

## **Recommended Readings (and a few other resources) – updated 2/2/16**

### **Water: A Natural History** by Alice Outwater

This book takes you on the journey of water beginning 500 years ago in the king's court of medieval Europe. She lays out a compelling read of how the land and its inhabitants clean the water systems and the impact modern technology and culture.

### **Watersheds: A Practical Handbook for Healthy Water** by Clive Dobson & Gregor Beck

An inexpensive book that gives great illustrations about how watersheds work and the systems that are in place in riparian habitats. Great teaching tool.

### **Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder** by Richard Louv

Today's children are increasingly removed from nature, preferring to spend their time indoors watching television or surfing the internet. Louv links children's alienation from nature to attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, stress, depression and anxiety disorders, and childhood obesity.

### **Developing Ecological Consciousness: Paths To A Sustainable World** by Christopher Uhl

An environmental studies professors' step by step guide to facilitating an ecological consciousness in his students. An invaluable tool to use in exploring our own relationship with our world.

### **A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail** by Bill Bryson

The Appalachian Trail trail stretches from Georgia to Maine and covers some of the most breathtaking terrain in America—majestic mountains, silent forests, sparking lakes. This is a hilarious recount of a novice hiker's experiences on the trail.

### **A Sand County Almanac** by Aldo Leopold

One of the classics. Rated the number 1 book to read by this country's environmentalists. This book describes the beginnings of the conservation movement and offers a language of land ethics that continues to be unimproved.

### **Bottlemania** by Elizabeth Royte

As consumers guzzle high-priced designer water, Royte documents the environmental impact of discarded plastic bottles, the carbon footprint of water shipped long distances and health concerns around the leaching of plastic compounds from bottles.

### **A Sense of Wonder** by Rachel Carson

In these essays, Carson urges parents to take their children to wild places in order to introduce them to the astonishing variety of life that exists all around us: to study birds, listen to the winds, and observe the stars.

### **If the World Were a Village** by David Smith

To make the idea of a world of 6.2 billion people more understandable, Smith suggests that children imagine the population of the world as a village of just 100 people. That's one person representing 62 million people in the real world. Surprising, even shocking statistics follow.

### **Backyard Carolina** by Andy Wood

Andy Wood began reporting his observations on nature as a weekly commentator on a public radio station. Backyard Carolina includes Wood's most memorable commentaries and observations on nature from his own backyard to the larger backyard of various communities in North and South Carolina.

**Animal, Vegetable, Miracle** by Barbara Kingsolver

The author's family embarks on a year long journey to eat only home grown or local foods, and challenges the way we think about our food and how we get it.

**Blue Planet Run** published by Earth Aware Editions

Essays and commentaries about the way humanity is confronting the growing lack of clean water are highlighted by more than 250 full page photographs.

**All the Way to the Ocean** by Joel Harper

Designed for children, this book cautions us with expressive illustrations about the effects of the items we throw away every day. A great resource to teach children about storm drains.

**Second Nature** by Michael Pollan

A how-to on thinking about gardening, following the course of the natural year. The author chronicles his growth as a gardener and environmentalist, and how to cultivate harmony between these sometimes opposing viewpoints.

**Drifters** by Pam Logobardi

Traveling the shores from Hawaii to Italy, oceanic marine debris is captured by full color photographs and sometimes presented as works of art to make a powerful statement about our discarded waste.

**Keeping All the Pieces** by Whit Gibbons

In these essays Gibbons celebrates the beauty of biodiversity and laments the tragedy of "ecovoids," a term he coined to describe missing components of our environment that we wish were still present but can never be replaced.

**When the Rivers Run Dry** by Fred Pearce

Veteran science correspondent Fred Pearce focuses on the dire state of the world's rivers to provide our most complete portrait yet of the growing world water crisis and its ramifications for us all.

**A Thousand-Mile Walk to the Gulf** by John Muir

Taken from his earliest journals, this book records Muir's walk in 1867 from Indiana across Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, Georgia, and Florida to the Gulf Coast.

