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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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