

How To Create An Eco Garden The Practical Guide To Greener Planet Friendly Gardening By John Walker 2011 Hardcover

Kids who grow up with basic values of conserving water, energy and not polluting will have a better chance of being responsible adults who care about others, animals and their surroundings. Eco Stars books help bring these value in a FUN and EXCITING way! The Mysterious Lake Bandit specifically touches the subject of water conservation: why is it important to conserve water, daily actions we can take to save water, how important it is to us and to others. It also teaches where our water comes from which many children do not know! If your child is already an Eco Star, a kid who is aware of being Eco Friendly and taking care of the planet, this book will make him or her smile and make him or her proud! The Eco Stars captivating story leaves your child inspired about conserving water. "On a hot summer day, the residents of Ecolandia wake up to a town without water! As the Eco Stars begin to investigate they come to suspect the town's water could have been... Stolen?!? But by whom and why!? Join them to find out! The book is part of the "Eco Stars Series," stories that will inspire your child to be an Eco Star: Someone who is Eco Friendly, kind to the environment and to animals. The Eco Stars Series enwraps your child in the imaginative world of Ecolandia with lively, playful and stimulating adventures that teach your child to be an Eco Star!

'Urban Eco Chic' shows how we can all recycle materials, use sustainable products and become increasingly energy-efficient in our own homes, without compromising our sense of style.

Sustainable development will not be possible without fundamental improvements in resource productivity and energy efficiency, the adaptation of material flows into natural cycles as well as a radical change in production and consumption patterns. In essence, what is required is not only an ecological approach to product design but also new marketing and consumption patterns for products that can satisfy our needs in a more environmentally sound way. In recent years there has been growing interest in the possibilities of eco-services to achieve some of these aims. Ecologically oriented leasing, renting, pooling and sharing, where the emphasis is placed on the sale of a product's use rather than on the product itself, offer great possibilities for innovation and environmental impact reduction. At the same time, there are opportunities to create new commercial enterprises, produce added value to production and distribution functions, and therefore create jobs. Up until now, however, there has been little research about the state of the art in eco-services, how new services can be developed, what the attitudes of consumers are to services rather than products and what the consequences of such a structural adjustment would be for firms. Eco-service Development addresses this lack of

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research, first by providing a comprehensive inventory and analysis of current eco-services in four European countries: Germany, Austria, the Netherlands and Spain. It then systematically explores the options open to market participants, the potential for environmental impact reduction, potential barriers to eco-services (such as consumer and producer resistance) and, finally, with what political and legal instruments ecologically oriented services can best be promoted. The book analyzes eight consumer sectors – washing, cleaning, cooking, entertainment, gardening, do-it-yourself, mobility and leisure time – from the point of view of both supply and demand and highlights the optimization potential and development perspectives for commercial new use eco-service concepts. This book is the most comprehensive analysis yet published of how eco-services are being implemented and how they could best be encouraged and contains valuable lessons for policy-makers, interested businesses and all those in the academic community searching for ways to dematerialize the economy.

Featuring an extensive collection of full-color photographs, *150 Best Eco House Ideas* features eco-friendly house designs created by internationally renowned architects and designers who have achieved practical, innovative, and stunning solutions adapted to the specific needs and tastes of their clients. Included here are the latest innovations in sustainable home design, including solar paneling, wind energy systems, environmentally-friendly heating and cooling solutions, thermal glazing, and trombe walls. *150 Best Eco House Ideas* covering the diversity of current trends in sustainable home design, and is both the perfect resource for designers, interior decorators, and architects, as well an inspirational sourcebook for all homeowners interested in creating warm and inviting homes that cause only a fraction of the environmental impact of those created using conventional building methods.

Designing buildings and physical environments depends on social structure, social needs, economic data, environment, and technological development. Planning these environments is heavily influenced by cultural and regional need, the existing environment, and the materials available. *Reusable and Sustainable Building Materials in Modern Architecture* is an essential reference source that discusses the shaping of building design through culture and materials as well as the influence of environment on building design. Featuring research on topics such as passive design, ecological design, and urban design, this book is ideal for academicians, specialists, and researchers seeking coverage on culture, environment, and building design.

