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Fixing Climate Change in Your Backyard (and Frontyard)

**Presented by Mike Nowak of “The Mike Nowak Show”
and the late, great *Chicagoland Gardening Magazine***

Author of *Attack of the Killer Asparagus and Other Lessons Not Learned in the Garden*

Podcasts and live streaming at <https://mikenowak.net>

Some Quick Information

www.aroundtheblockpress.com (*Attack of the Killer Asparagus*)

<https://chicagogardeningawards.org> Chicago Excellence in Gardening Awards

<https://extension.illinois.edu/cook> (Cook County Extension)

https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/soil_testing_infosheet.pdf (Soil testing info)

www.ag.uiuc.edu/cespubs/hyg/ (U of I Extension Home, Yard & Garden Pest Newsletter)

<https://mortonarb.org/about-arboretum/plant-health-care-report/> (Morton Arb Plant Health Care Report)

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/vegguide/> (U of I Extension Vegetable Guide)

Climate Change

<https://climate.nasa.gov/> NASA Global Climate Change

<https://climate.nasa.gov/evidence/> How Do We Know Climate Change Is Real? (NASA)

<https://earth.org/climate-change-books/> 25 best climate change books to read in 2023

<https://tinyurl.com/2zocc4yf> You — yes, you! — can help the planet. Start in your backyard.

<https://putnam.cce.cornell.edu/resources/climate-friendly-gardener> The Climate Friendly Gardener

<https://tinyurl.com/yz6r9x82> ‘The anti-livestock people are a pest’: how UN food body played down role of farming in climate change, The Guardian

<https://www.greenamerica.org/climate-victory-gardens> Climate Change Victory Gardens

<https://theconversation.com/explainer-why-phenology-is-key-in-tracking-climate-change-123783>

Phenology and Climate Change

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-solutions/2023/12/02/winter-thermostat-setting-save-energy/>

What to know about heating and cooling your home to save energy

<https://yaleclimateconnections.org/2019/08/how-plastics-contribute-to-climate-change/> How Plastics

Contribute to Climate Change

<https://www.ilcpr.org/> Illinois Coalition for Plastic Reduction

Nature

www.xerces.org (The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation)

<https://xerces.org/blog/leave-leaves-these-invertebrates-depend-on-it> Leave the Leaves! These Invertebrates Depend On It.

<https://www.humanegardener.com/> The Humane Gardener

https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/management_of_invasive_plants_and_pests_of_illinois.pdf

Management of Invasive Plants and Pests of Illinois (Illinois Extension)

Native Plants

<https://www.possibilityplace.com/> Possibility Place Nursery

<https://prairieup.com/> Prairie Up: Unlawning America (Benjamin Vogt)

<https://www.redstemlandscapes.com/> Red Stem Native Landscapes (Monica Buckley)

<https://naturalcommunities.net/> Natural Communities native plants

<https://www.prairiemoon.com/> Prairie Moon Nursery

https://www.nwf.org/NativePlantFinder/?itid=lk_inline_enhanced-template NWF Plant Finder
https://www.audubon.org/native-plants?itid=lk_inline_enhanced-template Audubon Native Plant Database
https://www.chicagobotanic.org/plantinfo/tree_alternatives Chicago Botanic Garden Trees for 2050
<https://mortonarb.org/plant-and-protect/trees-and-plants/> Morton Arboretum Tree and Plant Information

Compost, food waste and more

<https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/reducing-impact-wasted-food-feeding-soil-and-composting> Reducing the Impact of Wasted Food by Feeding the Soil and Composting (EPA)
<https://illinoiscomposts.org/> Illinois Food Scrap Coalition
<https://illinoiscomposts.org/haulers-processors/> IFSC Haulers and Compost Processors
<https://reducewastechicago.org/> Reduce Waste Chicago
<https://www.feedingamerica.org/> Feeding America
<https://ampleharvest.org/> Ample Harvest
<https://ampyourgood.com/> Amp Your Good
<https://tinyurl.com/4xstzjtf> How Central Ohio Got People to Eat Their Leftovers (NY Times)
<https://midwestgrowsgreen.org/> (Midwest Grows Green)
<https://www.beyondpesticides.org/resources/lawns-and-landscapes/overview> Lawns and Landscapes (Beyond Pesticides)

Some Books:

Bringing Nature Home by Douglas W. Tallamy
Nature's Best Hope by Douglas W. Tallamy
The Nature of Oaks by Douglas W. Tallamy
Prairie Up: An Introduction to Natural Garden Design by Benjamin Vogt
The Midwestern Native Garden: Native Alternatives to Nonnative Flowers and Plants, an Illustrated Guide By Charlotte Adelman and Bernard L. Schwartz
Native Trees for North American Landscapes by Guy Sternberg with Jim Wilson
The Tallgrass Prairie: An Introduction by Cindy Crosby
Chasing Dragonflies: A Natural, Cultural, and Personal History by Cindy Crosby
The Organic Lawn Care Manual by Paul Tukey
The Soil Will Save Us by Kristin Ohlson
The Humane Gardener by Nancy Larsen
The Know Maintenance Perennial Garden by Roy Diblik
Month-By-Month Gardening, Illinois, Indiana & Ohio by Beth Botts
The Downsized Veggie Garden: How to Garden Small - Wherever You Live, Whatever Your Space by Kate Copsey
Start a Community Food Garden: The Essential Handbook by LaManda Joy
Fearless Food Gardening in Chicagoland by Teresa Gale and LaManda Joy
The Monarch: Saving Our Most-Loved Butterfly by Kylee Baumlee
Epic Tomatoes: How to Select & Grow the Best Varieties of All Time by Craig LeHoullier
Rodale's Basic Organic Gardening by Deborah L. Martin
Rodale's All New Encyclopedia of Organic Gardening, by F.M. Bradley and Barbara Ellis, Rodale
Teaming with Microbes, A Gardener's Guide to the Soil Food Web by Jeff Lowenfels and Wayne Lewis
The Seasons on Henry's Farm by Terra Brockman
The Well-Tended Perennial Garden: Planting and Pruning Techniques by Tracy DiSabato-Aust
The Vegetable Gardener's Bible, by Edward C. Smith
The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals by Michael Pollan
A Feathered River Across the Sky: The Passenger Pigeon's Flight to Extinction by Joel Greenberg