**Tuesday** by David Wiesner

An opening of the eyes and mind to the limitless possibilities of an ordinary day.

**Snakes of the Southeast** by Whit Gibbons & Mike Dorcas

Fifty-two kinds of snakes can be found in the Southeast, almost half of all species native to North America. The guide will promote a better understanding of the habitat needs of, and environmental challenges to, this fascinating group of animals.

**The Forest Unseen – A Year's Watch in Nature** by David Georgia Haskell

Biologist David Haskell uses a one-square-meter patch of old-growth Tennessee forest as a window onto the entire natural world. Visiting it almost daily for one year to trace nature's path through the seasons, he brings the forest and its inhabitants to vivid life.

**What the Robin Knows: How Birds Reveal the Secrets of the Natural World** by Jon Young

Birds are the sentries—and our key to understanding the world beyond our front door. By tuning in to their vocalizations and behavior, we can acquire much of this wisdom for our own pleasure and benefit.

**Summer World: A Season of Bounty** by Bernd Heinrich

...Exploring the beautifully complex interactions of animals and plants with nature, giving extraordinary depth to the relationships between habitat and the warming of the earth.

**Fairy Houses** by Tracy Kane

...has combined talents with photographer/husband, Barry Kane, to present an enchanting photographic tour of inspiring fairy house creations from events and workshops throughout New England.

**Illumination in the Flatwoods: A Season With The Wild Turkey** by Joe Hutto

Wildlife artist Hutto embarked on an unusual study of wild turkeys: he obtained two dozen eggs, incubated them and imprinted himself on the hatchlings, with unexpected results. For six months Hutto spent nearly every waking moment with the young turkeys...observing their behavior. Also recommend: **Nature: My Life as a Turkey**, a video of the story.

**Bugs of the Underworld: The Natural History of Aquatic Insects** by Ralph & Lisa Cutter (DVD)

Extraordinary underwater footage follows the life cycles of mayflies, stoneflies, caddisflies, & others.

**The Outermost House: A Year of Life On The Great Beach of Cape Cod** by Henry Beston

A chronicle of a solitary year spent on a Cape Cod beach...he sat down to try and capture in words the wonders of the magical landscape he found himself in thrall to: the migrations of seabirds, the rhythms of the tide, the windblown dunes, and the scatter of stars in the changing summer sky.

**Hiking Atlanta's Hidden Forests: Intown and Out** by Jonah McDonald

Atlanta's forests are one of the city's best-kept secrets. In this guide, outdoor leader Jonah McDonald outlines 60 hikes in the metro area, all within 30 miles of Georgia's Capitol dome.

**One Square Inch of Silence: One Man's Quest to Preserve Quiet** by Gordon Hempton & John Grossmann

...alerts us to beauty that we take for granted and sounds an urgent environmental alarm. Natural silence is our nation's fastest-disappearing resource...

**Chattahoochee River User's Guide** by Joe Cook and **Etowah River User's Guide** by Joe Cook

A series of river guides from Georgia River Network, includes color photographs, user-friendly maps that reveal the towns, roads, entry points, bridges, public lands, parks, and other landmarks along the river.

**Pollinators of Native Plants: Attract, Observe and Identify Pollinators and Beneficial Insects with Native Plants** by Heather Holm

Provides the reader with info on how to attract, plant for and identify pollinators with native plants.

**The World of the Salt Marsh: Appreciating and Protecting Tidal Marshes of the Southeastern Atlanta Coast** by Charles Seabrook

A wide-ranging exploration of the southeastern coast—its natural history, its people and their way of life, and the historic and ongoing threats to its ecological survival. Examines the ecological importance of the salt marsh, calling it “a biological factory without equal.”

**Nature Kaleidoscope Coloring Book** by Lee Anne Snozek

This unique collection features thirty of these circularly arranged images, created from multiple views of butterflies, fish, beetles, and other creatures of nature.

**Symphony of the Soil** (DVD)

An intriguing presentation that highlights possibilities of healthy soil creating healthy plants creating healthy humans living on a healthy planet.