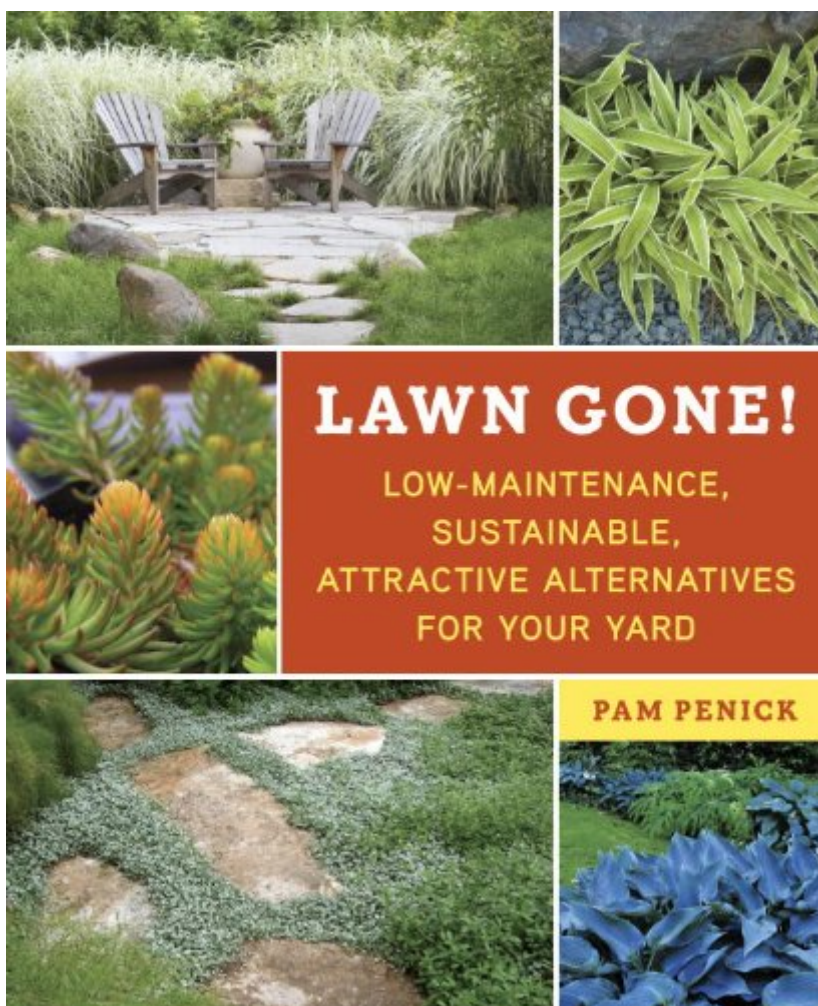


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# Lawn Gone!: Low-Maintenance, Sustainable, Attractive Alternatives For Your Yard



## Synopsis

A colorful guide covering the basics of replacing a traditional lawn with a wide variety of easy-care, no-mow, drought-tolerant, money-saving options that will appeal to today's busy, eco-conscious homeowner. Americans pour 300 million gallons of gas and 1 billion hours every year into mowing their lawns, not to mention 70 million pounds of pesticides and \$40 billion for lawn upkeep. No wonder the anti-lawn movement is thriving, as today's eco-conscious consumers realize that their traditional lawns are water-hogging, chemical-ridden, maintenance-intensive burdens. *Lawn Gone!*, from award-winning gardening blogger Pam Penick, is the first basic introduction to low-water, easy-care lawn alternatives for beginning gardeners, written in a friendly style with an approachable package. It covers all the available time-saving options: alternative grasses, ground cover plants, artificial turf, hardscaping, mulch, and more. In addition, it includes step-by-step lawn-removal methods, strategies for dealing with neighbors and homeowner associations, and how to minimize your lawn if you're not ready to go all the way.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I live in California and is currently having a sever drought. Like everyone else, I am planing to remove all the lawn and replace with water wise plants. I am not a very creative person when it comes to designing layout. I therefore bought this book hoping it would give me ideas on layouts of a water wise garden. The book is pretty much a gardening 101 book which touches on all aspects of building a garden with heavy coverage on types of plants to use for low maintenance purpose. However, I was looking for layout idea and this book only touch on that subject lightly and really did not provide a whole lot of idea other than a few pictures or suggestions.

