

The Meadow Garden

An Annotated Bibliography

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Beck, Travis. *Principles of Ecological Landscape Design*. Washington, DC: Island Press, 2013.

Travis Beck is the landscape and gardens project manager at the New York Botanical Garden. His book affirms the idea that ecology can and should be considered when developing landscapes, and he provides principles and strategies for sustainable, practical design. Beck emphasizes the need to consider the environment and ecology of an area, which plays an important role in the success or failure of every garden and landscape. He presents his processes through case studies and instruction, while citing scientific research that supports these practices. The end result is a design reference that has long term value for both the environment and its inhabitants.

Brown, Lauren. *Grasses: An Identification Guide*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1979.

Northeastern United States

Close observation of grasses in a meadow reveals a diversity of plant life. This guide from the Peterson Nature Library will help identify the beautiful variety of grasses around you. The book contains species descriptions and illustrations, an identification guide, a habitat guide, and a resource for additional information.

Carroll, David M. *Swampwalker's Journal: A Wetlands Year*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1999.

Wander through the wetlands with David M. Carroll as he shares his careful investigations of the plants, animals, and environment of these delicate ecosystems. His visits, occurring throughout the year and at all times of day, provide a firsthand description of the unique qualities of places where temporary and/or permanent bodies of water provide food and habitat. Accompanying his thoughtful observations are his beautiful drawings of plants, invertebrates, amphibians, birds, and mammals of the swamps.



Eastman, John. *The Book of Field and Roadside: Open-Country Weeds, Trees, and Wildflowers of Eastern North America*. Mechanicsburg, PA : Stackpole Books, 2003.

Are you looking for a field guide to help identify that lovely blue flower growing with the Queen Anne's lace and red clover by the side of the road? This book contains just the information you need, including detailed illustrations, botanical names, common names, close relatives, habitat, associates, and lore. You will be interested to learn that the chicory you observed has a long history of attracting human attention!

Greenlee, John. *The American Meadow Garden: Creating a Natural Alternative to the Traditional Lawn*. Portland, OR: Timber Press, 2009.

This comprehensive book explores the ecology of American meadows and applies that knowledge to the growing of home meadow gardens. The beauty and function of planting a meadow instead of a traditional lawn is conveyed through color photographs and detailed plant information, while examples of meadows from across the country shine with the light, colors, and textures that a meadow environment can bring to your home. Greenlee provides names, descriptions, growing habits, and climates of plants to choose from when designing a drought-tolerant, low-mow, picturesque meadow garden.

Heinrich, Bernd. *Winter World: The Ingenuity of Animal Survival*. NY: HarperCollins, 2003.

Let the story of *Winter World* expand your knowledge of how wild animals survive the colder months by acclimating to their changing environments. This book discusses and illustrates the habitats, physiology, and evolutionary adaptations of such woodland creatures as voles, chipmunks, beavers, and golden-crowned kinglets—just some of the animals Heinrich has observed in the winter forests of Vermont and Maine.



Mader, Eric, et al. *Attracting Native Pollinators: Protecting North America's Bees and Butterflies: The Xerces Society Guide*. North Adams, MA: Storey Pub., 2011.

This guide provides useful information about how to provide habitat for beneficial insects. The authors emphasize the importance of pollinators for food production while encouraging readers to play an active role by choosing suitable plants for our landscapes and knowing which insects to attract. This comprehensive book contains colorful photographs that make it as enjoyable to look at as it is to read.

Pyle, Robert Michael. *Chasing Monarchs: Migrating With the Butterflies of Passage*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1999.

Pyle is a lepidopterist determined to better understand the migration pattern of *Danaus plexippus*, the Monarch butterfly. Intrigued by the question of whether Monarchs who spend the summer in the Western United States migrate only to Mexico, or if some winter in the California mountains, Pyle spends 57 days following the butterflies on their annual winter migration—9,462 miles from Canada to Mexico and north again into California. This is a story of intentional and careful observation that describes the scientific study of butterfly migration with humor, insight, and passion.

Sibley, David. *The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Eastern North America*. NY: Knopf, 2003.

Carry this guide into the field or your own backyard as you observe and identify birds of Eastern North America. Described here are 650 bird species, plus regional populations, with details regarding nesting, behavior, food and feeding, voice description, and identification features. There are more than 4,200 full-colored paintings that illustrate the diversity of birds in this geographical area, along with revised maps.

