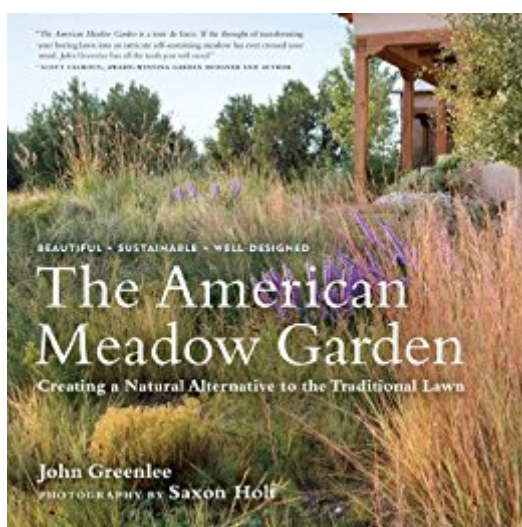


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# The American Meadow Garden: Creating A Natural Alternative To The Traditional Lawn



## Synopsis

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.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a great book for anyone contemplating a meadow garden. It gives a blow by blow explanation of how to go about this task with a chapter towards the end on actually planting the garden. There are great nursery resources in the back as well. My only two complaints are: it is heavy on California and in the plant descriptions there is no notation to plants being deer resistant - which may not be a big thing to some but to those of us out in some rural areas - it is important to know.

Get it in print, the "Kindle" format is a pain to use as a reference book, the captions and corresponding images are on different pages, so you constantly are going back and forth trying to make sense of it, I would not recommend the Kindle format for anyone.

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.

Wonderful book! Just what we wanted. Arrived in ONE DAY. : )

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.

Superb book if you are looking to move from the conventional lawn to a natural and low water "meadow." Lots of great information and many, many colored photos. One of the best books in this areas as I have ordered many but none seem to address the alternative "lawns" as completely as this book.

This book will make you want a meadow. I can't imagine how anyone could see these gorgeous images and read the author's argument for replacing traditional lawns and not want to start right away. The photographs are beautiful and the writing is very well done. I learned so much and I feel ready to plan a meadow of my own. My only wish is that the book covered more geographic areas...the vast majority of the gardens are Californian, but I am sure that is at least partly due to the fact that meadows as a landscape are not embraced all over the country (yet).

I checked this book out of our local library and loved it so much, that I kept renewing and then realized I had to have my own copy. As I plan a meadow for our front yard (replacing a normal suburban lawn) I've found this book the best of all I've read. The pictures by Saxton Holt are exquisite and I keep this book on my nightstand so I can have a calming moment before I turn out the lights.

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