

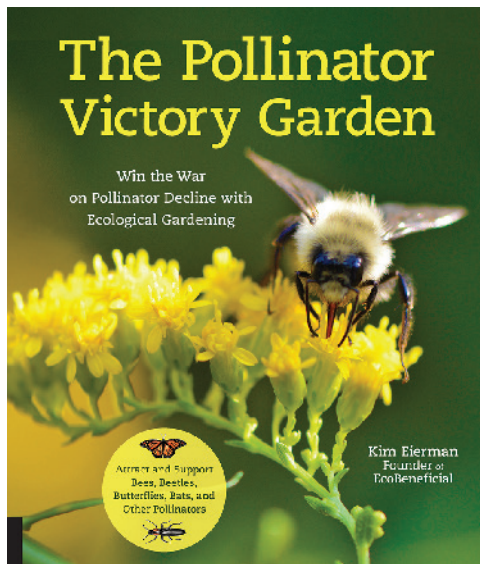
Shelf Life

BARRINGTON AREA LIBRARY OFFERS A FRESH CROP OF GARDENING BOOKS

THE POLLINATOR VICTORY GARDEN

The urgency that inspired WWI and WWII Victory Gardens is needed today to meet another threat to our food supply and our environment—the steep decline of pollinators. “The Pollinator Victory Garden” by Kim Eierman offers practical solutions for winning the war against the demise of these essential animals.

Pollinators are not just bees, but many different types of animals, including insects and mammals. Beetles, bats, birds, butterflies, moths, flies, and wasps can be pollinators. But many pollinators are in trouble. Our residential and commercial landscapes are filled with vast green pollinator deserts, better known as lawns. With “The Pollinator Victory Garden”, you can give pollinators a fighting chance. Learn how to transition your landscape into a pollinator haven.

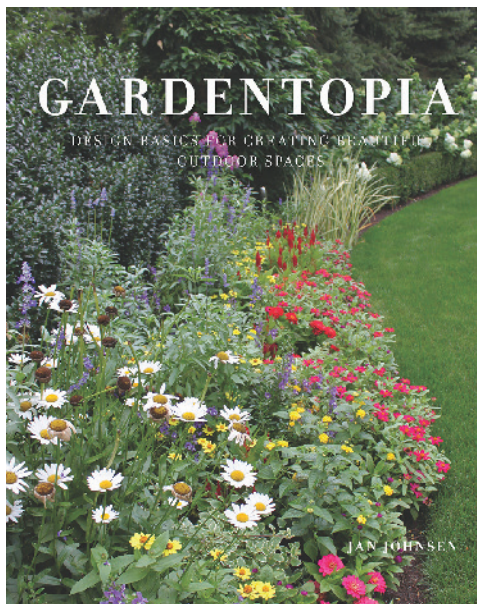


GARDENTOPIA

“Gardentopia: Design Basics for Creating Beautiful Outdoor Spaces” author Jan Johnsen combines stunning photography with practical advice and tips for recreating gorgeous garden design at home. Johnsen has spent more than 30 years in the landscaping and gardening business and looks to demystify the process of creating your own sanctuary. Her goal is to make everything actionable, inspirational, and, of course, stylish. Each of

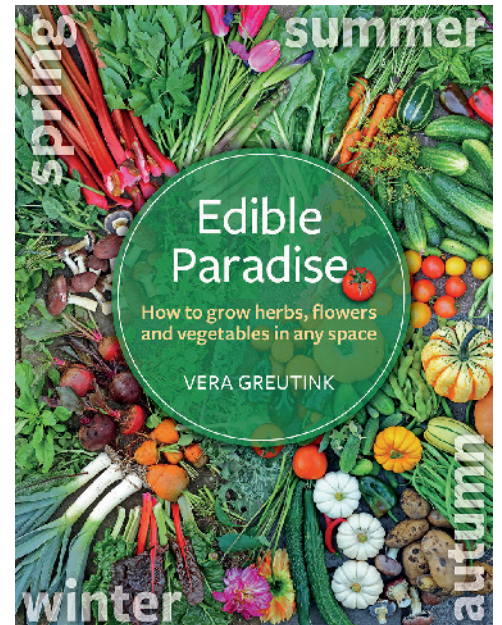
the illustrated suggestions in the book describe a design idea, a gardening pointer, or a selected plant to improve the landscape. Johnsen helps the reader say, “That’s a good idea, I can do that.”