Lawn Gone provides a wealth of practical advice for reducing and/or eliminating a lawn and all the maintenance issues it requires. The authors provide clear, concise information that, according to 2 landscaping specialists I've talked with, is completely accurate. Penick also includes enough photos to enhance and illustrate the information while at the same time not turning this into just another picture book. What I particularly love about this book is that instead of dispensing unrealistic advice and showing the reader perfect yards obviously maintained by professionals, Penick provides information that anyone can put to use. Great resource!!

With the wild weather patterns, it's no longer sane to have a giant lawn. For years of feeling like we have been throwing dollar bills onto the lawn and yet the expense of taking up the lawn and replanting seemed just as financially challenging. With the help of Lawn Gone! and a skilled landscape architect, we were able to bite off the task in manageable pieces and will eventually have a whole new landscape that is sustainable, incredibly more environmentally friendly and very, very manageable. If you are even considering taking up your money-sucking lawn, this is a great place to start, you will find many ideas and how-to's and other help to make the process and project very doable!

I really like Pam Penick's landscape and outdoor lifestyle plans. I've found her on FB and blogging and she's the real deal ... practicing and living what she's written about. if I had the \$\$\$\$\$ I'd hire her in an instant to come over and help revitalize this crazy north Texas yard into outdoor living rooms that need much less water, pruning and tweaking, as well as maintenance.

I'm putting in a yard at our new house and I am not using grass at all. Okay, ornamental grass here and there, but no turf. I'll have a small drip irrigation system to keep things green during our hot

Texas summers, but no sprays--and I make my living repairing sprinkler systems. I believe we are headed toward a water crisis and I want to be a part of the solution. I'm going to catch all the water I can, too. Excellent book if you're wanting to say "good-bye" to your turf lawn.

Some good ideas but limited in selection of plants. Many of the lawn replacements are actually low to medium height plants that will make a bed of the lawn. For instance, no mention is made of clover and the new Miniclover developed by Outsidepride. It grows to only 2-4", doesn't need to be mown and clover adds nutrients like nitrogen to the soil rather than removing it.

My goal in life is to eliminate as much grass and work as possible from my life. LOW MAINTENANCE is the key. This book did it for me. It's a great resource if you are considering this type of gardening or lifestyle. I highly recommend it.

Review "Lawn Gone" by Pam Penick "Lawn Gone" is a manual for changing from the standard, water hungry, time demanding, flat green landscape to a wide variety of useful areas and/or decorative garden plots. Throughout the book are thousands of suggestions for what to replace your blue grass lawn with, and how to do it. The pictures are beautiful and make me want to tear out my lawn and replace it with those images. The author strongly urges anyone wanting to make these changes to sit down and lay out detailed plans before starting. There are excellent suggestions as to plant choices, providing you check with your local experts before planting things that won't grow in your area, or that will grossly overgrow in your area. There are excellent suggestions as to a multitude of useful areas from edibles to childrens' play areas to peaceful areas for relaxation or meditation, to just comfortable, grass free, private sitting areas. There are plentiful warnings as to Home Owner's Associations, City Ordinances, thug plants, and precautions to check local conditions and plantings before putting a Zone 9 plant in Zone 4. In fact there is a special chapter devoted to HOA's and city ordinances. The author mentions the cost of such changes several times, but the home owner is wise to price check his plans before embarking on an expensive project. There are many suggestions for yards that have become shaded by tree growth. This is a much needed discussion, well handled. The author lives in Texas, and the book is a little slanted toward the Central Texas and the SW, although she has made suggestions for Wisconsin and the Northwest. It is a little light on suggestions for the Midlanders and prairie folk, although many of the suggestions would work there as well. This is a useful guide to upgrading your landscape with thousands of suggestions. The book is motivating, as well as well organized for application. The book is well

written and a good read.

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