardens. I have already started practicing many of Larry's suggestions and I know I will always look back to this book for guidance throughout my life! Photos are stunning and the advice is truly genius.

A must read ! Great resource providing both in depth understanding and very practical implementation steps to create a more sustainable environment at any scale. Three years after starting to replace invasive plants with native planting on my 2 acre property, it helped me better plan next steps and increased my confidence level in doing the right things while avoiding past mistakes going forward over the next several years. Finally I appreciated its realistic advice regarding budget constraints and time required to gradually implement changes.

This is the book I would write if I was as talented as the authors. Excellent. Says what needs to be said, and makes it wonderful.

Best for analysis and natural design.

Good information. I really like this book

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