“Gardentopia” is divided into five sections: Garden Design and Artful Accent Tips; Walls, Patios, Walks, and Steps; Theme Gardens; Color in the Garden; and Plants and Planting.



EDIBLE PARADISE

Learn how to create your own no-dig, organic garden with permaculture design and techniques. Vera Greutink’s 15 years of experience as a no-dig gardener provides a vast amount of knowledge on growing fruit, vegetables, herbs, and flowers. She also includes recipes for your fresh harvests. Chapters on making compost, building raised beds, and a monthly job guide make this useful for all levels of gardener. Greutink demonstrates that gardens can look beautiful and be productive. Our veggie patches can now take center stage. Why not incorporate cut flowers with herbs, brassicas, and peas? Or plant a pottager garden? These examples will help people create edible paradises everywhere, like patios, balconies, windowsills, allotments, community and school gardens, front and back gardens and anywhere else we can grow.



MY WILD GARDEN

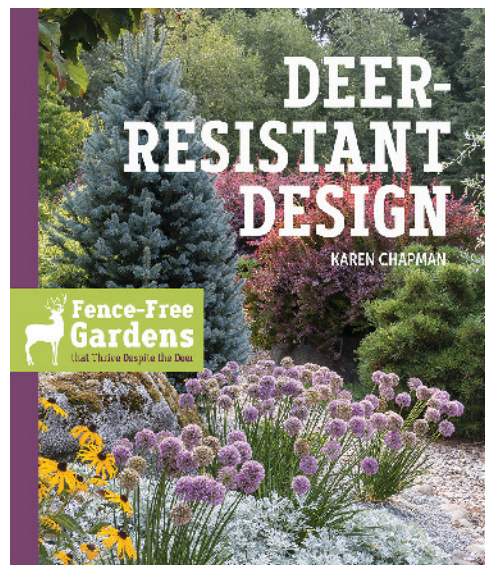
On the perimeter of Israel’s Jezreel Valley, with the Carmel mountains rising up to the west, Meir Shalev has a large garden, “neither neatly organized nor well-kept,” as he cheerfully explains. Often covered in mud and scrapes, Shalev cultivates both nomadic plants and “house dwellers,” using quirky techniques. He extolls the virtues of the lemon tree; rescues a precious variety of



purple snapdragon from the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway; does battle with a saboteur mole rat. He even gives us his superior private recipe for curing olives. “My Wild Garden” will attract gardeners and literary readers alike, with its appreciation for the joy of living, quite literally, on earth—enhanced by our honest, respectful dealings with all beings who inhabit it with us.

