

EARTH-FRIENDLY GARDENING IS A WINNER

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Arizona Master Gardener Press received the prestigious Award of Merit from the Valley Forward Association in the category of Environmental Education/Communication: Media. It was recognized for its recent book entitled *Earth-Friendly Desert Gardening*. Valley Forward Association is a 34-year-old organization that brings together business and civic leaders to promote dialogue on regional issues and to improve environmental and quality of life issues in the Valley. The Association initiated the Environmental Excellence Awards in 1980 to recognize outstanding contributions to the physical environment of Valley communities.

Earth-Friendly Desert Gardening helps gardeners plan, install and maintain their landscape, starting with Site Assessment and progressing through Landscape Design, Plant Selection, Plant Maintenance, and Integrated Pest Management. Six earth-friendly themes are covered throughout the chapters, including: Energy Conservation; Water Conservation; Green Waste Reduction; Water Quality Preservation; Wildlife Habitat; and Edible Landscaping. If interested in one aspect of earth-friendly gardening, such as creating a wildlife habitat, checklists in the Appendix guide gardeners through the possibilities.

The book was co-authored by Cathy Cromell, Jo Miller and Lucy K. Bradley. Cromell is Editor and Bradley Urban Horticulture Agent for the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension in Phoenix. Miller is Water Conservation Specialist for the City of Glendale.

This is the fourth title from Arizona Master Gardener Press. Other books include *Desert Gardening for Beginners*; *Desert Landscaping for Beginners*; and *Success with School Gardens*. These books can be purchased at nurseries, bookstores, and Cooperative Extension. For mail order, or specific sales outlets, check the web page:

<http://cals.arizona.edu/maricopa/garden/html/pubs/mgpress/source.htm>

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