



Bioregionalism Suggested Reading List

<https://cascadiabioregion.org/reading-list>

Books on Cascadia & Bioregionalism

Aberley, Doug, *Boundaries of Home: Mapping for Local Empowerment*. ed. 1993. Philadelphia. New Society Publishers

Glotfelty, Cheryll and Eve Quesnel, 2015 **The Biosphere and the Bioregion: Essential Writings of Peter Berg** -. Includes essays, poetry, interviews, etc. summarizing Peter Berg's vision of bioregionalism.

Lockyer, Joshua, James R. Veteto. 2013. **Environmental Anthropology Engaging Ecotopia: Bioregionalism, Permaculture, and Ecovillages**. Berghahn Books. Part of series: Environmental Anthropology and Ethnobiology. "Using case studies from around the world, the contributors-scholar-activists and activist-practitioners examine the interrelationships between three prominent environmental social movements: bioregionalism, a worldview and political ecology that grounds environmental action and experience; permaculture, a design science for putting the bioregional vision into action; and ecovillages, the ever-dynamic settings for creating sustainable local cultures."

McGinnis, Michael Vincent 1999. **(PDF) Bioregionalism** - ed. Routledge, London. This book's focus is on the place of bioregional identity within global politics. A watershed, biome, ecosystem—in short, representations of a bioregion—can be restored and

sustained if a society fosters the institutional capacity of communities to participate and cooperate to preserve the commons.

Bailey, Robert. 1996. **Ecosystem Geography**. New York. Springer.

Durning, Alan. 1996. **This Place on Earth: Home and the Practice of Permanence**. Seattle. Sasquatch Books.

Natural Resources Law Center. 1996. **The Watershed Source Book: Watershed-Based Solutions to Natural Resource Problems**. Boulder. University of Colorado: Natural Resources Law Center.

Descriptions of the Ecoregions of the United States. Bailey, Robert. 1995. USDA Forest Service, Washington, D.C. Misc. Pub. 13901

Forman, Richard T. 1995. **Land Mosaics: the Ecology of Landscapes and Regions**. New York. Cambridge University Press.

*Snyder, Gary. 1995. **A Place In Space**. Washington DC. Counterpoint. “....He argues that nature is not separate from humanity, but intrinsic to it, and that since societies are natural constructs, it’s imperative to go beyond racial, ethnic, and religious identities to find a shared concern for acts that benefit humans and nonhumans alike.”

Jackson, Wes. 1994. **Becoming Native to this Place**. University Press of Kentucky. The Blazer Lectures for 1991. (also 1996. Washington DC. Counterpoint). “In six compelling essays, Wes Jackson lays the foundation for a new farming economy grounded in nature’s principles. Exploding the tenets of industrial agriculture, Jackson, a respected advocate for sustainable practices and the founder of The Land Institute, seeks to integrate food production with nature in a way that sustains both.”

Shuster.Hawken, Paul. 1993. **The Ecology of Commerce: A Declaration of Sustainability**. New York. HarperBusiness.

Andruss, V., Plant, C. 1990. **Home! A Bioregional Reader**. Plant, J., and Wright, E., eds. Philadelphia. New Society Publishers.

Joel Garreau, 2014. [Nine Nations of North America, 30 Years Later](#) -, The New York Times, July 3rd 2014. An update on Garreau's original delineation of North America into nine distinct regions, including Ecotopia.

Lynch, Tom. 2012. **The Bioregional Imagination: Literature, Ecology, and Place.** Athens, Georgia. University of Georgia Press. The twenty-four original essays here are written by an outstanding selection of international scholars. The range of bioregions covered is global and includes such diverse places as British Columbia's Meldrum Creek and Italy's Po River Valley, the Arctic and the Outback. There are even forays into cyberspace and outer space. In their comprehensive introduction, the editors map the terrain of the bioregional movement, including its history and potential to inspire and invigorate place-based and environmental literary criticism.

Carr, Mike. 2005. **Bioregionalism and Civil Society: Democratic Challenges to Corporate Globalism.** (Sustainability and the Environment 9). UBC Press. "...explores the bioregional movement in the US, Canada, and Mexico, examining its vision, values, strategies, and tools for building sustainable societies....bioregionalism as a philosophy with values and practices that attempt to meld issues of social and economic justice and sustainability with cultural, ecological, and spiritual concerns."

Barlett, Peggy F. 2005. **Urban Place: Reconnecting with the Natural World** (Urban and Industrial Environments). Cambridge, Massachusetts, MIT Press. "This volume brings together research from anthropology, sociology, public health, psychology, and landscape architecture to highlight how awareness of locale and a meaningful renewal of attachment with the earth are connected to delight in learning about nature as well as to civic action and new forms of community. Community garden coalitions, organic market advocates, and greenspace preservationists resist the power of global forces, enacting visions of a different future."

