



Garden Revolution: How Our Landscapes Can Be a Source of Environmental Change

By Larry Weaner, Thomas Christopher

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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.

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Editorial Review

Review

“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***

From the Back Cover

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 time—with much less work and effort. Larry Weaner and Thomas Christopher show you exactly how to create these exciting, stimulating landscapes.

About the Author

Larry Weaner is a leading figure in North American landscape design and founder of the educational program series *New Directions in the American Landscape*. His firm, Larry Weaner Landscape Associates, is known for combining ecological restoration with traditions of fine garden design and has received the top three design awards from the Association of Professional Landscape Designers and the Regional Impact Award by the New England Wild Flower Society. Weaner was awarded the Lady Bird Johnson Award by the Native Plant Center at Westchester Community College.

Thomas Christopher, a graduate of the New York Botanical Garden School of Professional Horticulture, has created gardens for clients for forty years. He is the author of many books, including *Essential Perennials: The Complete Reference to 2700 Perennials for the Home Garden*.

Users Review

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George Sanders:

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