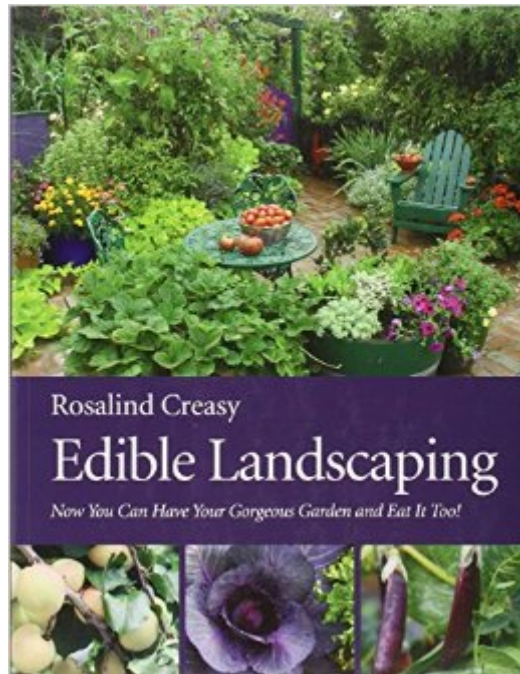


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# Edible Landscaping



## Synopsis

Since Rosalind Creasy popularized the concept of landscaping with edibles a quarter-century ago, interest in eating healthy, fresh, locally grown foods has swept across the nation. More and more Americans are looking to grow clean, delicious produce at home, saving money and natural resources at the same time. And food plants have been freed from the backyard, gracing the finest landscapes—even the White House grounds! Creasy's expertise on edibles and how to incorporate them in beautifully designed outdoor environments was first showcased in the original edition of *Edible Landscaping* (Sierra Club Books, 1982), hailed by gardeners everywhere as a groundbreaking classic. Now this highly anticipated new edition presents the latest design and how-to information in a glorious full-color format, featuring more than 300 inspiring photographs. Drawing on the author's decades of research and experience, the book presents everything you need to know to create an inviting home landscape that will yield mouthwatering vegetables, fruits, nuts, and berries. The comprehensive *Encyclopedia of Edibles*; a book in itself; provides horticultural information, culinary uses, sources, and recommended varieties; and appendices cover the basics of planting and maintenance, and of controlling pests and diseases using organic and environmentally friendly practices.

## Book Information

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Counterpoint; 2nd ed. edition (November 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1578051541

ISBN-13: 978-1578051540

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.9 x 11.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (71 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #71,511 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Fruit #37 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Landscape #57 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Garden Design

## Customer Reviews

I think I wore out the 1982 edition of Rosalind Creasy's *Edible Landscaping*, which revolutionized my thinking about garden design: Rhubarb as an accent in perennial beds? Tulips poking up

through lettuce? Strawberries edging front walks? Why not? No reason, really, except that I had grown up, as most gardeners do, segregating food plants in the working garden and never imagining they had a place in the decorative garden, much less that the decorative garden could be edible. While the original Edible Landscaping was inspiring; the new version goes all out. It's a gorgeous volume packed with lush photos that'll have your mouth watering and your fingers itching to re-design your entire garden. Whether you have space for a just few pots of edibles or you can rip out your lawn and plant an entire yard full of delicious and beautiful vegetables, fruits and herbs, Creasy's book shows the way. After telling the story of how she ripped out her sterile front lawn and replaced it with a glorious and ever-changing landscape of edibles, Creasy guides readers through a short course in landscaping, followed by a complete encyclopedia of edible plants, from almonds to yams. Separate chapters detail how to design with herbs, vegetables, and fruits, berries, and nuts. There's even a chapter on designing for small spaces, as well as appendices covering container gardens, planting and maintenance, and strategies for dealing with pests and diseases. The book is chock-full of examples of edible landscapes on both coasts and in the Midwest, plus an abundance of color photos, providing a feast of visual information as well.

I love . I say this without reservation. I buy all kinds of things here, including many books, but occasionally I run into a situation when I wish I'd seen the book in person at a bookstore before pulling out my credit card...because I might not have decided to shell out 25 bucks in that case. An example of a book I wish I'd seen in person is Rosalind Creasy's Edible Landscaping. It has some beautiful pictures both from Rosalind's garden and from the gardens of others, but not as many as I had hoped for. Overall, however, they are the highlight of the book. Unfortunately, since there are proportionately fewer pictures than I hoped for, there is also proportionately more text, and the text is not as helpful as it could be. (I find that the text is frequently the weak point of gardening books in general, and perhaps of garden design books in particular.) In the case of Edible Landscaping we have the following observations as samples (and I did not have to read closely to pick these out): "Climate has a huge effect on your landscape." "Paved paths are a necessity if you want to keep your feet clean and dry as you move from one part of the yard to another." "A retaining wall holds back the soil on a hillside or slope." "Certain plants or interesting structures and decorative gates or pottery are intended to stand out in the landscape..." "Form (shape) is the most obvious characteristic of plants." "Texture describes the coarseness or fineness of a plant..." The text is very environmentally conscious, which I certainly don't object to.

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