

Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions
Fall 2015 Seminar Book Ideas

The Mitchell Center Seminars are opportunities for all of us to become familiar with exciting research being pursued on crucial sustainability issues. The presentations no doubt will make us all eager to learn more. It has been our pleasure to put together a list of titles that represent interesting follow up resources. We looked for books that have received favorable reviews, are highly readable, and could serve as great conversation starters. Some of the books are quite new and others are classics. Perhaps you have already read one of the books? Let us know what you thought. If you have a chance to read one of the books, do let us know. Perhaps you have other books you would recommend? Again, please let us know and we will add them to the list.

A quick note: Some of the listings have the letters “FPBC” after them. These are books from the Audubon Fields Pond Book Club which Joyce Rumery has led since 1998 and which Linda Silka has had the great pleasure of attending. This long-running book club focuses on natural history books that are written for nonspecialists. If you are interested in knowing more about the book club or seeing our extensive list of books we have read together, please contact Joyce at Rumery@maine.edu.

Joyce Rumery and Linda Silka, Seminar Book Recommenders

Presenter	Date	Title of Seminar	Want to Follow Up? Some Interesting Books
Bill Sheehan	Sept. 14	Competing Visions of Sustainability: Scarcity or Abundance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leopold, Aldo. The River of the Mother of God: And Other Essays by Aldo Leopold. 1991. (384p) FPBC • Merchant, Carolyn. Reinventing Eden: the Fate of Nature in Western Culture. 2003. (320p) FPBC • Moore, Kathleen Dean. The Pine Island Paradox: Making Connections in a Disconnected World. 2005. (272p) FPBC • Pearce, Fred. Confessions of an Eco-Sinner: Tracking Down the Sources of My Stuff. 2009. (288 p) • Phillips, Dana. The Truth of Ecology: Nature, Culture, and Literature in America. 2003. (320p) FPBC • Stager, Curt. Deep Future: The Next 100,000 Years of Life on Earth. 2011. (284p) • Ward, Chip. Canaries on the Rim: Living Downwind in the West. 2001. (256p) FPBC¹
Heather Leslie	Sept. 21	Got Fish? Reflections on scientists’ roles in sustaining small-scale marine fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ellis, Richard. The Empty Ocean: Plundering the World’s Marine Life. 2003. (375p) FPBC • Greenberg, Paul. American Catch: The Fight for Our Local Seafood. 2015. • Safina, Carl. Song for the Blue Ocean: Encounters Along the World’s Coasts and Beneath the Seas. 2011.
Darren Ranco	Sept. 28	Adapting before it gets here: Forest Pests, Basketmaking, and Sustainability Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heinrich, Bernd. The Trees in My Forest. 1998. (256p) FPBC • Kimmerer, Robin Wall. Braiding sweetgrass: indigenous wisdom, scientific knowledge and the teachings of plants. 2013. (410p) FPBC

