

Contents

Acknowledgments vii

Foreword by Doug Tallamy ix

Preface xi

Introduction 1

A Primer on Climate Change 6

SECTION I: **Lawn** 11

I-1: Liberate the Lawn 13 • *A Primer on Landscape Chemicals* 19;

I-2: Reduce the Extent of Lawn 23 • I-3: Minimize Use of Power Tools 28

I-4: Revive Damaged Lawns 32 • I-5: Provide Good Preparation for New Lawns 36

I-6: Replace Some Lawn with Meadow 39 • I-7: Ideas for Large/Public Lawns 44

SECTION II: **Trees and Shrubs** 49

II-1: Take Good Care of Woody Plants 52

II-2: Choose Species Able to Tolerate Changing Conditions 58

II-3: Maximize Carbon Storage in Woody Plants 63

II-4: Get the Most Cooling Benefit from Trees 67

SECTION III: **Water** 73

A Primer on Water Chemistry and Plants 75

III-1: Make Landscapes More Drought-Tolerant 77

III-2: Use Climate-Wise Irrigation Methods 80

III-3: Install Water-Collection Systems 84 • III-4: Add Water-Absorbing Features 87

III-5: Create or Maintain Water Features 92

SECTION IV: **Ecosystems** 99

A Primer on Native Plants 103 • IV-1: Prioritize for Native Plants 105

IV-2: Plant in Groups and Communities 109

IV-3: Create Habitat-Rich Layers and Edges 113

IV-4: Enhance Biodiversity 117 • IV-5: Create Semi-Wild Patches 123

SECTION V: **Soil** 129

A Primer on Soil Carbon and Ecosystems 132

V-1: Maximize Carbon Storage in Soil 134 • V-2: Minimize Soil Disturbance 138

V-3: Avoid Compacting the Soil 142 • V-4: Build Compost 144

V-5: Cover Bare Soil 150

SECTION VI: **Planning and Design** 157

VI-1: Design New Home Sites with Climate in Mind 158

VI-2: Fit Landscape to Land 161 • VI-3: Design for Multiple Purposes 164

VI-4: Create Energy-Wise Landscapes 168 • VI-5: Design Flood-Wise Landscapes 171

VI-6: Install Buffer Zones 176 • VI-7: Create Fire-Wise Landscapes 180

VI-8: Incorporate Renewable Energy 186

VI-9: Design Climate-Wise Driveways and Parking 191

SECTION VII: **Herbaceous Plants** 197

VII-1: Choose Regionally Appropriate Plants 199

VII-2: Garden to Support Pollinators 205 • VII-3: Control Invasive Plants 210

VII-4: Design Perennial Gardens to Serve Local Ecosystems 214

SECTION VIII: **Urban Issues** 219

VIII-1: Maximize Urban Vegetation 221

VIII-2: Create More Green Roofs and Green Walls 226 • VIII-3: Design Cool Roofs 230

VIII-4: Support the Use of Cool Pavement Techniques 232

VIII-5: Choose Climate-Wise Lighting 235 • VIII-6: Create Habitat Corridors 238

SECTION IX: **Food** 245

IX-1: Grow Food Above the Ground 247

IX-2: Grow Long-Lived (Perennial) Sources of Food 252

IX-3: Use Organic Methods for Growing Food 257

IX-4: Support Locally Produced Food 261 • IX-5: Harvest Wild Edibles 264

SECTION X: **Materials** 269

X-1: Stone 271 • X-2: Wood 274 • X-3: Metal 279 • X-4: Concrete 283

X-5: Earthen Materials 288

Conclusion 293 • Endnotes 295 • Index 299 • About the Authors 307

About New Society Publishers 308