



The Woodland Garden: Planting in Harmony with Nature by Roy Forster and Alex Downie. Raincoast Books, Vancouver, 1999,

This book is in my own collection. It is my go to volume when resourcing information about plants and planting in the “woodland”.

Roy Forster was a master gardener who guided the creation of VanDusen Botanical Garden in Vancouver. Alex Downie was the curator of the Bloedel Conservatory in Queen Elizabeth Park in Vancouver when this book was written.

“This book covers all aspects of woodland gardening – from design, plant selection and initial planting through ongoing maintenance – in easy – to – follow text and drawings. It contains principles that can be applied anywhere in North America that gardener’s garden – from the rainforest to the desert – in almost any size of garden, from public gardens and private estates right down to city lots. “

There are eight chapters starting with designing and building a woodland garden to planting, pruning and maintenance and the author’s favorite plants.

This is a must read if you have a “woodland” setting for your garden.

*Gerald Nemanishen*