In architecture, a facade is the skin of a building. *Eco-friendly Building Facade* demonstrates just how important this 'skin' is by illustrating its impact on energy efficiency. Sunlight, ventilation, low energy, noise minimization, rainwater harvest, prefabricated components, flexibility, etc., all the environmental elements are taken into consideration in the design process and are illustrated here with sufficiently detailed images, drawings and articles.

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Sustainability is a phenomenon that must be pursued in a complex system of interrelated elements of business, society, and ecology. It is important to gain an understanding of these elements, the interplay between them, and the behavior of the system. This book explores the business-societal-and-ecological system in which sustainable innovation has to be envisioned, conceptualized, realized, and improved. Author Bart Bossink offers insight into the systematic coherence of drivers of eco-innovation and sustainability utilizing a three-part approach: (1) eco- and sustainable innovation in business is based on ideas and people who cooperatively develop these ideas; (2) groups of people, organized in commercial firms, must realize these ideas cooperatively and create the innovations that can conquer the market; and (3) that people from governmental, non-governmental, not-for-profit, research, and commercial organizations can build institutional arrangements that stimulate these sustainable innovations, changing both industry and society. Adopting a managerial perspective and discussing concepts and methods to manage eco-innovation in business, this book highlights the interrelated roles of the individual, the firm, partnerships, and business environments. Researchers and practitioners who want to combine a commercial and economical approach with an ethical and social ambition to create an ecologically sustainable firm stand to learn much from these pages.

ECO Guide immerses you in the strategies and tactics that leading edge professionals are using to tackle pressing problems and create innovative solutions.

Eco-Towers introduces readers to groundbreaking designs, most progressive projects, and innovative ways of thinking about a new generation of green skyscrapers that could provide solutions to crises the world faces today including climate change, depleting resources, deteriorating ecology, population increase, decreasing food supply, urban heat island effect, pollution, deforestation, and more. The book suggests that the eco-tower culminates the cultural and technological evolutions of the 21st century by building and improving on the experiences of earlier designs of skyscrapers and philosophies particularly green, sustainable, and ecological. It argues that the true green skyscraper is the one that engages successfully with its larger urban context by establishing symbiotic relationships with the social, economic, and environmental aspects. Since tall buildings are becoming larger and taller, serving greater number of people, and exerting higher demand on the environment and existing infrastructure, any improvements in their design and construction will significantly enhance urban conditions. The book elucidates how green skyscrapers better serve tenants, mitigate environmental impacts, and improve integration with the city infrastructure. It explains how skyscrapers' long life cycle offers the greatest justifications for recycling precious resources, and makes it a worthwhile to employ green features in constructing new skyscrapers and retrofitting existing ones. Subsequently, the book explores new designs that are employing cutting-edge green technologies at a grand scale including water-saving technologies, solar panels, helical wind turbines, sunlight-sensing LED lights, rainwater catchment systems, graywater and blackwater recycling systems, seawater-powered air conditioning, and the like. In the future, new building materials and smart technologies will continue to offer innovative design approaches to sustainable tall buildings with new aesthetics, referred to as "eco-iconic" skyscrapers.

The Chair on Ecodesign for buildings and infrastructures was created by ParisTech in partnership with VINCI with the aim of developing

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evaluation and simulation tools that integrate all ecodesign aspects (e.g. greenhouse gas emissions, impact on biodiversity, depletion of resources, etc.) and provide genuine decision-aid instruments, based on a scientific approach, to all those involved in the urban environment (i.e. designers, builders and users). The present book takes stock of five years of research under the Chair. It starts by presenting some methodological bases of ecodesign, life cycle assessments, impact studies, and methods for planning and transport. Several specific subjects are then covered, i.e. public transport, parking, road traffic, the environmental profile of building materials, building retrofits, energy management, and biodiversity. The last part of the book sets out how the knowledge and tools developed under the Chair were applied to a case study: Cité Descartes in Marne la Vallée (Ile de France). This work is aimed at urban planners, local authorities, contracting clients, architects, engineering firms, contractors, building managers, research lecturers, and anyone interested in the environmental quality of the places we live in.

