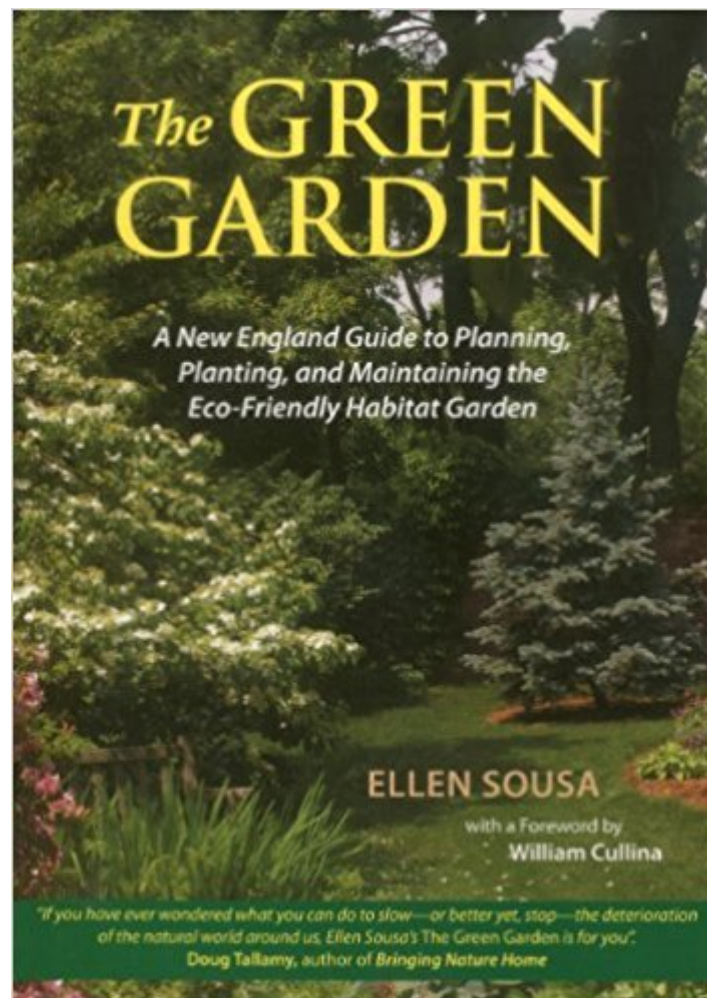




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# The Green Garden: A New England Guide To Planting And Maintaining The Eco-Friendly Habitat Garden



## Synopsis

Whether you have just purchased a new property with a garden to tend, or have made a rash personal decision to go 'Green' or are just looking at the same old backyard that needs attention, this book is definitely for you! Designed and written in a practical no nonsense comprehensive style The Green Garden is an inspirational guidebook. If you are looking for low-cost, beautiful and earth-friendly ways to green those landscapes and outdoor spaces and supply an adequate habitat for a whole variety of declining species, including birds, native pollinators, honey bees, amphibians and turtles, this book will be invaluable. It includes an extensive Plant Guide, detailing the best wildlife-friendly plants suitable for the varied conditions and microclimates found across New England, along with cultivation hints and tips, and the species attracted by each plant. Broken down into sections for Annuals, Vegetables and Herbs, Bulbs and Perennials, Shrubs, Vines, and Medium to Large Mast Trees, The Green Garden includes an introduction and photos from renowned native plant author and propagator William Cullina, formerly from the New England Wild Flower Society, now Curator at Coastal Maine Botanic Garden. The Green Garden: A New England Guide to Planning, Planting, and Maintaining the Eco-Friendly Habitat Garden contains an extensive Plant Guide listing plants suitable for the varied conditions and microclimates found across New England, labeled with each plant's individual preferences and uses and broken down into sections for Annuals (Native and Nonnative); Vegetables and Culinary Herbs; Herbaceous Perennials and Bulbs; Native Grasses, Sedges, Rushes, and Other Grasslike Plants; Native New England Ferns; Perennial Vines; Shrubs and Small Trees; and Medium- to Large-Mast Trees. Loaded with ideas, tips, and inspiration for gardening newbies and seasoned gardeners alike, this beautifully illustrated guide shows how to attract the wildlife you want while discouraging what you don't.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you have ever wondered what you can do to slow--or better yet, stop--the deterioration of the natural world around us, Ellen Sousa's *The Green Garden* is for you. -- Doug Tallamy, author of *Bringing Nature Home*