Lippard, Lucy R. 1997. **The Lure of the Local: Senses of Place in a Multicentered Society.** New York. The New Press. "...one of America's most influential art writers weaves together cultural studies, history, geography, and contemporary art to provide a fascinating exploration of our multiple senses of place. Expanding her reach far beyond the confines of the art world, she discusses community, land use, perceptions of nature, how we produce the landscape, and how the landscape affects our lives. She consistently makes unexpected connections between contemporary art and its political, social, and cultural contexts."

Mander, Jerry and Edward Goldsmith, eds. 1996. **The Case against the Global Economy: And for a Turn to the Local.** San Francisco. Sierra Club Books. "...gathers more than 40 economic, agricultural, and environmental experts to convey a complete picture of how globalization will affect our lives."

Sale, Kirkpatrick. 1985. *Dwellers in the Land: The Bioregional Vision.* San Francisco. Sierra Club Books.

Meyrowitz, Joshua. 1985. **No Sense of Place: The Impact of Electronic Media on Social Behavior.** New York. Oxford University Press.

Sale, Kirkpatrick 1983. **Mother of All: An Introduction to Bioregionalism.** In Hildegarde Hannum, ed. Annual E.F. Schumacher Lectures Book 3. Great Barrington, MA. Schumacher Center for a New Economics. (Available on Kindle from Amazon). "Sale outlines four basic determinants of any organized civilization—scale, economy, politics, and society—and demonstrates how bioregionalism is an appropriate organizational model in each area, with historical validity and a workable vision for the future."

Berg, Peter, ed/ 1978. **Reinhabiting a Separate Country: A Bioregional Anthology of Northern California.** San Francisco. Planet Drum Foundation.

Berry, Wendell. 1977. **The Unsettling of America: Culture and Agriculture.** New York. Avon Books. (also San Francisco. Sierra Club Books). "Since its publication by Sierra Club Books in 1977, *The Unsettling of America* has been recognized as a classic of American letters. In it, Wendell Berry argues that good farming is a cultural development and spiritual discipline. Today's agribusiness, however, takes farming out of its cultural context and away from families. As a result, we as a nation are more estranged from the land—from the intimate knowledge, love, and care of it....Sadly, his arguments and observations are more relevant than ever."

Berry, Wendell. **Another Turn of the Crank.** Washington D.C. Counterpoint Press. "Wendell Berry proposes, and earnestly hopes, that people will learn once more to care for their local communities, and so begin a restoration that might spread over our entire nation and beyond. The renewed development of local economies would help preserve rural diversity despite the burgeoning global economy that threatens to homogenize and compromise communities all over the world."

Snyder, Gary, 1974. ***Turtle Island***. New York. New Directions. "These Pulitzer Prize-winning poems and essays by the author of *No Nature* range from the lucid, lyrical, and mystical to the political. All, however, share a common vision: a rediscovery of North America and the ways by which we might become true natives of the land for the first time."

Cato, Molly Scott. 2013. **The Bioregional Economy: Land, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness**. New York. Routledge. "The global economy is driven by growth, and the consumption ethic that matches this is one of expansion in range and quantity. Goods are defined as scarce, and access to them is a process based on competition. The bioregional approach challenges every aspect of that value system. It seeks a new ethic of consumption that prioritises locality, accountability and conviviality in the place of expansion and profit; it proposes a shift in the focus of the economy away from profits and towards provisioning; and it assumes a radical reorientation of work from employment towards livelihood."

Evanoff, Richard. 2011. **Bioregionalism and Global Ethics. Studies in Philosophy Series**. New York. Routledge. Evanoff argues that the current goal for globalization is not only unattainable but also undesirable because it ultimately undermines the ability of the environment to sustain both human and non-human flourishing, exacerbates rather than overcomes social inequalities both within and between cultures, and fails to achieve genuine human well-being for all but a wealthy minority. An alternative bioregional global ethic is proposed which seeks to maximize ecological sustainability, social justice, and human well-being through the creation of economically self-sufficient and politically decentralized communities delinked from the global market but confederated at appropriate levels to address problems that transcend cultural borders.

Kirkpatrick Sale, 2000. [Dwellers in the Land: The Bioregional Vision](#) - University of Georgia Press, Athens. This book is an attempt to lay groundwork, suggest basic outlines, encourage thought, and discussion.

LifePlace: A Bioregional Approach to Planning, Education and Stewardship. Thayer, Robert L., Jr. 1999. Berkeley. University of California Press. Provocative meditation on bioregionalism and what it means to live, work, eat, and play in relation to naturally, rather than politically, defined areas. In it, Thayer gives a richly textured portrait of his own home, the Putah-Cache watershed in California's Sacramento Valley, demonstrating how bioregionalism can be practiced in everyday life. Written in a lively anecdotal style and expressing a profound love of place, this book is a guide to the personal rewards and the social benefits of reinhabiting the natural world on a local scale.

