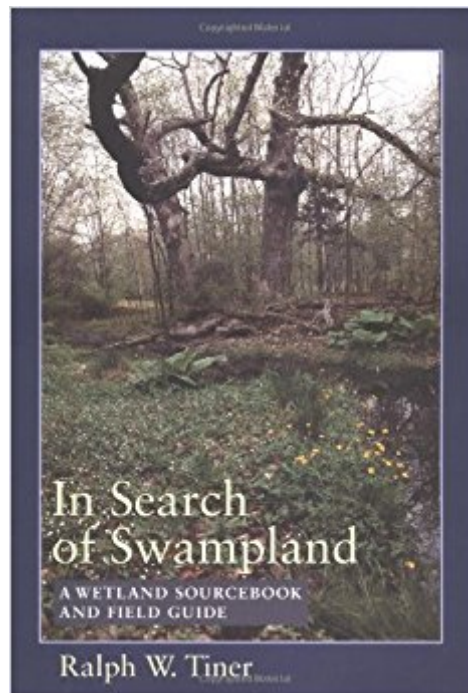




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In Search Of Swampland: A Wetland Sourcebook And Field Guide



Synopsis

In Search of Swampland introduces readers to the ecology and natural beauty of the wetlands, one of our most important natural resources. It provides an overview of wetland ecology with emphasis on factors important to wetland identification and recognition. Designed for readers with little or no training in wetland science, this heavily illustrated field guide serves as a valuable resource for the scientist or amateur naturalist. Traditionally, Americans have viewed wetland areas as wastelands, places to be drained and converted for farming or housing. To date, over half of the country's wetlands that existed when the Pilgrims first landed in America have been destroyed. Today these "wastelands" are beginning to be recognized as one of the world's most valuable natural resources. They are the temperate zone equivalent of rain forests, serving vital life-sustaining functions in water-quality renovation, aquatic ecosystem productivity, and biodiversity, as well as providing benefits such as flood-damage protection, shoreline stabilization, and commercial and recreational fisheries. In Search of Swampland provides an overview of wetland ecology, status, and trends, covering wetland characteristics, formation, functions and values, causes of wetland loss and degradation, and wetland protection and can serve as a field guide to wetland plants, soils, animals, and wetland identification and delineation. It includes descriptions and illustrations of more than 300 wetland plants and 200 wetland animals (with clear identification keys), information on how to distinguish typical hydric or "wet" soils from dryland soils, and general procedures for identifying wetlands in the field. While the book focuses on wetlands of the northeastern United States (from Maine through Maryland and west to Ohio and Kentucky), many of the plants and animals described in the book are common throughout much of the eastern U.S. It also includes a list of Northeastern wetlands to visit and suggestions on how we can all help save these vital, threatened areas. Publication of In Search of Swampland was made possible in part by a grant from Sweet Water Trust.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Rutgers University Press (May 1, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0813525063

ISBN-13: 978-0813525068

Product Dimensions: 9.9 x 7 x 0.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #711,205 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #20 in Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Ecosystems > Wetlands #262 in Books > Textbooks > Business & Finance > Real Estate #594 in Books > Textbooks > Science & Mathematics > Biology & Life Sciences > Ecology

Customer Reviews

Tiner, a noted wetlands ecologist, has an evident affection for swamps, marshes, and bogs. In this readable yet comprehensive book, he proves to be an enthusiastic guide to all aspects of the wetland environment. In the first section, he gives a narrative description of wetland formation, function, and value. In addition to in-depth explanations of wetland science, Tiner offers the reader a view of ancillary sciences such as hydrology and archaeology. He concludes here with a chapter on the status of wetlands, reviewing trends in their destruction and protection. In the second half of the book he presents an identification guide with descriptions and line drawings of wetland plants and animals. He also includes a chapter on hydric soils, the swampy and soggy ground underlying all wetlands. Recommended as a good introduction to wetland ecology for academic and larger public libraries. Randy Dykhuis, Michigan Library Consortium, Lansing Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"A terrific blend of wetland science and natural history." -- Frank Golet, Professor of Wetland Ecology, University of Rhode Island
"An invaluable introduction to the liquid assets of eastern North American presented in a most readable and well-illustrated format." -- William A. Nierning, author of Wetlands--National Audubon Society Nature Guide
"Ralph Tiner is one of the most knowledgeable wetland scientists and naturalist in the nation..." -- Robert P. Brooks, Director, Penn State Cooperative Wetlands Center

Tiner wrote the book! I mean it: If you are studying wetlands, this dude literally wrote the book!

This used book is in excellent condition; can't beat the price; great resource material for budding naturalists

Excellent sourcebook Well presented thorough explanation

This Dude is the Man ...great book ..extreamly well written and informative .. wetland expert .. well informed and makes a great read

I have an interest in wetlands science and this book gives an excellent introductory review of the topic. The drawings are excellent; but I wish that there were more color plates of the flora and fauna; this, of course, would have raised the cost of the book. The bibliography at the end of the chapters are helpful if you need more information. The controversial area of hydric soils is also covered very well. Overall a very good first book.

I got this book as a research reference in order to assist me in wetland delineations. It covers hydric soils, wetland hydrology, and wetland vegetation in a clear and comprehensive way. I recommend this board to everyone from the wetland scientist to the interested average Joe.

This book only addresses the swamp land of the Northeast; none of the other swamp systems of the United States.

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