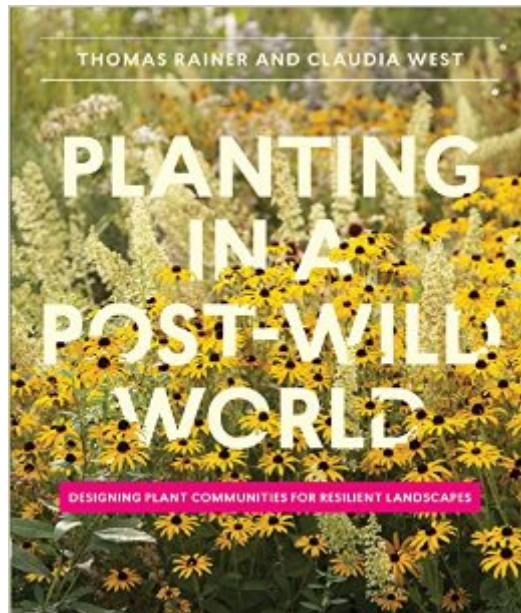


The book was found

# Planting In A Post-Wild World: Designing Plant Communities For Resilient Landscapes



## Synopsis

As practical as it is poetic. . . . an optimistic call to action. • "Chicago Tribune Over time, with industrialization and urban sprawl, we have driven nature out of our neighborhoods and cities. But we can invite it back by designing landscapes that look and function more like they do in the wild: robust, diverse, and visually harmonious. *Planting in a Post-Wild World* by Thomas Rainer and Claudia West is an inspiring call to action dedicated to the idea of a new nature—a hybrid of both the wild and the cultivated—that can flourish in our cities and suburbs. This is both a post-wild manifesto and practical guide that describes how to incorporate and layer plants into plant communities to create an environment that is reflective of natural systems and thrives within our built world.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

After the long tyranny of the lawn and hedge, there's a revolution underway. We want to replace the old paradigm of lifeless landscapes with gardens which not only delight the eye, but heal the land. We want and need gardens that function on many levels: gardens which can capture water, build soil, support pollinators, preserve native species, etc. The problem is that for all of our good intentions--us lawn remover types--we don't necessarily know how to replace the lawn & hedge paradigm with something both attractive and sustainable. We have precious few good models to follow. And for all our good intentions, sometimes our efforts fail. Now we have a guide. Authors Thomas Rainer and Claudia West show us how to mimic nature's patterns to craft landscapes

based on cooperative communities of plants in order to build resilience and biodiversity. They ask us to design gardens imbued with the virtue of wildness. At the same time, they tell us how to frame and manage that wildness so the landscape looks planned and cared-for--thus avoiding unpleasant conflicts with neighbors and local authorities who may not be as enthusiastic about the welfare of native pollinators as you might be. *Planting in Post-Wild World* is not a simple how-to book. In fact, there's nothing simple about it at all--but it is very clear. Its goals are ambitious, and while it might seem like it was written for designers, it can be used by a determined home gardener. It has to be, because there aren't that many designers out there working this way yet. And while I firmly believe in the value of investing in professional advice, we can't all afford it. Basically, all of us need to be designers now, because the need is great and the stakes are high. This is an excellent book, destined to be a classic. I can't recommend it enough.

An important new entry in the planting design revolution, this book advances the concept of creating designed plant communities â€” inspired and informed by how they grow in nature. Excitingly for me, the book fuses together German perennial design strategies developed over decades with new thinking about ecologically designed plant communities in America. In their model, what happens below the earth is as important as what grows above. They advocate a rich density of planting from the vegetal layer on up to solve the maintenance challenges of naturalistic gardening. The core idea is about designing in a series of layers â€” with a systematic yet liberating approach to how to create, plant, and maintain them. Aimed at designers and people just getting into garden equally. Great photography, superb plant lists and lots of practical advice on how to think differently in your garden.

This book is a must-read for anyone working to create a more-natural beautiful landscape. I have been muddling through with some success and some failures, but could not necessarily put a finger on why one area was a success and others were lackluster. This book immediately clarified my struggles in a real, tangible way. While I had been trying to create a mixed landscape, I was pulling plants from all kind of different landscapes, resulting in a blend that neither functionally or aesthetically really worked. There have been plenty of pretty garden moments that has fostered wildlife, but my yard has still lacked any kind of real cohesion. It did not take long to understand my many mistakes and get inspired for spring!

As an everyday, yet passionate gardener, I didn't know what to think when I was first recommended

this book by a friend -- but after cracking it open, it BLEW ME AWAY! This is probably the most impactful, innovative, accessible, and beautifully written and illustrated "garden book" that I have ever read. If you are an average gardener, a professional landscape architecture, or anything in between, you MUST read/purchase this book. The authors ideas, real world examples, and detailed instructions illustrate how we ALL can and should embrace a more natural and WILD look and feel for our plantings. 50 years from now this book will be earmarked as the seminal work that CHANGED THE GAME for how we grow our gardens, and embrace the natural, endemic flora and fauna, all while inspiring creativity in our designs. This book will really give you new ideas, inspire new thinking for how you garden, and give you easy to understand blueprints for how to design your garden. Thank you Thomas Rainer and Claudia West for creating and sharing this wonderful work!

Tremendously thoughtful. Convincing debate on the ecological benefits of mirroring nature when designing. Clear, clean and beautifully illustrated to encourage blending the best of horticultural design with the tried and true beauty found in meadows, forests and land before development. This is not a native plant vs. non native plant study, but an invitation to combine both into a hybrid that is better for our environment and stunning to look at. This book forces one to look at the spaces beneath the plantings and requests that we fill them with ground covers and other planting to create a social network of support for our star plants. As cities work to solve polluted rainwater run-off this is a practical and beautiful solution to over mulching our city and state parks. The co-authors Thomas Rainer, an American, and Claudia West, originally from Germany, bring a global perspective on why it makes sense to borrow from nature and create layers of plantings. Planting In A Post-Wild World is an inspiration and a great resource that also documents prominent existing work and ties it all together in an easy to digest form.

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