Lipschutz, Ronnie D with Judith Mayer. 1996. **Global Civil Society and Global Environmental Governance: The Politics of Nature from Place to Planet**. Albany, New York. State University of New York Press. From the back cover: “What will it take to protect the global environment? In this book, Ronnie D. Lipschutz argues that neither world government nor green economies can do the job. Governmental regulations often are resisted by those whose behavior they are intended to change, and markets - even green ones - look to profits more than to protection. What will be needed, Lipschutz believes, is not global management but political action through community- and place-based organizations and projects. People acting together locally can have a cumulative impact on environmental quality that is significant, long lasting, and widespread.”

Snyder, Gary. 1990 [Bioregional Perspectives](#) - in **The Practice of the Wild, The Place, the Region, and the Commons**. North Point Press, San Francisco. (Begins page 37). From a collection of essays by poet and environmental activist Gary Snyder. Snyder, Gary. 1990. *The Practice of the Wild*. San Francisco. North Point Press. “These essays, first published in 1990, stand as the mature centerpiece of Snyder’s work and thought, and this profound collection is widely accepted as one of the central texts on wilderness and the interaction of nature and culture.”

Naess, Arne. Rothenberg, David, trans. And rev. 1989. *Ecology, Community and Lifestyle: Outline of an Ecosophy*. Cambridge University Press.

Le Guin, Ursula, 1985. **Always Coming Home**. New York. Bantam. “More than five years in the making, it is a novel unlike any other. A rich and complex interweaving of story and fable, poem, artwork, and music, it totally immerses the reader in the culture of the Kesh, a peaceful people of the far future who inhabit a place called the Valley on the Northern Pacific Coast.”

Kemmis, Daniel. 1990. **Community and the Politics of Place**. University of Oklahoma Press. “Daniel Kemmis argues that our loss of capacity for public life (which impedes our ability to resolve crucial issues) parallels our loss of a sense of place. A renewed sense of inhabitation, he maintains —of community rooted in place and of people dwelling in that place in a practiced way—can shape politics into a more cooperative and more humanly satisfying enterprise, producing better people, better communities, and better places.”

Articles on Bioregionalism

(PDF) [Bioregionalism and the North American Bioregional Congress](#) - Bron Taylor, The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature, London & New York: Continuum, 2005. Discusses the development of bioregionalism and the North American Bioregional Congress beginning in 1984.

(PDF) [Bioregionalism: An Ethics of Loyalty to Place](#) - Bron Taylor, Landscape Journal, Vol. 19, Issue 1/2, 2000, University of Wisconsin Press. "This paper assesses the history, types, impacts, perils and prospects of 'countercultural' bioregionalism and its offshoots."

(PDF) [Environmental Pragmatism and Bioregionalism](#) - Kelvin J. Booth, Contemporary Pragmatism, Vol. 9, Issue 1, 2012. Paper arguing the importance of bioregionalist ideas within the realm of environmental pragmatism.

[Bioregionalism: The Need for a Firmer Theoretical Foundation](#) - Don Alexander, University of Waterloo, The Trumpeter, 1996, Athabasca University Press. Discusses the differing methodologies of bioregionalism and the possibilities of criteria for defining them.

(PDF) [The Bioregional Quest for Community](#) - Michael Vincent McGinnis, Landscape Journal, Vol. 19 Issue 1/2, 2000, University of Wisconsin Press. This essay addresses the need to reformulate and reconceptualize bioregionalism.

(PDF) [Mother of All: An Introduction to Bioregionalism](#) - Kirkpatrick Sale, ed. Hildegard Hannum, Third Annual E. F. Schumacher Lectures, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA, October, 1983. Lecture given by Kirkpatrick Sale on bioregionalism in relation to scale, economy, politics, and society.

Bioregional Programs and Resources in the Pacific Northwest

[**Cascadia Illahee - Passport to the Bioregion**](#) -

Department of Bioregion, 2019

[**Curriculum for the Bioregion**](#) - [Collection of resources, activities and essays about Bioregionalism](#) - Jean MacGregor, Senior Scholar and Director, Curriculum for the

Bioregion. Contact MacGJean@Evergreen.edu

[**Bioregional Planning and Community Design:**](#)

University of Idaho, Jaap Vos, Ph.D. Contact

jvos@uidaho.edu

[**Planet Drum Foundation**](#) -

Great list of articles, resources, essays, which are available for educational use: E-mail mail@planetdrum.org or planetdrum@igc.org

Interactive Tools: Mapping Your Watershed

Peter Berg, 1995. [**Discovering Your Life-Place: A First Bioregional Workbook**](#) -

Planet Drum Books, San Francisco Discusses bioregionalism and assists in identifying and defining readers' life-place.

Bailey, R. G. 1994. [**Ecoregions of the United States**](#). USDA Forest Service, Washington, D.C. Misc. Pub. 1391 (Map).

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