

TRUFFLE FEST ❁ CHIMNEY ROCK HILLCLIMB

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Mountain Living in Western North Carolina

PURE & SIMPLE

THE HOME & GARDEN ISSUE

Think Big, Live Small

Go inside three innovative dwellings whose owners are living large with less space

Green Values

The challenge of putting a price tag on sustainable real estate

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ECO-FRIENDLY
HOME
GUIDE

28 PAGES
OF GREEN
IDEAS

Interior design by
Talli Allen-Roberts,
Four Corners Home

PLUS: Paved with Good Intentions

Can an expanded U.S. 19 revitalize a region?

Do Your Homework

Three titles offering inspiration for your home and garden

Tree Houses

Bark shingle manufacturing pioneer Chris McCurry and author Nan Chase have created the ultimate guide to incorporating one of nature's resources into contemporary and traditional home designs with ***Bark House Style: Sustainable Designs from Nature***. The sylvan beauty afforded by bark is captured in Todd Bush's featured photography. An attractive complement to McCurry and Chase's informative text, Bush's images of dozens of bark-clad homes, inns, and lodges across North Carolina are one of the book's biggest selling points. Even more important than the aesthetic appeal of bark shingles, however, is their environmental friendliness, a point the authors drive home. Readers will also find a detailed history of bark-shingle housing (a practice which originated in Western North Carolina) and a breakdown of the essential tools and techniques of the building process.

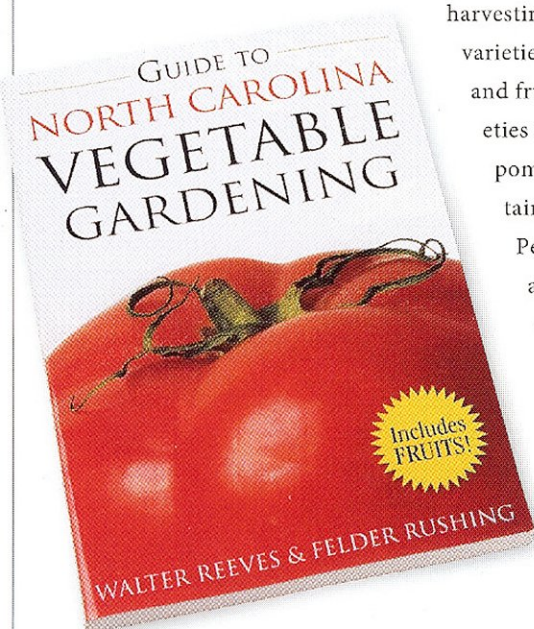
(Gibbs Smith, 2008)



Breaking Ground

Of the multitude of how-to books on gardening, Walter Reeves and Felder Rushing's ***Guide to North Carolina Vegetable Gardening*** stands apart with its careful consideration of growing conditions specific to the Tar Heel state. The authors provide insightful, detailed information on proper planting, growing, and harvesting techniques for dozens of varieties of vegetables, herbs, nuts, and fruits—even a few citrus varieties are included (yes, kiwis and pomegranates can grow in certain areas of North Carolina). Pest elimination is covered, and the frost and precipitation maps are also helpful. With Reeves and Rushing's guide, local green thumbs will be ready to spring when the ground thaws.

(Cool Springs Press, 2007)



Homegrown Design

Environmental artist Carol Stangler applies an eco-conscious mentality to home furnishings with her updated edition of ***The Craft and Art of Bamboo***. The book offers a step-by-step breakdown of 30 creative projects using one of the world's most sustainable building materials. Introductory chapters detail bamboo's many uses, as well as the tools and techniques needed to harvest, store, and prepare the plant. Stangler provides detailed instructions and photos of bamboo fences, railings, screens, doormats, tables, vases, a shower stall, and more. Of particular interest is a section about the history of bamboo at Biltmore Estate—the earliest documented use of the plant in American landscaping. The grass and all its manifestations are covered in this easy-to-read and colorful volume.

(Lark Books, 2008)