This whimsical yet informative guide is not just your typical design book—it was created to help you unveil your unique personal style and authentic flair! Author Charisse Marei helps you focus on achieving the home of your dreams, starting with creating a sanctuary in one simple room: the bathroom, where you begin and end each day. With its interactive workbook and countless eco—tips, recipes, and shopping lists, this book will gently encourage you to: - Remove toxins from your life - Design with purpose - Declutter, organize and tidy to create harmony - Manifest a treasure chest of well-being - Do breathe-able cleaning - Share stories - Welcome greater purpose Along the way to self-discovery you will acquire the tools of the trade to be the interior designer and client of your own project, discover new words to replace the negative word “stress,” and uncover the five keys to staying on the clutter-free path. Transform your wishes and desires into an action-inspiring journey to Release, Renew, Revitalize (3 Rs) yourself, your home, your furry friends, and our Earth.

Sustainable Home is a stylish, inspirational and practical guidebook to maintaining a more environmentally friendly household. Sustainable lifestyle blogger and professional Christine Liu takes you on a tour through the rooms of your home – the living area, kitchen, bedroom and bathroom – offering tips, tricks and 18 step-by-step projects designed to help you lead a more low-impact lifestyle. Whether its by making your own toothpaste, converting to renewable energy sources, reducing your consumption of plastic, growing your own herb garden or upcycling old pieces of furniture, there are numerous ways – both big and small – to make a difference. With environmental issues at the forefront of global politics, the desire to make small changes on an individual level is on the rise; this book will guide anyone hoping to make a difference, but who perhaps don't know where to begin.

This book offers a comprehensive guide to becoming a more eco-friendly setting, from small steps that can be taken to reduce waste and improve efficiency to setting up partnerships. It illustrates how sustainable choices can become a natural part of every child's education and how children, parents and staff can all inspire sustainable behaviour across local communities and at national and international levels. Covering all aspects of practice including colleague and parental engagement, the environment, routines, resources, and teaching and learning, the book helps readers and practitioners to embed a sustainable approach in day-to-day practice. It draws on recent research, studies and stories of success and failure that can be adapted to fit everyone's own journey towards a more sustainable world. The chapters address topics such as: plastics and their alternatives sustainable food sustainable resourcing transport and trips waste management. Drawing on the experiences of real nurseries and including a wide range of activities and lists of resources, this is an essential read for practitioners, leaders, policymakers and all settings that want to help make sustainable choices a natural part of young children's lives. A practical, do-it-yourself guide to green living explains how to incorporate an eco-friendly approach to every aspect of one's life, with tips on

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how to make eco-savvy choices at the grocery store, at the car dealership, or when cleaning the house, while promoting a healthier lifestyle--and bank account. Original. 40,000 first printing.

Creating Your Eco-friendly Garden shows you how to develop an environmentally friendly garden for little cost. Practically written, it is based on the author's first-hand experience as well as the wealth of knowledge she has amassed working at Grass Roots, Australia's most popular self-sufficiency magazine. The book offers advice on planning your garden, choosing plants, planting times, watering options and pest management following organic principles. It explains how to assess the soil and microclimatic effects of surrounding buildings and vegetation so that you can determine the style of garden that best suits your property. Water efficiency, biodiversity, soil conservation, use of native and biodiversity-friendly plants, organic methods, use of recycled materials and avoidance of environmental weeds are themes that feature strongly throughout the book, and will appeal to gardeners with strong environmental values.

