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The Learning Center

Books, websites, podcasts and more! All of the best sources for learning about r/nolawn topics. If you know of a good source not listed on this page, please message the mods (here) and be sure to explain why you believe it fits here.

1. The Problems with Lawns

Take a moment to think about the constraints we put on lawns.

- **A lawn plant must be short;** Between 1-4 inches tall. If it grows taller, it must be tolerant of regular mowing to that height.
- **It probably needs to be durable.** A lawn used for recreation needs to tolerate a great deal of foot traffic. Kids, dogs, adult yoga; lawn plants handle it better than any other.
- **It also must be aesthetically pleasing.** Many people want a green lawn for as long as possible and water their lawns constantly to achieve this.

Very few plants manage to meet these all of these criteria.

Read more...

2. Resources

Check out all of our resources on our [Resources Wiki Page](#)

- [Books](#)
- [Online Resources](#)
- [Social Media](#)
- [Local Resources](#)

2.1 Other Online Guides & Info

- [Prepping for wildflowers](#) via r/gardenwild (reddit link)
- [Mulches: The Good, The Bad, and The Really, Really Ugly](#)
- [Sheet Mulching, Grass to Garden](#) Video
- [Intro to Permaculture](#) Book
- [How to Make a Bee Friendly Garden](#)
- [Native Turf: A New Lawn Guide](#) from the city of Ames, Iowa
- [The Ultimate Winter Sowing Guide](#)
- [California -Cal Scape](#) Video

- [How to: Clover Lawn](#)
- [Rewilding your lawn or garden? First, get to know it](#) - Rewilding Mag

3. Native Plant Resources by Country

Please message the mods here if you have any good resources and links for your country

You can visit the [Native Plant Resources by Country Wiki Page](#)

- [Misc. Country List](#)
- [UK](#)
- [United States](#)
- [Canada](#)

4. How to Begin

Please note: We're overhauling this section and creating a beginners guide, it just takes a lot of time and research. Please message the mods if you have anything you'd love to add!

1. **Research!** - Learn everything you can, use the resources below and ask questions.
2. **Plan it** - What is your goal, what do you want to see?
 - Talk to your local conservation/native plants society/master gardener etc. to get more information.
 - Check out [Wild Ones Garden Designs](#) or any other garden designer to help you plan
 - Do more research on plants for your yard, pick natives avoid invasive, make sure they'll work in your space
1. **Start small** - You don't have to do the entire yard, start with one garden bed and learn from your mistakes.
2. **Remove what you don't need** - Remove anything that isn't staying, grass, weeds, invasive species etc.
3. **Get to planting!** - Talk to your local conservation/native plants society/master gardener or nursery to figure out the best time to plant, and the best way to plant each type of plant in your space
4. **Maintenance** - Follow the advice for your plants to maintain them through their first year. If they're native, you'll generally have less maintenance over time.
5. **Enjoy!** - Seriously, you did it, it's beautiful, enjoy it before you decide to take on another project.
6. **Share your experience** - Help others learn from you, did you make a mistake? Share it so other people can avoid it. Did you learn something really cool? Let us know, make a post. Share some before and afters and let us know how long it took and what steps you took.

5. Ground Covers and Lawn Alternatives

[See the full wiki page](#)

- [Ground Covers and Lawn Alternatives](#)
- [Native Landcaping](#)
- [White Clover](#)
- [Native Turf grasses and Sedge Lawns](#)
- [Buffalo Grass and Bouteloua Species](#)

6. Designing a No Lawn

See full documentation on our [Design Wiki Page](#)

Resources

- [North America](#)
- [Europe/UK](#)

Design Strategies

- [Define your spaces](#)

[Know your region's Keystone Species](#)

[Draw a Plan](#)

7. Fun Stuff

[Fun Stuff Wiki Page](#)

- [No Mow May](#)

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