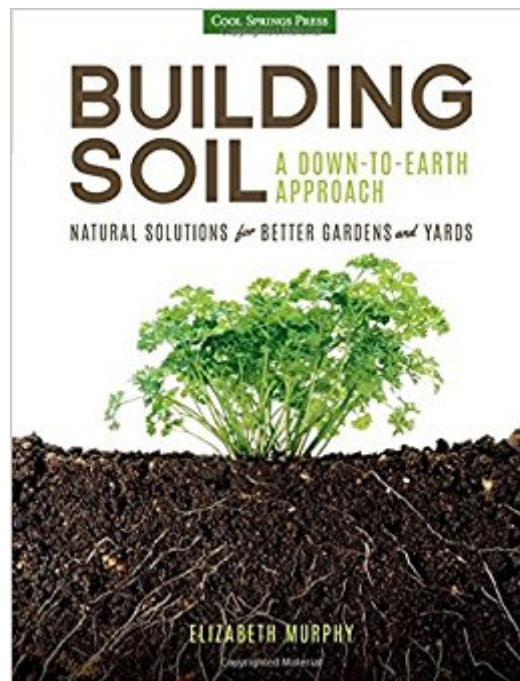




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Building Soil: A Down-to-Earth Approach: Natural Solutions For Better Gardens & Yards



Synopsis

This is your down-to-earth, complete manual for achieving great gardening results with your own rich, organic soil! How do you recognize healthy soil? How much can your existing soil be improved? What are the best amendments to use for your soil? Let *Building Soil* answer your questions and be your guide on gardening from the ground up! Fertilizing, tilling, weed management, and irrigation all affect the quality of your soil. Using author Elizabeth Murphy's detailed instructions, anyone can become a successful soil-based gardener, whether you want to start a garden from scratch or improve an existing garden. If you want methods that won't break your back, are good for the environment, and create high-yielding and beautiful gardens of all shapes and sizes, this is the book for you! Create classic landscape gardens, grow a high-yielding orchard, nurture naturally beautiful lawns, raise your household veggies, or run a profitable farm. A soil-based approach allows you to see not just the plants, but the living system that grows them. Soil-building practices promote more ecologically friendly gardening by reducing fertilizer and pesticide use, sequestering greenhouse gases, and increasing overall garden productivity. *Building Soil* is a simple book full of practical, up-to-date information about building healthy soils. Simple methods perfect for the home gardener's use put healthy, organic soil within everyone's reach. You don't need a degree in soil management to understand this book; you only need a yard or garden and the desire to improve it at the most basic level.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

[View larger](#) All the secrets to rich, sustainable soil are revealed Even experience gardeners can be intimidated by soil. Fear not! With this book as your guide, you can achieve your goal of rich, sustainable soil. Rich with up-to-date information on how to grow and maintain healthy soils, you will not need a degree in soil management to understand this book. The benefits of using this book are what every gardener wants: bigger yields, healthier plants, living soils, less weeding and labor, less water waste and best of all, 100 percent natural.

[View larger](#) It is all about the soil A garden thrives when built from the ground up. Diverse, vertical layers of living plants cover the living soil, which is the foundation and source for whole-garden bounty.

"Murphy has compiled decades of research and real-life experience into a new go-to resource, "Building Soil: A Down-to-Earth Approach", a hands-on guidebook designed specifically for home gardeners. In her first book, Murphy breaks some new ground in making soil building - and understanding - much simpler." - Sacramento Bee"Even for experienced gardeners there is plenty to learn from this handy book" - SEEDS Magazine"In her book, Murphy shows you how to recognize healthy soils, then offers a series of easy steps to help you get your own soil under control. And she covers all the bases: mulching, compost, weeds, fertilizers, organic matter, water, cover crops, you name it." - Garden Design Online"Libraries that don't already own Keith Reid's Improving Your Soil or Elizabeth Stell's Secrets to Great Soil will want to snap up this book for their green-thumb patrons." - LJ Xpress Reviews

Elizabeth Murphy has a passion for growing food that led her to a master's degree in soil science from University of California, Davis, where she researched soil organic matter storage and a farmer's ability to improve it. She has worked as a faculty instructor for Oregon State University Extension's Small Farms Program, where she taught and consulted with gardeners and farmers about best management practices to build healthy soils. Since 2006, she has owned a half-acre garden in southern Oregon, which she considers her laboratory for experimenting with sustainable soil management and gardening practices for landscapes and vegetables. Currently, she lives in Tacoma, Washington.

Ms. Murphy provides a lot of useful information in this book. Highly recommend it for anyone considering working with a garden, or landscaping, or any other reason to have your hands in the

dirt.

Not happy with this book it really is not in details on making soi

For a book about dirt, the photos throughout are beautiful. Nice concise book with everything you ever wanted to know about growing a healthy garden and then some.

This is a totally awesome book that will give you a better understanding of soil as a living thing.

This book is a must to set you on the path to learning and maintaining the living soil system in your back yard. You will find yourself opening a door into what is going on in Nature and cannot get enough information which will create a passion. Just keep on experiencing! Wonderful and well worth every penny spent.....thank you Elizabeth Murphy.

Good book, easy to understand, written for the lay person, and full of good information. If you are gardening and want to create better soil, for better plants, read this book.

Great book! Really helps explain the basics of soil and ways to help improve what you already have.

A brilliant book full of (excuse the pun) down-to-earth, usable advice from a soil scientist. Any level of gardener or even small farmer would find a wealth of great information in this book.

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