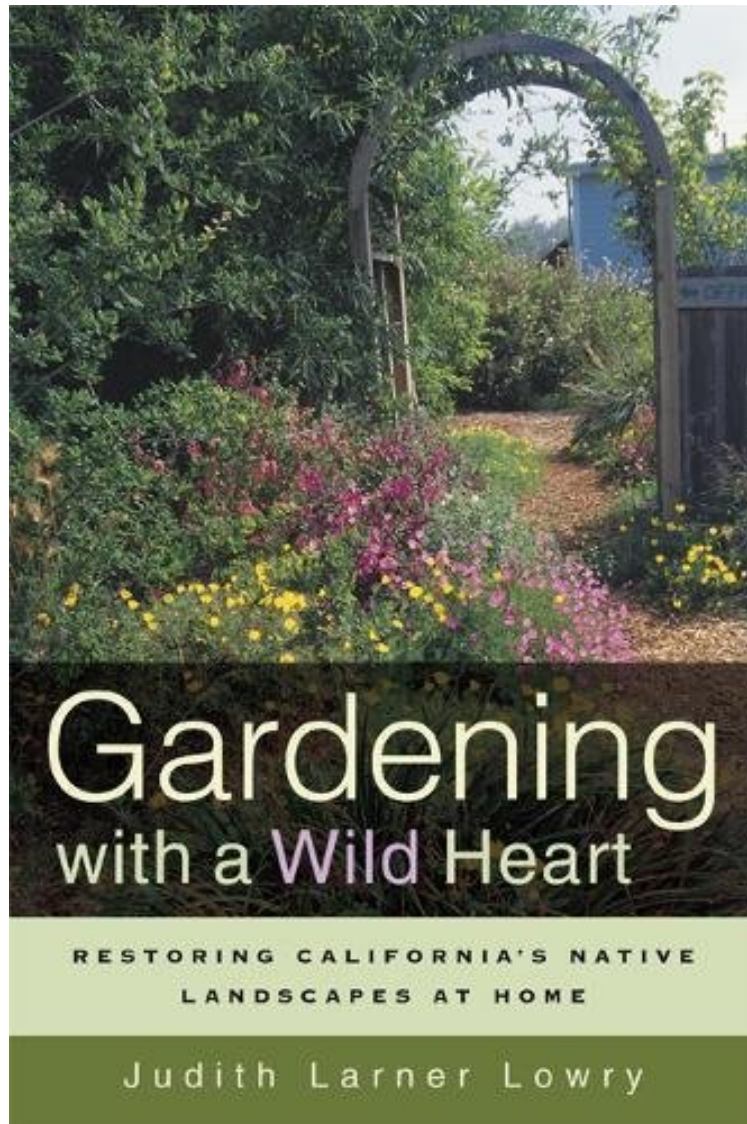


Gardening with a Wild Heart: Restoring California's Native Landscapes at Home

Judith Larner Lowry

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Judith Larner Lowry : Gardening with a Wild Heart: Restoring California's Native Landscapes at Home before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Gardening with a Wild Heart: Restoring California's Native Landscapes at Home:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Poetic Inspiration for GardenersBy Jeremy RhodesI read this book about 5 years ago and have since given it to friends as a gift. I strongly encourage anyone interested in gardening, or in

the natural world, to read her book!! Lowry has a real gift for nature writing, and for conveying her passion for restoration gardening. What is restoration gardening? We know what harm human development is doing to the natural world, but imagine if all the suburban homeowners, and corporations with campuses, were to garden with plants typical of their regions. That is Lowry's dream, poetically conveyed to us in this wonderful book. All the little yards with their little bits of natural environment would create a patchwork of native habitat and food for birds and other wild creatures, and if the patchwork got more and more connected as more people began gardening with regional plants, we would all be helping to restore at least a little bit of the natural world that we took away. Her book inspired me to re-landscape our yard in Southern California with all native California plants, and we've gone from having 1 or 2 species of birds to having more than 22 different species. And there are all kinds of little butterflies and other winged pollinators that I never saw before, and lizards galore. I noticed her book at just the right time -- when I was feeling like I was buried in the heart of sterile suburbs -- and it brought me joy to read, and continuing joy as I followed her example and now have a garden that feels right for California. Thank you, Judith Lowry!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ... owner of Larner seeds in Northern California has a wonderful ode here to what's called "Restoration ecology"

By Jesse W. Chang

The founder and owner of Larner seeds in Northern California has a wonderful ode here to what's called "Restoration ecology," the idea that creating native habitat happens one backyard at a time. It's part meditation, journal, and practical implementation of her experience gathering and propagating native plants. It's more like sitting down with someone to hear about their experience with native gardening, not a reference book in the technical sense.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I love this book

By Ms Coffee

Well written and thought provoking. This book is great for those interested in gardening for wildlife and gardening in general

Judith Lowry's voice and experiences make a rich matrix for essays that include discussions of wildflower gardening, the ecology of native grasses, wildland seed-collecting, principles of natural design, and plant/animal interactions. This lyrical and articulate mix of the practical and the poetic combines personal story, wildland ecology, restoration gardening practices, and native plant horticulture.

From the Inside Flap "Judith Lowry is among the most graceful of the new matchmakers who are arranging marriages between ourselves and the unique landscapes around us. Lowry gently guides us home by teaching us how to learn from the plants that grow wild outside our doorways. If native plant gardening is the way you'd like to spend your courtship of place, this book illuminates better than any I've seen the delights and surprises of such a path."

Freeman House, author of Totem Salmon "Gardening with a Wild Heart has earned my highest recommendation. Judith Larner Lowry provides an insightful, inspirational, and timely account of the need to understand and foster our ecological heritage through the lens of one's own garden. Ideas and concepts important to the home restoration gardener are presented and discussed in a thought-provoking and enjoyable manner. The author's practical methods and down-to-earth observations are used to both illuminate and clarify many of the themes of this compelling book."

Bart O'Brien, Director of Horticulture, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Claremont, California "This book is destined to become a classic for the gardener's shelf both for its inspired and enlightened language, and its acute observation and practical information. Judith Lowry introduces us to the plants of her restoration garden, with their names and descriptions of their uniqueness. She gives us a heavenly view of California wildflower fields and describes the special beauty of seeds and the delicate taste of native plants. This is a living book, aware of the dignity of the plants themselves, with a love of place and value of what it is to be 'home'."

Joanne Kyger, author of Just Space