

Dreams of Spring
Leasa Sieve, Reference Librarian

March has left with a roar, and I am hopeful that April will be more lamb-like. The following books are for enjoying the outdoors when spring weather decides to arrive. Everything from choosing plants for your yard, learning new techniques for grilling your favorite foods or building a treehouse.

If you need a shot of blooming beauty, you should check out “Blooms & Dreams: Cultivating Wellness, Generosity & a Connection to the Land” by Misha Gillingham (635.0979 Gilling). It chronicles her transition from city life to farm life, but the beautiful photos of flowers on the cover had me dreaming of summer flowers to come.

Alan Branhagen is the director of operations at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and the author of “The Midwest Native Plant Primer: 225 Plants for an Earth-Friendly Garden” (635.9517 Branhag). It includes information and colored pictures for 225 plants that are native to the Midwest. Native plants attract pollinators, support our wildlife and are easy to take care of. “The Complete Book of Ground Covers: 4000 Plants that Reduce Maintenance, Control Erosion, and Beautify the Landscape” by Gary Lewis (635.964 Lewis) is another resource for landscape planning.

Do you plant your garden exactly the same way every year? The corn goes here, the tomatoes go there, in a straight line? Kelly Smith Trimble encourages you to think outside the box this year and mix things up with her book “Creative Vegetable Gardener: 60 Ways to Cultivate Joy, Playfulness and Beauty along with a Bounty of Food” (635 Trimble).

If making the space outside your home more beautiful and useable is one of your goals this spring, take a look at “Take It Outside: A Guide to Designing Beautiful Spaces Just Beyond Your Door” (712.6 Brasier). It takes you step-by-step through making an outdoor space you will enjoy for years to come.

We are always looking for new recipes to use on the grill at our house, so “Flavor X Fire: Recipes and Techniques for Bigger, Bolder BBQ and Grilling” by Derek Wolf (641.76 Wolf) caught my eye. It is full of recipes that look delicious. Maple Whiskey Chicken Lollipops anyone?

“100 Trails, 5000 Ideas: Where to Go, When to Go, What to See, What to Do” by Joseph R Yogerst (796.51 Yogerst) is the latest book in the popular National Geographic 5000 Ideas series. It promises “epic hiking and walking adventures on 100 trails around all 50 states and Canada.” Perfect if you are planning a trip filled with outdoor activities this summer.

Coming Soon: “How to Build a Treehouse” by Christopher Richter. Christopher takes you through all the steps to build an amazing treehouse in your backyard.

The library is located at 17 N. Broadway and is open to the public Monday - Thursday 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m. and Friday - Saturday 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

For more information on library events and hours, visit www.newulmlibrary.org and choose Library Events.

"In the Spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours."
MarkTwain