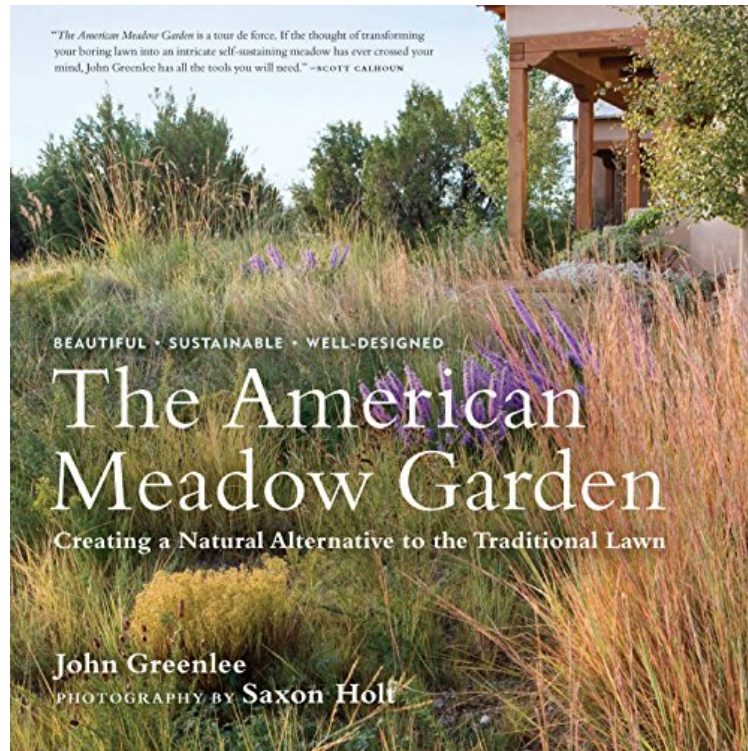


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# The American Meadow Garden: Creating a Natural Alternative to the Traditional Lawn

John Greenlee

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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The American Meadow Garden: Creating a Natural Alternative to the Traditional Lawn:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Superb! By Bees in my bonnet This is an excellent guide to creating beautiful meadow habitats instead of chemically toxic and water intensive turf lawns and fussy borders. Everyone interested in modern, casual landscaping with ever-changing seasonal interest should read this book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Perfect! By Kay Wonderful book! Just what we wanted. Arrived in ONE DAY. : ) 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. an inspirational book for planting ideas and styles By Dad and Jen this book is not meant to be a series of recipes for perfect planting but rather a menu of suggestions from which readers can choose revise or apartment combinations to send their own taste and conditions. Some combinations herb right to the point garishness, others delicate to the point of blandness.

If there's one lesson every homeowner must learn, it's this: The traditional lawn is a huge, time consuming, synthetic-chemical sucking mistake. The time has come to look for new ways to create friendly, livable spaces around our

homes. In *The American Meadow Garden*, ornamental grass expert John Greenlee creates a new model for homeowners and gardeners. For Greenlee, a meadow isn't a random assortment of messy, anonymous grasses. Rather, it is a shimmering mini-ecosystem, in which regionally appropriate grasses combine with colorful perennials to form a rich tapestry that is friendly to all life with minimal input of water, time, and other scarce resources. Kids and pets can play in complete safety, and birds and butterflies flock there. A prairie style planting is a place you want to be. With decades of experience as a nurseryman and designer, John Greenlee is the perfect guide. He details all the practicalities of site preparation, plant selection, and maintenance; particularly valuable are his explanations of how ornamental grasses perform in different climates and areas. Gorgeous photography by Saxon Holt visually illustrates the message with stunning examples of meadow gardens from across the country. We've reached a stage where we can no longer follow past practices unthinkingly, particularly when those practices are wasteful and harmful to the environment. It's time to get rid of the old-fashioned lawn and embrace a sane and healthy future: the American meadow garden.

With Holts photographs, this is a large and colorful showcase of Greenlees extensive knowledge and great passion for gardening. His enthusiasm [is] infectious. . . . Gardeners will find this book extremely helpful and inspirational. *Library Journal* As you turn the pages you will start to imagine that you are sprawled out in the meadow of your dreams, the grasses swooshing over your head. . . . Its not every book that lifts you from your reading nook and opens wide the vista of the heavens. *Chicago Tribune* If youve ever thought of abandoning your lawn but havent yet, *The American Meadow Garden* will surely inspire you to action. . . . Take a long look at your lawn mower, and then go buy this book. *American Gardener* In a book long awaited by green mavens and horticultural enthusiasts, Greenlees dynamic garden designs are paired with Holts splendid photographs in a beautifully produced, information-packed volume that looks at meadows in the context of garden spaces large or small. *Booklist* Are you bold enough to try your hand at a meadow garden? The time for bringing back nature is now! *Virginia Master Gardeners Association Report* A paean to grassy, no-mow landscapes that shiver, shimmer and wave. . . . Greenlees easy prose welcomes all comers to aim higher than slabs of pool-table green. *NPR.org* Here is an entirely new approach to garden-making. Its enticing and informative, and its presented with polish and pizzazz. *Pacific Horticulture* This is not a book about how to create the purists wildflower meadow, but breaks new ground in showing how garden plants can be used to create a meadow-like environment. Saxon Holts photography is beautiful, and Greenlees prose the right blend of informative and occasionally provocative. *Gardens Illustrated* After you read this book, youll wonder why you ever entertained the idea of a lawn. *Garden Design Online* This is the rare species of garden book with a continental-wide scope from a West Coast point of view. *San Francisco Chronicle* Full of inspiring ideas, Greenlee explores how to combine a spectacular variety of grasses with other plants to make the most of their natural forms, fragrance, leaf, and bloom. *The Seattle Times* Impressive range of garden-worthy grasses. *Monterey Herald* Youll be rethinking labor-and-resource-intensive lawns after a couple of minutes with *The American Meadow Garden*. *The Oregonian*