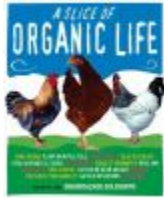


"Green" Books

Finding books on sustainability at the library can be as confusing as figuring out where to put the number five plastics. There's no one call number for the subject because really it's many subjects, an umbrella that covers everything from housekeeping to international commerce. Below are a few staff favorites to get you started.



[Slice of Organic Life](#) ed. Sheherazade Goldsmith. This book offers a little bit of everything, beautifully illustrated with color photographs.



[Self-Sufficient-ish Bible: An Eco Living Guide for the 21st Century](#) by Andy and Dave Hamilton. These young English twins show you how to spend less and have fun doing it. Homemade solar cookers? Yes. Dandelion beer? Yes.



[Weird Weather](#) by Kate Evans. If the science of climate change leaves you befuddled, try this graphic novel. Evans' cartoon style makes things like rising ocean levels not just understandable but also a little bit less terrifying.



[This Green House](#) by Joshua Piven. Piven, author of the worst-case scenario series, presents thrifty green fixes for the home as a way of preventing disaster. This time it's not zombies or bad dates that threaten us but environmental degradation and, as usual, Piven gives us lots of quirky home-made tools, from cutting electricity use to gray-water toilet flushing.



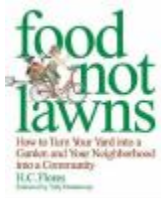
[Handmade Home](#) by Amanda Soule. Make life softer and warmer with Soule's recycled and reusable projects.



[Scavengers' Manifesto](#) by Anneli Rufus and Kristan Lawson. If reducing and reusing are already second nature to you and you're wondering what's in that dumpster, this book is for you.



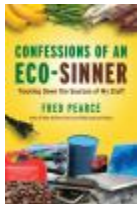
[Garden Primer](#) by Barbara Damrosch. Cultivating a patch of earth is literally green and deeply satisfying. Damrosch explains it all in a voice that's both authoritative and personal. This is *the* source for organic gardening.



[Food Not Lawns](#) by H.C. Flores. This book is as much about communities as gardening. Flores argues that by turning our barren lawns into productive paradises we can cultivate healthy communities and ultimately a healthy earth.



[Depletion and Abundance: Life on the New Home Front](#) by Sharon Astyk. Astyk pulls no punches as she explains how to make your family life not just greener but also better prepared to withstand hardships that might accompany climate change and peak oil. Astyk's intelligence and humor make her dire outlook more palatable and her ultimate message is one of hope.



[Confessions of an Eco-Sinner: Tracking Down the Sources of My Stuff](#) by Fred Pearce. Pearce sets out to follow the lives of his things and comes to some surprising conclusions; the bottles in his recycling bin travel the world several times over before being recycled, while tomatoes grown on another continent can use less energy than those grown in a greenhouse down the road. Most importantly, Pearce, like Astyk, takes seriously the intertwining of sustainability and social justice.



[Little House on a Small Planet](#) by Shay Salomon. See how Americans are rethinking the way they live. Salomon profiles families simplifying, sharing, and enjoying their smaller footprint.



[Whole Earth Discipline: an Eco-Pragmatist Manifesto](#) by Stewart Brand. The founder of the Whole Earth Catalog challenges accepted wisdom about sustainability and thoroughly explores unpopular and difficult avenues to survival.



[Radical Simplicity: Small Footprints on a Finite Earth](#) by Jim Merkel. Merkel combines philosophical musings on life and the environment with practical plans for gauging and reducing your carbon footprint.