Comfort Zone: Creating the Eco-Elegant Interior welcomes readers to a fresh 21st century approach to interior design, one that emphasizes beautiful rooms, healthful furnishings and building materials, and extraordinary comfort, while thoughtfully considering the world outside our doors. Trudy Dujardin, ASID, LEED AP +ID + C, presents her work as one of the country's most accomplished interior designers with the signature passion and commitment that made her a pioneer in the sustainable design movement. Comfort Zone offers an intimate view into award-winning interiors in some of the most stunning homes in America. From chic urban apartments to luxurious coastal vacation homes, meticulously restored sea captains manses, and modern houses built by renowned architects, Trudy's emphasis on creating gracious, classically elegant interiors is demonstrated with striking color photography. You'll learn how to choose non-toxic paints and finishes for the skin of your home, find out what the most important room really is, discover that traditional upholstered furniture may not be the best seat in the house, and be inspired to create the comfortable, greener home you've dreamed of.

Essential reading for anyone planning to design an eco-home Designing an eco-house is as much about working with your natural surroundings as it is about planning to use the right materials for your building. In this book, Christopher Day draws on his extensive experience to explain the key principles of ecological house design. Beautifully illustrated, it highlights how aesthetics arise from eco-responsible design: they are not add-ons, nor are ecology and art in conflict. This book will give you essential guidance in working with your surroundings, understanding what you can do yourself, choosing your materials, making sure your eco home suits your needs, eco-building without relying on technology, and refitting an existing building. This book is essential for anyone who wants to create a beautiful home that is in harmony with its location, is a healthy and pleasant place to live, and is environmentally friendly.

The passion and urgency that inspired WWI and WWII Victory Gardens is needed today to meet another threat to our food supply and our environment—the steep decline of pollinators. The Pollinator Victory Garden offers practical solutions for winning the war against the demise of these essential animals. Pollinators are critical to our food supply and responsible for the pollination of the vast majority of all flowering plants on our planet. Pollinators include not just bees, but many different types of animals, including insects and mammals. Beetles, bats, birds, butterflies, moths, flies, and

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wasps can be pollinators. But, many pollinators are in trouble, and the reality is that most of our landscapes have little to offer them. Our residential and commercial landscapes are filled with vast green pollinator deserts, better known as lawns. These monotonous green expanses are ecological wastelands for bees and other pollinators. With The Pollinator Victory Garden, you can give pollinators a fighting chance. Learn how to transition your landscape into a pollinator haven by creating a habitat that includes pollinator nutrition, larval host plants for butterflies and moths, and areas for egg laying, nesting, sheltering, overwintering, resting, and warming. Find a wealth of information to support pollinators while improving the environment around you:

- The importance of pollinators and the specific threats to their survival
- How to provide food for pollinators using native perennials, trees, and shrubs that bloom in succession
- Detailed profiles of the major pollinator types and how to attract and support each one
- Tips for creating and growing a Pollinator Victory Garden, including site assessment, planning, and planting goals
- Project ideas like pollinator islands, enriched landscape edges, revamped foundation plantings, meadowscapes, and other pollinator-friendly lawn alternatives

The time is right for a new gardening movement. Every yard, community garden, rooftop, porch, patio, commercial, and municipal landscape can help to win the war against pollinator decline with The Pollinator Victory Garden.

How to Create an Eco Garden The Practical Guide to Greener, Planet-Friendly Gardening: Garden Layouts and Planting Plans, Step-by-Step Techniques, a Directory of 80 Plants and Over 500 Photographs and Illustrations Anness Pub Limited

