

Recommended Conservation Reads for All (updated January 2026)

Brinkley, Douglas. *Silent Spring Revolution: John F. Kennedy, Rachel Carson, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, and The Great Environmental Awakening* (2022).

Broberg, Gunnar. *The Man Who Organized Nature: The Life of Linnaeus* (2023).

Carr, Ethan. *Boston's Franklin Park: Olmsted, Recreation and the Modern City* (2023).

Egan, Dan. *The Death and Life of the Great Lakes* (2017).

Gelles, David. *Dirtbag Billionaire: How Yvon Chouinard Built Patagonia, Made a Fortune, and Gave It All Away.* (2025)

Greeley, Will McLean. *A Connecticut Yankee Goes to Washington: Senator George P. McLean, "Birdman of the Senate"* (2024).

Hayhoe, Katharine. *Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing a Divided World* (2022).

Johnson, Ayana Elizabeth. *What If We Get It Right?* (2024).

Kimmerer, Robin Wall. *Braiding Sweetgrass* (2013).
The Serviceberry (2024).

Laing, Olivia. *The Garden Against Time: In Search of a Common Paradise* (2024).

Marlantes, Karl. *Deep River.* (fiction with graphic depiction of timber and fishing industries in the NW, rise of Wobblies) (2019).

Martin, Laura J., *Wild by Design: The Rise of Ecological Restoration* (2022).

Proulx, Annie. *Fen, Bog & Swamp: A Short History of Peatland Destruction and Its Role in the Climate Crisis* (2022).

Renkel, Margaret. *Late Migrations: A Natural History of Love and Loss* (2019).
The Comfort of Crows: A Backyard Year (2023).

Roberts, Edith A. et al. *American Plants for American Gardens* (1996).

Rutkow, Eric. *American Canopy: Trees, Forests, and the Making of a Nation* (2012).

Sachse, Nancy Davis. *Born Among the Hills: The Sleeping Giant Story* (1997).

Schlossberg, Tatiana. *Inconspicuous Consumption: The Environmental Impact You Don't Know You Have* (2019).

Sevigney, Melissa L. *Brave the Wild River: The Untold Story of Two Women Who Mapped the Botany of the Grand Canyon* (2023).

Stuart-Smith, Sue. *The Well-Gardened Mind: The Restorative Power of Nature* (2020).

Tallamy, Douglas W. *Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard* (2019).

Tan, Amy. *The Backyard Bird Chronicles* (2024).

Tidwell, Mike. *The Lost Trees of Willow Avenue: A Story of Climate and Hope on American Streets* (2025).

Vaillant, John. *Fire Weather: On the Front Lines of a Burning World* (2024).

Wilson, Edward O. *The Diversity of Life* (1992); and others.

Wulf, Andrea. *Founding Gardeners: The Revolutionary Generation, Nature, and The Shaping of the American Nation* (2011).

Additional recommendations are available on the GCA website.