¹ FPBC=Fields Pond Book Club List

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nikiفورuk, Andrew. Empire of the Beetle: How Human Folly and a Tiny Bug Are Killing North America's Great Forests (David Suzuki Foundation Series) 2011. (240p) • Rutkow, Eric. American canopy: trees, forests, and the making of a nation. 2012. (418p) FPBC • Terres, John K. From Laurel Hill to Siler's Bog: The Walking Adventures of a Naturalist. 1969. (232p) FPBC • Vaughn, Bill. Hawthorn: The Tree That Has Nourished, Healed, and Inspired Through the Ages. 2015. (272p). FPBC • Waldbauer, Gilbert. Insights From Insects: What Bad Bugs Can Teach Us. 2005. (311 p) FPBC • Wells, Diana. Lives of the Trees: An Uncommon History. 2010. (369p) FPBC
Jack Schmidt	Oct. 5	River Research, Stream Geomorphology, floods and dams?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anfinson, John O. The River We Have Wrought: a History of the Upper Mississippi. 2003. (365 p) FPBC • Busch, Akiko. Nine Ways to Cross a River: Midstream Reflections on Swimming and Getting There from Here. 2007. (224p) FPBC • Childs, Craig. The Secret Knowledge of Water: Discovering the Essence of the American Desert. 2001. (304p) • Graves, John. Goodbye to a River. 2002. (320p) FPBC • McPhee, John. Encounters with the Archdruid. 1971.
Meredith Niles	Oct. 19	Climate Change & Agriculture: Views from the Farm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hayes, Denis and Gail Boyer Hayes. Cowed: The Hidden Impact of 93 Million Cows on America's Health, Economy, Politics, Culture, and Environment. 2015. 400pp. FPBC • Kline, David. Great Possessions: an Amish Farmer's Journal. 1990. (235p) FPBC • Klinkenborg, Verlyn. The Rural Life. 2002. (224p) FPBC • Teale, Edwin Way. A Naturalist Buys an Old Farm. 1974. (268p) FPBC • Savage, Candace. Prairie: A Natural History. 2006. (320 p) FPBC • McNeill, John Robert. Something New Under the Sun: An Environmental History of the Twentieth-Century World. 2000. (416p) FPBC
UMaine Environmental Stewardship Service-Learning Group	Oct. 26	<i>Where service learning meets sustainability: Connecting classrooms with communities for stewardship and civic engagement</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dewey, J. Democracy and Education. 2004. • hooks, b. Teaching critical thinking: Practical Wisdom. 2009. • Orr, D. W. Earth in Mind: On Education, Environment, and the Human Prospect. 2004. • Venkatesh, S. A. Gang Leader for a Day: A Rogue Sociologist Takes to the Street. 2008. • Zolli, A., & Healy, A. M. Resilience: Why Things Bounce Back. 2012

The Solid Waste Team	Nov. 2	Talking Trash: The Sustainability Challenge Hiding in Plain sight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rogers, Heather. Gone Tomorrow: The Hidden Life of Garbage. 2006. (304 p) FPBC • Nagle, Robin. Picking Up: On the Streets and Behind the Trucks with the Sanitation Workers in New York City. 2013. (280p) • Pellow, David Naguib. Garbage Wars: The Struggle for Environmental Justice in Chicago. 2004. (256p). • Strasser, Susan. Waste and Want: A Social History of Trash. 2000. (368p).
Josh Stoll	Nov. 9	<i>Adaptive Management: So You Say It's a Key to Resilience?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Johnson, Paul. Fish Forever: The Definitive Guide to Understanding, Selecting, and Preparing Healthy, Delicious, and Environmentally Sustainable Seafood. 2007. • Greenberg, Paul. Four Fish: The Future of the Last Wild Food. 2010. (304 p) • Hay, John. The Run. 1959. (164p) FPBC • Woodard, Colin. Ocean's End: Travels Through Endangered Seas. 2001. FPBC
Karen Wilson	Nov. 16	<i>Fish, Dams and Resilience: Dam(ned) tradeoffs between nature and technology</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brierley, Gary J. and Kirstie A. Fryirs (Eds.). River Futures. 2008. • Kurlansky, Mark. Cod. 1997. • McPhee, John. The Founding Fish. 2002. • Waldman, John. Running Silver: Restoring Atlantic Rivers and Their Great River Migrations. 2013. • Watts, Doug. Alewife. 2012.
Bridie McGreavy	Nov. 23	<i>When water quality is the easy problem: An untold story of sustainability and human well-being</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bennett, J. Vibrant Matters: A Political Ecology of Things. 2009. • Kohn, E. How Forests Think: Toward an Anthropology Beyond the Human. 2013. • Venkatesh, S. A. Gang Leader for a Day: A Rogue Sociologist Takes to the Street. 2008. • Zolli, A., & Healy, A. M. Resilience: Why Things Bounce Back. 2012.
Sharon Klein	Nov. 30	<i>Community Solar: Harnessing the Power of the People</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boyle, G. Renewable Energy Power for a Sustainable Future. • Brown, Lester et al. The Great Transition: Shifting from Fossil Fuels to Solar and Wind Energy. 2015. (192) • Everett, B., Boyle, G., Peake, S., & Ramage, J. Energy Systems and Sustainability. 2012. • Shere, Jeremy. Renewable: The World Changing Power of Alternative Energy. 2013. (304) • Freese, Barbara. Coal: A Human History. 2003. (320p) FPBC