A highly illustrated, practical handbook, showing the different methods of sustainable and eco-friendly construction. Transformative eco-education is environmental education that is literally needed to transform and save our planet, especially during the global ecological crises of our present century. Such education demands inner transformation of many deeply rooted ideas, such as the following: the Earth exists merely to provide for human comfort; the extinction or reduction of other species does not matter; we are free to consume or destroy natural resources at will but are safe from destruction ourselves; and the Earth will continue to sustain us, even if we do not sustain the Earth. Unless these concepts are changed, we will increase global warming and add to the ruin of much of the Earth. This book presents powerful ideas for transformative eco-education. At this time of ever-increasing ecological crisis, such education is needed more than ever before. We urge readers to use the ideas and activities in this book with your students, develop them further, and create new conceptions to share with other educators and students. The chapters in this book provide key principles, of which the following are just a few. First, educators can and should prepare students for natural disasters. Second, stories, case studies, the arts, and hands-on environmental experience, all enriched by reflection and discussion, can offer profound learning about ecology. Third, education at all levels can benefit from a true ecological

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emphasis. Fourth, teachers must receive preparation in how to employ transformative eco-education. Fifth, Indigenous wisdom can offer important, holistic, spiritual paths to understanding and caring for nature, and other spiritual traditions also provide valid ways of comprehending humans as part of the universal web of existence. Sixth, transformative eco-education can be an antidote to not only to environmental breakdown, but also to materialistic overconsumption and moral confusion. Seventh, we can only heal the Earth by also healing ourselves. If we heed these principles, together we can make transformative eco-education a blazing torch to light the path for the current century and beyond.

Amid political, social, and environmental anxieties, the need for humor, hope, and meaningful action has never been greater. *Hope Is a Verb* is the beautifully simple solution for not only how to create change but how to stay sane while doing it. Through this creative guidebook, readers will work to live in alignment with their values, examine their relationships with the planet and their community, and be inspired to act, both in their personal life and collectively. Emily Ehlers, creator of the cult favorite Instagram account @ecowithem, offers the following six-step process that reframes the current global mood as an invitation to realize change, rather than dwell in despair. Step One: Stop Freaking Out Step Two: Change the Story Step Three: Set Your Inner Compass Step Four: Own Your Power Step Five: Just Start Step Six: Find Your People Using her experience as an environmental activist, Ehlers offers ways for readers to change their perspective as a path to overcome challenges. A light in a dark place, a friend when you're feeling alone, a roadmap out of overwhelming situations, for those feeling less than secure and safe, *Hope Is a Verb* points to a world of opportunity and stability that's achievable and surprisingly simple.

This book outlines the principles of eco-efficiency and presents case studies of their application from a number of international companies, including 3M and the Dow Chemical Company. The term "eco-efficiency" describes business activities that create economic value while reducing ecological impact and resource use. This book outlines the principles of eco-efficiency and presents case studies of their application from a number of international companies, including 3M and the Dow Chemical Company. It also discusses the value of partnerships--with other companies, business associations, communities, regulators, and environmental and other nongovernmental groups. In the conclusion, the authors argue that business must become more eco-efficient and that governments need to change the conditions under which business operates, including tax and regulatory regimes, to make them more conducive to eco-efficiency.

This title shows readers how to reduce their garden's 'carbon footprint' and create a greener, more ecologically sustainable garden by working with nature. It includes step-by-step advice for establishing an eco system, controlling weeds, composting with worms, harvesting and storing water, and landscaping with recycled materials.

Eco-efficient Construction and Building Materials reviews ways of assessing the environmental impact of construction and building materials.

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Part one discusses the application of life cycle assessment (LCA) methodology to building materials as well as eco-labeling. Part two includes case studies showing the application of LCA methodology to different types of building material, from cement and concrete to wood and adhesives used in building. Part three includes case studies applying LCA methodology to particular structures and components. Reviews ways of assessing the environmental impact of construction and building materials Provides a thorough overview, including strengths and shortcomings, of the life cycle assessment (LCA) and eco-labeling of eco-efficient construction and building materials Includes case studies showing the application of LCA methodology to different types of building material, from cement and concrete to wood and adhesives used in building

Everything you need to know to build, renovate or just live in an eco-friendly and sustainable way. With loads of inspirational photographs of New Zealand homes, this book is packed full of practical and accessible information. It presents the modern home by moving from room to room, to look at structural materials, furnishings and general life hacks to improve your personal green-star rating. As well as the living spaces (kitchen, bathroom, bedrooms, office, living area, utility rooms and outdoor areas) it also looks at the wider issues - why make an eco home at all? Also covered are- principles of sustainable building, choosing a property, building a team of professionals, foundations and floors, the structure and the shell. In a compact and colourful package, this book is both entertaining and informative. A must-have for all people with an eco-conscience.

