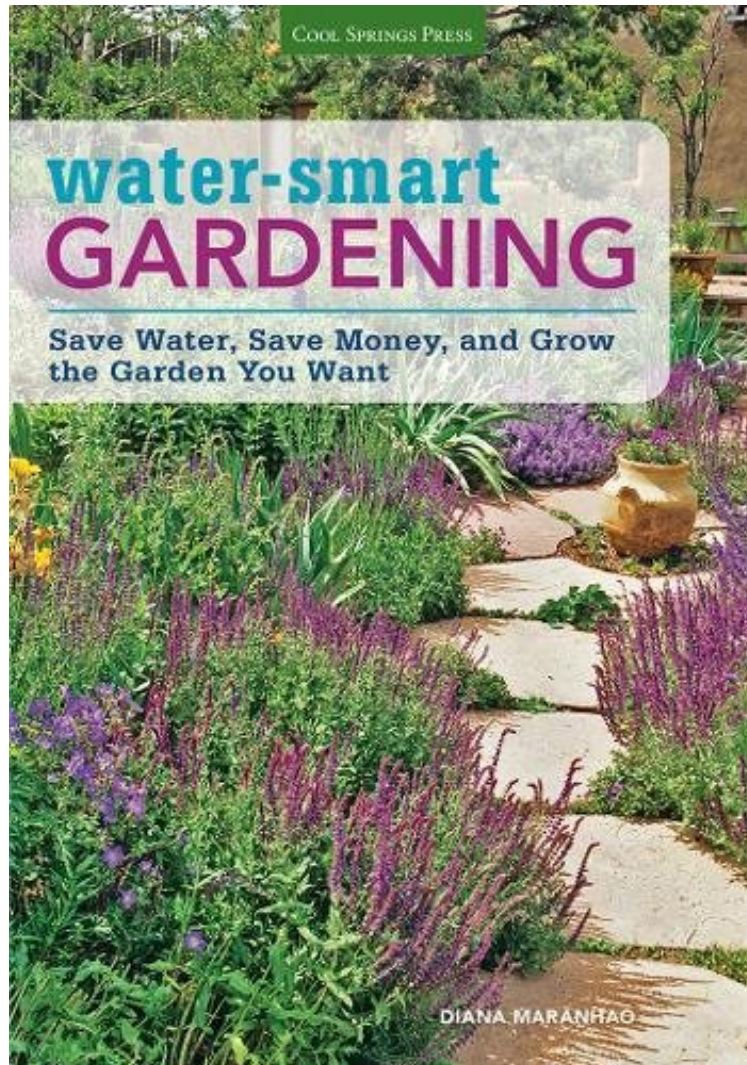


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Water-Smart Gardening: Save Water, Save Money, and Grow the Garden You Want

Diana Maranhao

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Diana Maranhao : Water-Smart Gardening: Save Water, Save Money, and Grow the Garden You Want before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Water-Smart Gardening: Save Water, Save Money, and Grow the Garden You Want:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A must for new home owners!By RonThis book is a must for new home owners. Great for any region. It covers everything. I live in Houston, Texas. We receive about 50 inches of rain per year but can go several weeks with no or very little rain. However, a few years ago East Texas suffered one of the

worst droughts in its history. Some of my well established trees and most plants died no matter how much I watered. My yard? I let the back die. My bills for the summer were reaching \$300 per month! I had designed my yard to drain as much water as possible into the street. I've learned my lesson but what to do??? Watersmart Gardening is full of instruction and real world examples from the authors own property of water conservation including the construction of berms, catch basins and rain barrels. For Houston's torrential rains, the book includes much on proper drainage as well. Many pictures aid the instructions. The book touches on everything from growing seeds to planting to mulching and establishing your gardens. A picture glossary in the back covers grasses, plants and trees. Including a section of edible plants. The pics are colorful. The drawing are well done. I love this book. Very happy with it. I only wish I read it before trying to create a berm with clay soil from my yard which the book suggests not to do. It lasted about 10 minutes in its first storm. I'll consult the expert in the book from now on. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Customer Diana is a great writer, I worked with her at Cuyamaca College. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A Go-To Guide for the Homeowner and Professional. By Brad Monroe This is a great resource for water saving gardening that both inspires and educates. Water-Smart Gardening reads as easy as a novel, but informs like a textbook. I liked that the book covers all the important points, from design inspiration through irrigation systems, water harvesting, hardscape installation, and planting. It provides both clarification and new ideas that would be good for both the novice homeowner as well as the professional. I would consider it a go-to title for the homeowner to give a better understanding of how to plan for and to create healthy, water-saving landscapes, from the planning stage or by incorporating practices into existing landscapes. It has included a substantial list of drought tolerant plants arranged by type from annuals to trees and edibles. Fortunately the plant list featured those plants that are suitable in a wide range of climate locations because other related books I have read seem to focus on just one climate region. The author has hit all the points to arrive at an attractive, functioning drought tolerant landscape. As a former horticultural professor, I could see landscape contractors and designers using this with their clients as a resource and idea book for initial design or in a retrofit process.

You can have a colorful, striking garden that's drought resistant too! Water-Smart Gardening gives you all the tools needed to create a water-smart landscape and garden. Drought is spreading throughout the country. Even areas that previously had plentiful supplies are feeling the strain, and the price of water is climbing. If you have to water your garden during non-drought years, many of the water-saving techniques from this book could still pay for themselves in no time. Choose water-smart plants that survive and even thrive in low-water situations. Tap into the power of evolution and use plants native to your area. Time your irrigation and install water-collection devices such as cisterns and rain barrels. Creating a water-efficient garden can even be as simple as designing your landscape to harvest as much rainfall as possible, using berms, terraces, and raised beds. Gorgeous photos throughout Water-Smart Gardening will inspire you with beautiful garden ideas and help you see your way to a garden that sips water instead of gulping it. Helpful how-to information gets to the nuts and bolts of everything from installing a cistern to using seep irrigation. Author Diana (Dee) Maranhao brings over 30 years of experience to help you create the garden of your dreams and save water at the same time.

About the Author Diana (Dee) Maranhao has been an active member of the horticulture and landscape industry for more than 35 years. She holds a degree in Ornamental Horticulture, and is a credentialed teacher in California, specializing in Ornamental Horticulture. Diana has spent much of her career in higher education, serving as a Horticulture Program Manager, Nursery Production Specialist, and educator specializing in Xeriscape-Low Water Use Landscaping, Nursery Production, and Plant Propagation. Diana has also been a horticulture editor and project editor for numerous educational texts, magazines, garden guides, and horticulture books. She has been a regularly featured garden columnist for more than ten years, authoring hundreds of gardening and horticulture articles for the public and the horticulture industry. Diana is also the author of Rocky Mountain Fruit and Vegetable Gardening (Cool Springs Press, 2014). She received the "2014 Professional of the Year" Award from Southwest Trees Turf Magazine at Desert Green XVIII Conference in Las Vegas.