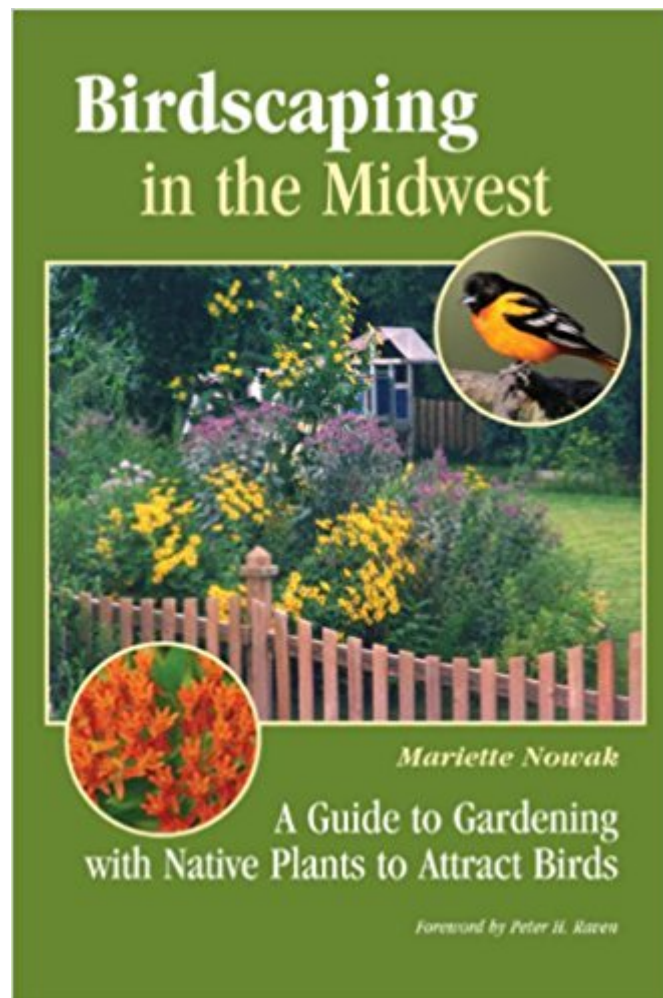




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# Birdscaping In The Midwest: A Guide To Gardening With Native Plants To Attract Birds



## Synopsis

Go beyond bird feeders! Learn how to create outstanding bird habitats in your own yard with native plants that offer food, cover, and nesting sites for birds. This guide is packed with color photographs, sage advice, detailed instructions, and garden plans. It features nine different habitat gardens for hummingbirds, bluebirds, wintering birds, migrant birds, and birds that frequent prairies, wetlands, lakes, shrublands, and woodlands, along with advice about maintaining your plantings and augmenting them with nest boxes, birdbaths, misters, and perches. The information on recommended plant species includes their native ranges in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin; the birds they attract; their visual characteristics; and their cultivation. Mariette Nowak also describes how gardeners featured in this book have gone beyond their own garden gates to work for the protection and restoration of bird habitat in their neighborhoods and communities. Birdscaping in the Midwest provides many sources of further information, including publications, websites, organizations, and native plant nurseries.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“One of the most important things bird lovers can do is create bird habitats in their own backyards.”  
—David Allen Sibley, author of *The Sibley Guide to Birds*  
“This excellent guide to bird gardening in the midwestern states provides abundant detail about how to improve the quality of backyard habitats through examples and practical plans. Mariette Nowak demonstrates that even small steps can improve local bird habitats in meaningful

ways. • Stephen Kress, vice president of bird conservation, National Audubon Society  
“As much a guide to reconnecting people with the natural world as it is to providing habitat for birds. The great detail of information on plant/bird relationships will go a long way to benefiting birds and native plant species, as well as a multitude of other wildlife.”  
• Jim Steffen, ecologist, Chicago Botanical Garden

Mariette Nowak is an active leader and volunteer for Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes and Lakeland Audubon Society. She is also a public speaker on landscaping, native plants, and birding. Before her retirement, she was director of the Wehr Nature Center, a unit of the Milwaukee County Parks in Wisconsin.

This book has been very helpful in picking natives to attract birds for my yard and an empty lot turning native savanna. LOTS of info and ideas. A wide range of plants covered specified by habitat. The lists with "Value to birds" for various plants was also very helpful.

Doug Tallamy's "Bringing Nature Home" taught us WHY we need to use native plants in our landscapes, Mariette Nowak teaches us the HOW. Great, great book for anyone in the Midwest interested in wildlife and the plants that sustain them. I am buying a few for holiday gifts.

Arrived on time and undamaged. While I have not had the opportunity to read through it fully, I am pleased with the information thus far.

A Beautiful and comprehensive book by Mariette Nowak. She certainly has the knowledge and presents it clearly. Definitely motivates one to get started in providing a space for our winged friends, no matter what your outdoor space consists of.

I gave this book to my husband for Christmas (but secretly for me). We live in a relatively new development with 80 acres of common property including woods, ponds, and meadows (formerly farm fields) which need to be developed into natural habitats. This book is a great reference.

Perfect for avid bird watchers/ gardeners!

This is a great book for Wisconsin birders. It offers lots of info on bird-friendly plants and

landscaping techniques. It would be great for other Midwest states, too. It really packages a lot of info together.

The only thing more I could ask for is more suggestions for the arrangements (with diagrams) of native plant-life and perhaps specific types of plants that specific types of birds tend to enjoy. The photos are beautiful and inspiring, and the information is useful, though it still recommends visiting plant nurseries and wild bird stores to get expert advice. If I could find those experts, I wouldn't have waited forever to get this book in the mail. ;)

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