A stunning, full-color showcase of the latest innovations in sustainable architecture and eco-friendly design, featuring thirty-five diverse homes. Today's architects, designers, building craftsman, and homeowners are becoming more environmentally conscious, choosing eco-friendly living spaces with small carbon footprints that are built with sustainable materials. New Eco Homes explores various aspects of modern eco design, from its environmental and economical benefits, to factors considered when choosing materials: how much energy went into manufacturing the product, whether it is long lasting, and whether it can be recycled or safely disposed of as it eventually breaks down. It also examines important details involved in building, such as climate regulation, drainage systems, and regional planning. Each of the thirty-five projects contain photographs, floor plans, and detailed drawings that illustrate certain sustainable features, revealing how much the parameters of ecological design have expanded in just a few short years. New Eco Homes includes an introductory interview with an international specialist in green building, site plans, architectural drawings, and a complete directory of resources. Combining concern for the environmental with aesthetic sensibility, it is an essential resource for architects, designers, and homeowners interested in creating warm and inviting homes that are not only beautiful to inhabit, but help protect and conserve our natural environment as well.

Work in harmony with nature to create a more climate-friendly garden, with practical solutions for real-life spaces. An updated new edition of a classic and timely guide.

Step-by-step instructions for building an octagonal cordwood masonry guesthouse.

Developed in the late 80's, the eco-tourist approach is characterized by a twofold concern for the places visited and the well-being of the people who live there. The means of eco-sustainable transport can be diverse: a canoe or kayak, a bicycle, a horse or mule... even our own legs! You may say the same for accommodation facilities: hotels, bed and breakfasts, farmhouses that are keen on recycling, using renewable energy sources and meeting the criteria to be a green-building. ? 50 routes to eco-friendly travel around the world: each chapter will provide useful travel directions, schematic maps, information on stages to follow and tips for travelling in an environmentally sustainable way (from equipment to contacts of ecological facilities). ? Stunning pictures will accompan the reader in discovery of the most beautiful

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scenarios of the world: from forests and mountains to historic roads, small villages, peaks and deserts.

In 1543, Polish astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus challenged the view that the sun revolved around the earth, arguing instead that the earth revolved around the sun. His paper led to a revolution in thinking. In Lester Brown's brilliant and invigorating account of the industrial economy, he shows how a rethink of its fossil fuel-based, throwaway ethos is necessary to ensure that it works with, not against, the natural environment. The issue now is whether the environment is part of the economy or the economy is part of the environment. Brown argues the latter, pointing out that treating the environment as part of the economy has produced an economy that is destroying its natural support systems. One of the foremost experts on the new economic opportunities, Brown shows the vast economic potential and environmental gains that exist from eliminating the waste and destruction of current consumption. He describes how the global economy can be restructured to make it compatible with the earth's ecosystem so that economic progress can continue, with high standards of living and secure employment for all, while conserving resources and restoring the environment. In the new economy, wind farms replace coal mines, hydrogen-powered fuel cells replace internal combustion engines, and cities are designed for people, not cars. Eco-Economy is a map of how to get from here to there. It is an essential guide to the economy of the 21st century and will be compelling reading for business readers and environmentalists alike looking for ways to build a better future.

This book is the essential guide for teaching children about nature and environmental protection. This guide shows teachers how to incorporate "green" concepts into everyday lessons, activities, and field trips. Also included are ways to send the lesson home, with clear steps for teaching children how to make saving the earth a part of their daily lives. Features information on: The best ways to address issues like global warming and the disappearing rainforests Sustainable school supplies Eco-friendly fundraising Inspiring field trip ideas (from the local farm to the local landfill!) Innovative ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle Teachers, students, administrators, and parents will learn to take green practices from the classroom to the larger world outside. By using teacher-tested activities and the inspiring stories of real kids, this book will motivate teachers and their students to turn education into action.

