WSU Extension Master Gardeners
of Thurston County
RECOMMENDED BOOKS

Reviewed by Book Club

A Sand County Almanac by Aldo Leopold

How Plants Work by Linda Chalker- Scott

Real Gardens Grow Natives by Eileen M Stark

Second Nature by Michael Pollan

Subirdia by John M. Marzluff and Jack Delap

The Conscientious Gardener by Sarah Reichard

The Hidden Life of Trees: by Peter Wohlleben

The Informed Gardener Blooms Again by Linda Chalker- Scott.

The Reason for Flowers by Stephen Buchmann

The Triumph of Seeds by Thor Hanson

Selected for 2019 Book Club

In Praise of Plants by Francis Hallé

Planting in a Post-Wild World: Designing Plant Communities for Resilient Landscapes by Thomas Rainer and Claudia West.

A Contemplation Upon Flowers: Garden Plants in Myth and Literature By Bobby J. Ward.

The Intelligent Gardener by Steve Soloman.

Teaming with Nutrients: The Organic Gardener's Guide to Optimizing Plant Nutrition by Jeff Lowenfels

MASTER GARDENER STANDARDS
FOR ASSESSING TYPES OF INFORMATION

The *"CRAP"* Test

Credibility Relevance Accuracy Purpose

C-Credibility
- Check relevancy and currency of author's qualifications
- Check publisher - academic, specialty, self-published
- Check URL: .edu or .gov (preferred)
  or .com .org

R- Relevance
- What is the subject and scope of research
- Who is the intended audience
- Are there geographic or other constraints on usability

A- Accuracy
- Is it science based?
- Is it objective? Does the piece use "comfort" words like "Lasagna composting?"
- Is it current?
- Is it well-written?

P- Purpose
- Educational or commercial?
- Biases of author
- Look at Sample Resources

TYPES OF INFORMATION

Scientific
Peer Reviewed, academic audience. Ex: Journal of Environmental Horticulture

Gray
Not peer reviewed, professional audience. *Ex:* American Nurseryman journal

Popular
Not peer reviewed, general audience. Ex: Organic Gardening Magazine

Anecdotes
One person's observation. Ex: "I apply corn gluten to control weeds."