DEER-RESISTANT DESIGN

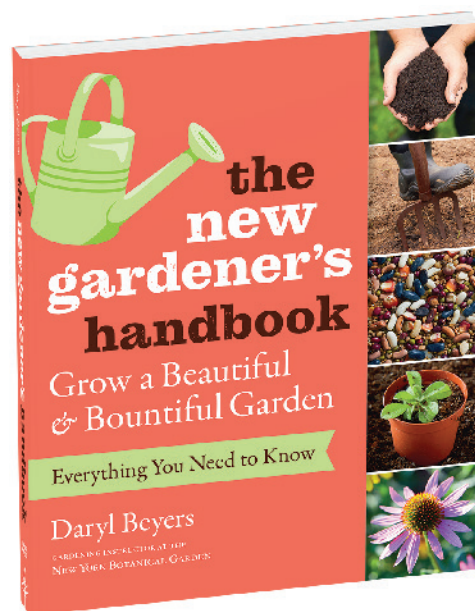
Deer are one of the most common problems a gardener can face. These cute, but pesky animals think home-grown flowers and vegetables are delicious, and they can quickly devour hundreds of dollars’ worth of plants. Common solutions often include the use of unattractive fencing. In her new book, “Deer-Resistant Design”, Karen Chapman offers a new option—intentional garden design choices that successfully distract the eye from indiscriminate taste-testing. Chapman showcases real home gardens across North America that successfully coexist with wildlife. Each homeowner shares their top deer-resistant plants—all welcome additions to a deer-challenged gardener’s shopping list and to put the fun back into nursery visits. A chapter on deer-resistant container gardens provides suggestions for making colorful, captivating, and imaginative containers.



A NEW GARDENER'S HANDBOOK

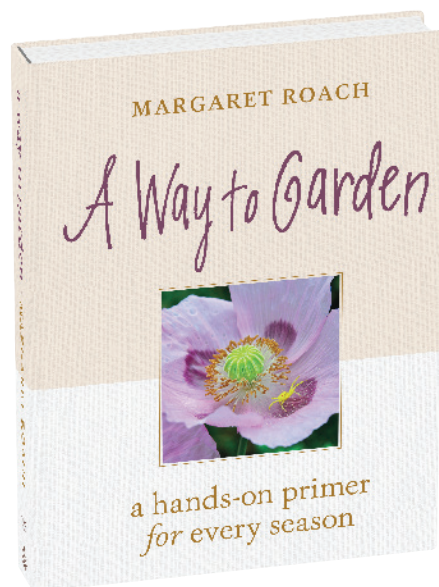
Every new gardener has to start somewhere—and the process can be intimidating. Knowing when and what to plant, how to care for the plants once they’re in the ground, and how to keep pests and diseases away is a lot to take on. Luckily, Daryl


Beyers has written what will be a go-to resource for decades to come. “The New Gardener’s Handbook” is a comprehensive overview of the fundamentals of gardening for both ornamental and edible plants. With this new book, Daryl Beyers gives home gardeners a foundation upon which they can grow.



A WAY TO GARDEN

Margaret Roach has a unique approach, which she refers to as “horticultural how-to and woo-woo,” which is a blend of vital information to memorize (like how to plant a bulb) and intuitive steps gardeners must simply feel and surrender to. For more than 20 years Roach has shared her deep garden knowledge at “Martha Stewart Living” and now on her website and podcast.



With “A Way to Garden”, she explores how she—and her way of gardening—have changed over the years. She shares helpful advice on seasonal gardening, ornamental plants, vegetable gardening, design, and organic practices. She challenges gardeners to think beyond their borders and consider how gardening can enrich the world. 

Get Growing

BARRINGTON AREA LIBRARY INTRODUCES NATIVE SEED LIBRARY



We have recently introduced a Seed Library at the Barrington Area Library. Seed Libraries are collections of seeds that are freely available to

the community. Our staff has been working hard behind the scenes for several months now to make it a reality.

The Seed Library will be housed in a large cabinet near the Customer Service desk. Each type of seed is portioned into an envelope, including planting and care instructions. We hope that our customers will stop by, help themselves, and get growing!

We’ll also take a small Seed Library along to outdoor programs (like Farmers Markets) during warmer months. Our supplies will change over time, but we’re starting with a mix of native grasses, flowers, herbs, and vegetables. Produce seeds are non-GMO and organic. We sourced the seeds from several well-known native growers and received generous donations of seeds from Barrington Area Conservation Trust and the Seed Savers Exchange.

Gardening and natural resource programming, including classes from Master Gardeners and the Land Conservancy of McHenry County, will be offered. It’s a project we hope takes off and connects us to a wonderful community of gardeners both new and experienced!

Jason Pinshower,
Head of Adult Services