The chapters of the book include: Toward a Natural Gardening Style Why a Habitat Garden? Discovering New England's Native Plants Rethinking Lawns Habitat Essentials Choosing Plants for a Habitat Garden Planning Your Natural Habitat Landscape Trees and Shade in the Habitat Garden Habitat Gardening in Small Spaces Managing Forest Habitat Managing Old Farms and Old Field Habitat Shoreline Landscaping Landscaping Near Freshwater Ponds, Streams, and Other Wetland Habitats Adding Water to Your Backyard Habitat New England's Invasive Nonnative Plants A Quick and Dirty Guide to Organic Gardening Dealing with Unwanted Wildlife Visitors The Best Plants for New England Gardens - an extensive Plant Guide listing plants suitable for the varied conditions and microclimates found across New England, labeled with each plant's individual preferences and uses and broken down into sections for Annuals (Native and Nonnative); Vegetables and Culinary Herbs; Herbaceous Perennials and Bulbs; Native Grasses, Sedges, Rushes and Other Grasslike Plants; Native New England Ferns; Perennial Vines; Shrubs and Small Trees; and Medium to Large Mast Trees New England Plant Hardiness Zones Loaded with ideas, tips, and inspiration for gardening newbies and seasoned gardeners alike, this beautifully illustrated guide shows how to attract the wildlife you want while discouraging what you don't.

*The Green Garden* is a useful tool for one just starting on the journey of native gardening. The photos are beautiful (although in some cases, the landscapes shown will be terribly overgrown and unbalanced in a few years-when the pictured trees clobber the nearby shrubs - see page 11). Much of the book is a very basic review of ecology, with ideas of how to work it into your homescape, followed by lists of plants to consider for different sites. I wouldn't recommend it to anyone with a background in ecology and horticulture, but it does have a place for the beginner. The binding is a big problem. It won't be long before it cracks and the pages begin to fall out. I'm afraid to open it too

far!

This is the most outstanding "Bible" for anyone committed to the joy and knowledge of developing a sustainable, beautiful property in face of the long term challenges presented by our climate changes and our vulnerable insects and wildlife. If I could, I'd mail this book to everyone I know. I am a member of the Audubon Society and also a lifelong advocate of modifying the American obsession with the perfectly green gorgeous monoculture lawn in favor of something more messy and alive. I love watching my bunny munch at dusk. Did you know that rabbits love to eat crab grass? Thank you, Ms Sousa.

Really nice introduction to how to create a habitat-appropriate New England garden. As a novice gardener, I found the tips really helpful. Really comprehensive and hugely useful.

This book is the sign of what is coming and / or is already here. Great information. A must have for landscapers.

I recently purchased *The Green Garden* by Ellen Sousa on the recommendation of a colleague. Based on the summaries I'd read, and the recommendation, I had hoped that this was a book I would be able to recommend to clients, friends and colleagues. I was hoping for a easy to read, accessible layman's guide to help introduce and encourage ecological gardening, one of my passions. Unfortunately, after the first few chapters I started stumbling in my reading due to significant grammar and punctuation errors. From page 51 to page 90, where I stopped because I was worn out, I have scribbled corrections on almost every page. I am a horticulturalist and educator, not an editor, so it really bothers me when I am tripped up by poor writing and editing: lack of parallel structure, missing nouns and verbs, identical text in picture captions and the main text, even a few horticultural errors. I hope they can fix the issues and that a second publishing will be worth recommending. The intent, general content and concepts are a must for every homeowner.

To start, the book is filled with amazing wildlife garden photos and native plants. I commend Ellen for the obvious attention to detail in choosing these gorgeous photos. *The Green Garden* seeks to help us learn to make much healthier choices in our gardens, to protect and encourage biodiversity, and how our gardens can contribute to a healthier planet. With step by step instructions, Ellen shows us how to plan our wildlife habitat gardens, choose the plants with most wildlife value, and create

welcoming habitat for birds, butterflies, bees and other pollinators, frogs and toads, and more. The book includes an extensive annotated plant list for every garden situation from forest, to woodland edge, old field, wetland, coastal, and other ecosystem types. By applying the principles Ellen has so clearly laid out, you will soon have a garden full of life, and you will have helped to create a healthier planet. *The Green Garden: A New England Guide to Planning, Planting, and Maintaining the Planet-Friendly Habitat Garden* is available for preorder now, and I highly recommend adding this book to your wildlife garden library.

I am a beginning gardener interested in native plants and found the book to be an excellent resource. It was easy to read and engaging, and I loved the pictures. I thought the author made her points clearly, concisely and persuasively. Some reference books like this can be dry but I found the style of this one lively and appealing, while providing useful information. It was a worthwhile read and a good book to have on the bookshelf for reference.

I had attend a wonderful garden talk that Ellen did last spring and was inspired to purchase her book. It has helped me get started on improving my garden and landscaping, and I am very happy with the results. Her recommendations such as foxglove and Red Columbine are beautiful and have worked out perfectly for my flower garden. I also appreciate her unique approach to native landscaping which bucks the traditional ways that I have been exposed to in the past. The book covers a broad spectrum of topics so there is always room for additional detail, maybe a future addition?

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