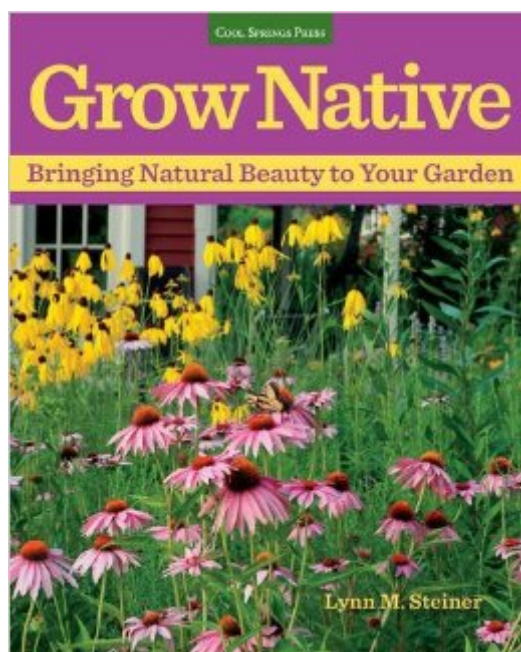


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# Grow Native: Bringing Natural Beauty To Your Garden



## 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 Design with Natives How to Incorporate Natives into Your Landscape Replacing Common Ornamentals All About Native Plants Wildflowers Ornamental Grasses & Grasslike Plants Trees & Conifers Woody Ornamentals (Shrubs and Vines) Succulents Bog Plants Basic Growing Tips (planting, soil, watering, fertilizing) Pests Resources Native Solutions for Special Situations Glossary Additionally, sidebars throughout *Naturescape* offer pointers for attracting specific butterflies, birds, bees and other beneficials to your yard--all through plant selections.

## Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Cool Springs Press (May 1, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1591866553

ISBN-13: 978-1591866558

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.5 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #499,576 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #38 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Wild Plants](#) #81 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Flowers > Perennials](#) #180 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Ornamental Plants](#)

## Customer Reviews

• Grow Native • is another great book from native plant gardening author Lynn Steiner. It would be a useful guide for gardeners new to native plants and also those more experienced with planting natives. This book is full of information, such as the benefits of using native plants for creating habitat needed by native pollinators, birds and wildlife, hints on designing native gardens, and sections on planting and caring for natives, including site prep., pruning, and i.d. and management of pests and diseases. Very useful to those planning native gardens are suggestions for native plants to replace invasive landscape plants, and descriptions of ferns, flowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, and trees suitable for use in native habitat gardens just about anywhere in the U.S.. Each plant description includes a photo, the hardiness zone, size, pollinator and wildlife value. Ways to use, grow and maintain each plant are also provided. There are lists of plants to attract bees, butterflies, birds and wildlife plus those plants which are resistant to deer browsing. The photos are splendid and I especially liked the inserted information blocks and images of native pollinators. A wonderful book to help gardeners provide a landscape of beauty, wildlife habitat and a sense of place using plants native to their area.

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.

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.

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.

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