

Green Reads: Adult Summer Reading

Bibliography

Writers in the Wild

155.418 Louv

Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder by Richard Louv

Do children spend too much time inside? In this compelling book Richard Louv looks at the unhealthy implications of what he calls 'nature deficit' on children, adults and society as a whole.

FIC Ehrlich

The Solace of Open Spaces by Gretel Ehrlich

Moving to Wyoming in search of solace and anonymity, Ehrlich instead found herself awakened by the vast wild spaces of the West. This book charts her path of self-discovery while effortlessly capturing the savage beauty of the place she comes to love.

508.73 Leopold

A Sand County Almanac: And Sketches Here and There by Aldo Leopold

In this classic work conservationist Aldo Leopold takes time to consider the wild things that are often taken for granted in the modern world, and encourages us to reevaluate the blessings of nature.

500.908 Dillard

Pilgrim at Tinker Creek by Annie Dillard

Deeply contemplative and poetic, this Pulitzer Prize-winning essay collection explores solitude, writing and religion from the vantage point of a year spent examining the natural world of Tinker Creek in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia.

917.94 Muir

My First Summer in the Sierra by John Muir

Through the pages of his journal Muir recounts in beautiful detail the trip to Yosemite in the summer of 1869 that fueled his love of the natural world and inspired him to found the Sierra Club.

508.98 Lopez

Arctic Dreams by Barry Lopez

Exploring the far North over a period of fifteen years, Lopez discovers that he has been changed not only by his experiences and encounters but also by the very landscape of the arctic.

577.56 Holmes

Suburban Safari: A Year on the Lawn by Hannah Holmes

Nature need not refer to distant woodlands or majestic peaks. As Holmes discovers in this lighthearted investigation, the natural world and all of its fascinating intricacies are as close as the nearest back yard.

Plants & Parks

635.048 Hemenway

Gaia's Garden: A Guide to Home-Scale Permaculture by Toby Hemenway

The author, a scientist and home gardener, describes a backyard ecosystem that balances the needs of humans and nature by combining the best features of wildlife habitat, edible landscapes, and conventional flower and vegetable gardens into self-renewing landscapes.

639.92 Tallamy

Bringing Nature Home : How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens by Douglas W. Tallamy.

By growing native plants, suburban gardeners can play an important role in helping create sustainable ecosystems. Believing that knowledge will generate interest in being part of the solution, Tallamy (entomology and wildlife ecology, U. of Delaware in Newark) explains why biodiversity is crucial and what to plant to encourage beneficial insects.

811.54 Gluck

Wild Iris by Louise Gluck

In this Pulitzer-Prize winning collection, Gluck speaks of the natural world from the point of view of its most poetic manifestation, flowers.

635.9671 Snodgrass

Green Roof Plants: A Resource and Planting Guide by Edmund C. Snodgrass & Lucie L. Snodgrass

For people considering a green roof or those simply interested in learning how these innovative gardens work best, this guide explains the basics of construction and carefully details what types of plants can thrive in a roof-top environment.

635 Lanza

Lasagna Gardening by Patricia Lanza

This method of gardening promises an easy way to garden with no digging, no weeding and less watering for those who have limited time or little experience raising plants.

333.7513 Vaillant

The Golden Spruce: A True Story of Myth, Madness, and Greed by John Vaillant

A logger-turned-environmentalist cuts down a 300 year-old Golden Spruce—the only one in the world—to bring attention to the devastation that clear-cut forestry brings. Vaillant explores the significance of the tree, its history, and the action itself in the context of the logging industry and the modern world.

Water

363.7394 Pregracke

From the Bottom Up: One Man's Crusade to Clean America's Rivers by Chad Pregracke with Jeff Barrow

Armed with only gloves and a used boat, Pregracke set out to single-handedly clear the garbage from the Mississippi river, and ended up bringing national media attention to the state of America's largest rivers and growing his lone efforts into a not-for-profit organization engaging thousands of volunteers.

551.46 Carson

The Sea Around Us by Rachel Carson

Winner of the 1952 National Book Award, Rachel Carson's classic look at the lifecycle of the ocean and its inhabitants remains a beautiful and thought-provoking exploration of what Carson describes as "the last great frontier of Earth."

Fic Hiaasen

Nature Girl by Carl Hiaasen

This hilarious suspense novel begins when impeccably correct Honey Santana takes a rude salesman and his girlfriend to the Florida wilderness to teach them some manners, little knowing that she's being followed.

639.209744 Kurlansky

The Last Fish Tale: The Fate of the Atlantic and Survival in Gloucester, America's Oldest Fishing Port and Most Original Town by Mark Kurlansky

Kurlansky's detailed and poignant look at the four-hundred-year-old fishing culture in one small New England town explores the impact of overfishing and climate change on the men and women who rely on fishing for their livelihoods.