A collection of projects and ideas for making books out of common everyday items normally placed in the recycle bin.

The Chair Eco-design of buildings and infrastructure, a partnership between three engineering colleges (MINES ParisTech, Ecole des Ponts ParisTech and AgroParisTech) and the VINCI group, aims to create measurement and simulation tools which integrate all the dimensions of eco-design (greenhouse gas emissions, impact on biodiversity and resource levies, etc.) to become real decision-making tools, based on a scientific approach, for all actors in the city (designers, builders and users). This book reviews the second five-year sequence of the Chair, first presenting methodological advances in eco-design: life cycle assessment and quantification of uncertainties; local environmental impacts of transport and biodiversity. The interdisciplinary partnership, also associating the human sciences, shows its interest in taking into account the human factor in the modelling of urban systems. This modelling is based on several numerical simulation tools, presented in the third part. This theoretical set results in more substantial proposals for the renewal of techniques and systems, in terms of energy management strategies in buildings, urban agriculture, participatory data collection and digital transformation in transport. This book is intended for urban planners, local authorities, building owners, architects, design offices, companies, building managers, teacher-researchers and anyone interested in the

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environmental quality of our living spaces.

An introduction to an emerging business practice called Design for Environment (DfE) which takes a life-cycle approach to new product and process development, taking into account such novel concerns as environmental consequences, human health, and safety. Provides concrete techniques and guidelines and ample case studies. Annotation copyright by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR

“A gentle, practical and inspiring guide to help you transform your yard into a diverse, healthy and sustainable landscape.”—Myrna Pearman, coauthor of *NatureScape Alberta* Many urban yards are essentially unproductive patches of grass, requiring constant attention for no return. Through sustainable, organic landscaping, these small or large plots of land can become part of the solution to today’s environmental challenges. *Eco-yards* supports the vision of a healthy, abundant planet in which beautiful, richly varied urban yards contribute to restoring the natural ecosystem. This inspiring and practical, well-illustrated manual includes clear, easy-to-follow instructions for: Designing and maintaining an eco-yard Making your yard water-wise Understanding basic soil science Replacing your lawn with tree, shrub and flower beds or hardy, low-maintenance grass Growing vegetables in the eco-yard Visionary, hopeful and encouraging, *Eco-yards* is a must-read for anyone who wants to use environmentally sound practices when they garden, whether in a residential yard or on the balcony of a condo or high-rise apartment. If you’re sick of the backyard battle, this book will show you how to work with nature instead of fighting it, using simple steps that apply practically anywhere to turn your yard into an eco-friendly sanctuary. “A rich compost of the practical and scientific . . . this is a book for every gardener concerned for the health of the environment.”—Roberta Rees, author of *Long After Fathers* “Rama is a hands-on gardener who explains—in great detail—everything from building soil to creating sustainable landscapes. Read about it here and then get out and practice what Rama preaches.”—Donna Balzer, BScA, horticulturist and co-host of the internationally broadcast television show *Bugs & Blooms*

A comprehensive resource on ecological health in the home and how to achieve it. Called the "new architecture for the new world," sustainable building is firmly established as an important influence on residential design. *Eco House* is a complete guide to the structural features and interior and exterior elements that make a house healthy for its residents and for Earth. From solar roofs to sinks that flush the toilet by recycling their gray water, there are any number of options, expensive and inexpensive, that can turn a home into an "eco-house." The book covers all of the essentials of sound bioclimatic design: Structures that works with sun and wind directions Optimum ventilation and heat recovery Green roof insulation and cooling Solar heating Geothermal heating and cooling Radiant heating Pellet-fuel heating and ventilation Photoelectric power Turbine wind power Rainwater-cistern and gray-water plumbing This practical reference also takes readers on a room-by-room tour of hundreds of eco-friendly lifestyle options, including how to clean with chemical-free products. Home owners can make one change or plan an entire refit to take their house off the grid -- nothing is too little. In addition to the well-known measures, such as straw bales and solar panels, *Eco House* describes the many newer options available, providing photographs and illustrations as well as a directory of manufacturers.