333.91 Pearce

When the Rivers Run Dry: Water--The Defining Crisis of the Twenty-first Century by Fred Pearce

In this sobering book, Pearce reviews the threats to rivers throughout the United States and the world, and investigates the social, political and environmental impact that the deaths of rivers will have on humanity.

333.9162 Leslie

Deep Water: The Epic Struggle over Dams, Displaced People, and the Environment by Jacques Leslie

The large dams built by humanity have hugely influenced the natural world, possibly even affecting the speed of Earth's rotation. Through individual stories Leslie shows the social, economic and environmental impact that dams have had and will have on our planet.

B South

The Cure for Anything is Salt Water: How I Threw My Life Overboard and Found Happiness at Sea by Mary South

Sick of her job in publishing and looking for adventure, South decided to buy a boat, learn to sail it and see what awaited her in this charming memoir of life at sea.

Wildlife

599.7725 Reid

Coyote: Seeking the Hunter in Our Midst by Catherine Reid

After returning to her home town in northern Massachusetts, Reid began to investigate a new type of coyote inhabiting the area, and to draw parallels between her life and the lives of the coyotes.

797.20 Cox

Grayson by Lynne Cox

While swimming in the ocean one morning as a teenager, Cox realized that she was being followed by a baby gray whale. This is the tale of the magical hour she spent leading the whale back to its mother.

638.16 Bishop

Robbing the Bees: A Biography of Honey, The Sweet Liquid Gold that Seduced the World by Holley Bishop

An ode to the humble honey-bee, this book follows the history of one of the oldest foods from ancient times to modern hives. Along the way Bishop shares her experiences as a novice bee-keeper and explains the science of honey-making.

598.8 Stutchbury

Silence of the Songbirds: How We Are Losing the World's Songbirds and What We Can Do to Save Them by Bridget Stutchbury

Following migratory birds around the world to seek reasons for their decline, Stutchbury explains the many roles that these birds play in our fields and forests, and offers strategies to save the songbirds before it is too late.

591.75 Couturier

The Hopes of Snakes: And Other Tales from the Urban Landscape by Lisa Couturier

Couturier offers up her experiences with the varied wildlife that shares her home in that most urban of places—New York City—and invites us to look upon our own city's wealth of animals with fresh eyes.

333.9595 Heller

The Whale Warriors: The Battle at the Bottom of the World to Save the Planet's Largest Mammals by Peter Heller

Heller recounts the thrilling tale of life aboard the *Farley Mowat*, the super-equipped modern-day pirate ship manned by a vigilante crew of environmentalists willing to stop illegal whaling in the Antarctic at any cost.

636.40887 Montgomery

The Good Good Pig: The Extraordinary Life of Christopher Hogwood by Sy Montgomery

When Montgomery and her husband adopted a sickly baby pig they had no idea that he would soon become a beloved member of the family, a local celebrity and an inspiration to others.

592.64 Stewart

The Earth Moved: On the Remarkable Achievements of Earthworms by Amy Stewart

Following the humble movements of the lowly earthworm, Stewart uncovers the impact that these small creatures have on the land and their place in the ecosystem.

Fic Millet

How the Dead Dream by Lydia Millet

Real estate developer T. is torn between his high-profile lifestyle with his girlfriend and caring for his troubled mother when he develops an obsession with disappearing species, breaking into zoos after hours to find comfort in spending time with rare creatures.

Appalachian Ecology

508.74 Constant

Hollows, Peepers, and Highlanders: An Appalachian Mountain Ecology by George Constantz

Explores the eastern deciduous forest and exposes the natural conflicts that underlie the beauty and mystery of Appalachian life. An eclectic collection of essays to inspire wonder in the commonplace.

508.74 Weidensa

Mountains of the Heart: A Natural History of the Appalachians by Scott Weidensaul

An intimate portrait of a unique natural world that many have seen, but few have previously understood. Weidensaul examines how geology, climate, evolution and five hundred years of history have shaped a mountain range of unmatched diversity and beauty.

508.755 Ellison

Blue Ridge Nature Journal: Reflections on the Appalachian Mountains In Essays and Art by George Ellison
Paintings by Elizabeth Ellison enhance and illuminate husband George's absorbing essays about the region's geologic origins, plants, animals and related Cherokee and settler lore.

508.755 Height

Height of Our Mountains: Nature Writing from Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains and Shenandoah Valley edited by Michael P. Branch and Daniel J. Philippon

In this sweeping anthology of nearly four centuries of nature writing, editors Branch and Philippon take the full measure of this remarkably rich natural and literary landscape. Includes an insightful forward by John Elder, Professor of English and Environmental Studies, Middlebury College.