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These include thermal and acoustic bricks, living walls, vegetable-fiber insulation and solar-sourced indoor lighting. This is a fascinating volume packed with descriptive photographs and the most current expert information. Builders, contractors, designers and home owners will find it inspiring and practical.

In his first book *Ecovillages*, Jan Bang explained at the principles and practice of setting up a sustainable community, including difficult decisions about management, design and architecture, farming and food, water, sewage, energy sources and economics. *Growing Eco-Communities* looks at what comes next. Groups aren't fixed by those earlier decisions and directions: they grow and develop, and not always in expected directions. Jan Bang here provides a comprehensive overview of the different changes that groups can undergo and offers experienced advice on how to handle particular situations. As in *Ecovillages*, the book is anchored by numerous case studies of real-life communities and how they've dealt with change. There are sections on The Pioneering Phase (including 'everybody does everything' and 'decisions over dinner'); through the Maturity and Stability Phase (including 'Procedures for new members and the rule of law' and 'I want my own room'); to Old Age (including 'the professionals take over', 'the next generation' and 'dynasty!'). Throughout, the author addresses practical issues of flexibility, self-sufficiency, neighbours, technology, spirituality and money, among others. This is a candid, inspiring and practical book which should be essential reading for anyone involved in a community or non-residential group, club or association.

Business-as-usual, it is widely accepted, will exceed the Earth's carrying capacity in an alarmingly short space of time. In simple terms, we need to learn to use the world's rapidly depleting resources in a significantly more efficient manner. Practical and readily adopted solutions are needed now. Eco-efficiency-or "produce more with less" – is achieved when goods and services satisfy human needs, increase the quality of life at competitive prices and when environmental impacts and resource intensity are decreased to a degree that keeps them within the limits of Earth's expected carrying capacity. Eco-efficiency – a term first proposed by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development in 1992 – is a management approach that allows businesses to carry out environmental protection measures from a market-oriented point of view, with the aim of illustrating that ecology and the economy do not need to be a contradiction. Indeed, eco-efficiency has been portrayed as a win-win-for both business and the environment. This book, which developed out of two conferences on eco-efficiency held in Düsseldorf in 1998 and 2001, is edited by Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker and his team from the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy, one of the world's leading research programmes on resource productivity. The aim is not simply to explain the past and present of eco-efficiency but to look forward to and encourage a future where the comprehensive take-up of the concept by business, government and consumers could lead to innovation on a grand scale and the possibility of a giant leap beyond towards overall sustainability. There have been considerable achievements to date. The Dow Jones Sustainability Index, which aims to list the most sustainable corporations for investors, includes companies such as BASF, Climatex, Henkel and Matsushita/Panasonic (all represented in this book), who are implementing eco-efficiency measures. A number of political initiatives have also been formed. In December 2001, the German government suggested a National Sustainability Strategy to measure Germany's

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sustainable development. While this not yet an accepted political target or even law, it shows that politics is moving toward binding targets for increasing efficiency. Eco-Efficiency and Beyond collects together the leading thinkers on the topic and aims to illustrate not only that the concept should be part of every business strategy but that it is a key trigger for innovation. Innovation cuts through paradoxes. It is the creation of solutions to conflicting demands. Flying in a vacuum gave us rockets and satellites; switching electrons through insulators gave us Silicon Valley and the digital age. Sustainable development presents a similar field of paradoxical innovation forces: i.e. provide affordable products and services for the growing unmet needs of the world population while reducing environmental impacts. This book is the definitive collection on eco-efficiency and will be required reading for business, government, NGOs and academicians.

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