508.757 South

South Carolina Naturalists: An Anthology, 1700 – 1860 by David Taylor

This volume assembles essays, lectures, poems, letters and journals by thirty-one naturalists of colonial and antebellum South Carolina. Accessible entries read as easily today as they did in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Food & Farming

394.12 Pollan

The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals by Michael Pollan

On a journey to follow the course of four meals from farm (or forest) to table, Pollan leads a thoughtful investigation of the ethical and health implications of the way we choose our food.

641.0973 Kingsolver

Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life by Barbara Kingsolver with Steven L. Hopp & Camille Kingsolver
Best-selling author Kingsolver moved her family to the hills of Appalachia with a vision of eating only home-grown and local food, and shares their joys and struggles on the road to a successful harvest.

635.092 Klindienst

The Earth Knows my Name: Food, Culture, and Sustainability in the Gardens of Ethnic Americans by Patricia Klindienst

A literal way to put down roots, gardens offer the eight families in this book a place of healing and a treasured link between past and present lives.

363.192 Pringle

Food, Inc.: Mendel to Monsanto--the Promises and Perils of the Biotech Harvest by Peter Pringle

Are genetically modified foods the key to ending world hunger and disease, or are they dangerous to our health and to the environment? In this balanced look at genetic modification author Pringle explores both sides of the controversy.

Fic Ozeki

All Over Creation by Ruth Ozecki

Estranged daughter Yumi returns to her family farm in Idaho to find her parents in the middle of a struggle over genetically engineered crops, and must come to terms with her family and her past as she is drawn deeper into the debate.

333.95 Clover

The End of the Line: How Overfishing Is Changing the World and What We Eat by Charles Clover

Sounding a warning bell for the world's oceans, award-winning author Clover investigates the fishing industry and the widespread environmental and social damage that results from our unsustainable desire for cheap, healthy protein.

394.12 Schlosser

Chew On This: Everything You Don't Want to Know About Fast Food by Eric Schlosser & Charles Wilson
Witty and informative, this book from the best-selling author of *Fast Food Nation* is a chilling look at the production and preparation of fast food, as well as its effects on both people and animals.

178 Singer

The Way We Eat: Why Our Food Choices Matter by Peter Singer and Jim Mason

Singer and Mason follow three families with different but common food habits to uncover the good and bad aspects of the American diet, and to expose the way food choices affect our world.

640 Sandbeck

Green Housekeeping by Ellen Sandbeck

Considered by *House & Garden* to be the new bible on detoxing your home, from the kitchen to the septic tank. Learn to live in a clean, healthy, more economical—and earth-friendly—way.

641.308 Ettlinger

Twinkie, Deconstructed: My Journey to Discover How the Ingredients Found in Processed Foods are Grown, Mined (Yes, Mined), and Manipulated Into What America Eats by Steve Ettlinger

In an attempt to answer his children's questions about where food comes from, Ettlinger follows each ingredient in a Twinkie back to its source.

B Kalish

Little Heathens: Hard Times and High Spirits on an Iowa Farm During the Great Depression by Mildred Armstrong Kalish

This lighthearted memoir shows that even during the tough times of the Great Depression, love and laughter were the most important ingredients for raising happy children.

Energy & Design

629.2293 Kettlewell

Electric Dreams: One Unlikely Team of Kids and the Race to Build the Car of the Future by Caroline Kettlewell

A team of teenagers from an impoverished North Carolina town sets out to build an electric car for a competition with much wealthier schools. This is the inspiring true story of these underdogs who stood up to discrimination to add their answer to the future of transportation.

745.2 McDonough

Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Ways We Make Things by William McDonough & Michael Braungart

In this call for change, McDonough and Braungart envision a new style of manufacturing that focuses on eco-friendly production and waste reduction, and provide inspiring examples such as the tree-less "paper" on which the book is printed.

Fic Pancake

Strange As This Weather Has Been by Ann Pancake

When the coal companies come to mine the peaceful valley where Lace Ricker has lived all her life, she and her family must decide whether to defend their land as the waste and run-off from the mining threatens their safety.

338.476292 Carson

ZOOM: The Global Race to Fuel the Car of the Future by Vijay Vaitheeswaran & Iain Carson

In this unabashed look at the workings of the fuel industry, the authors trace the history of our dependence on Middle Eastern oil, deliver a call to action for changing how we run our cars and offer hope for the future.

333.7924 Cravens

Power to Save the World: The Truth About Nuclear Energy by Gwyneth Cravens

Once a skeptic of nuclear power, Cravens meets with scientists and health professionals to carefully sort through commonly held beliefs about nuclear energy in order to get to the truth about this form of energy.

Climate Change & Waste

304.2 Weisman

The World Without Us by Alan Weisman

In this imaginative work, Weisman explores how long our cities would stand, which animals would thrive and what our eventual impact on the planet would be if humans were to disappear forever.

363.73874 Mooney

Storm World: Hurricanes, Politics, and the Battle Over Global Warming by Chris Mooney

New Orleans native Mooney investigates whether global warming has had an effect on the strength of hurricanes, and offers an account of the ongoing debate over what to expect from storms in the future.

363.1791 Schneider

An Air That Kills: How the Asbestos Poisoning of Libby, Montana, Uncovered a National Scandal by Andrew Schneider & David McCumber

When its families began to die of asbestos-related diseases, one mining community came together to demand justice. This is the chilling true story of the citizens of Libby, Montana who brought their cause to national attention.

363.728 Royte

Garbage Land: On the Secret Trail of Trash by Elizabeth Royte

Where does trash go after it disappears into a garbage truck? Stopping along the way to talk to scientists, CEOs, composters and others involved in waste removal, Royte follows our garbage and explores its environmental impact.

363.73874 Lynas

Six Degrees: Our Future on a Hotter Planet by Mark Lynas

Scientists report that the Earth's temperature is likely to rise between one and six degrees by the end of this century. In this enthralling book, journalist Lynas uses scientific data to envision life on Earth at each increased degree.

363.7384 Cone

Silent Snow: The Slow Poisoning of the Arctic by Marla Cone

On her journey to what appears to be the pristine upper reaches of the world, Cone discovers that tons of pesticides and chemicals have entered the delicate food-web of the arctic, spreading disease among animals and humans alike.

363.73874 Flannery

The Weather Makers: How Man Is Changing the Climate and What It Means for Life on Earth by Tim Flannery

Flannery explores the research into increasingly dangerous storms that show how global warming and climate change are linked to human activity. He then exhorts readers to use their position as "weathermakers" to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

621.042 Krupp

Earth, The Sequel: The Race to Reinvent Energy and Stop Global Warming by Fred Krupp & Miriam Horn

Encouraging inventiveness and environmentally-friendly capitalism, Krupp and Horn present their solution to climate change—federal carbon caps paired with a lucrative series of rewards for businesses that exceed national requirements—through case studies and evidence of early successes.

Fic Boyle

A Friend of the Earth by TC Boyle

Set in the near future, zoo-keeper Ty reflects on his life, beginning with environmental activism in the '80s and '90s and leading up to his current life in a hellish world plagued by flood and drought.

616.994 Davis

The Secret History of the War on Cancer by Devra Davis

Has the war on cancer been battling the wrong enemy? Davis believes we should be fighting the causes of cancer rather than the disease itself, and explores how corporations intent on protecting their interests have distracted us from the real issues surrounding the disease.

Fic Atwood

Oryx and Crake by Margaret Atwood

Alone and tormented, Jimmy tells the story of his youth in a world split between rich and poor, rife with genetic engineering and affected by massive climate change. He weaves in the tale of his best friend and the love of his life, the duo that ultimately leads him to be the last surviving human on earth.

Greener Tomorrows

306.3 McKibben

Deep Economy: The Wealth of Communities and the Durable Future by Bill McKibben

In this thoughtful work, prolific environmental author McKibben encourages readers to invest their money in projects that will enhance their communities, enrich their neighbors and encourage self-reliant and value-based local cultures.

333.72 MySpace

Myspace/OurPlanet: Change Is Possible by Myspace Community, Jeca Taudte & Dan Santat

Full of quick tips, important facts and inspiring eco-ideas from teens across the country, this book breaks down the many aspects of life that can be made more "green."

333.72 Begley

Living Like Ed: A Guide to the Eco-Friendly Life by Ed Begley, Jr.

Author and actor Begley has chosen an environmentally-friendly and cost-conscious lifestyle for nearly forty years. With his wife weighing in with style and comfort tips, Begley shares what he has learned along the way.

333.72 Hawken

Blessed Unrest: How the Largest Social Movement in History Is Restoring Grace, Justice, and Beauty to the World by Paul Hawken

Hawken follows the worldwide growth of grass-roots groups working for environmental and social justice and outlines their shared interests, calling attention to the changes that they bring through their efforts.

643.7 Venolia

Natural Remodeling for the Not-So-Green House: Bringing Your Home into Harmony with Nature by Carol Venolia and Kelly Lerner

Renovating existing structures is one of the greenest choices for construction, but how should it be done? This book guides those interested in remodeling from start to finish through a energy efficient and eco-friendly home renovation.

363.7282 Baird

Don't Throw it Out: Recycle, Renew, and Reuse to Make Things Last by Lori Baird

Chock-full of ideas for reusing items in unexpected ways, author Baird offers simple fixes for broken things, money-saving tips and practical advice for getting the most use out of household items.