

Preface

I wrote this book for all those who want their yards—the small or large plots of land they steward—to be part of the solution to today's environmental challenges.

It can bring despair to know the crisis our ecosystem is in right now. I have found that hope comes through taking action. My desire is that *Eco-yards* brings you encouragement to take action and find hope in working with your own yard.

There are many books that explain the state of environmental crisis we are in and the challenges we face. This book is largely about solutions—actions from small to large—that you can take in your yard. I want to show you that in simple steps you can turn your yard into an eco-friendly sanctuary. In so doing you help restore the local and global ecosystem.

This book is also a call to beauty. We could have urban landscapes that are so much more beautiful and nurturing to our souls—wild, varied, full of songbirds, colour and movement throughout the year.

So let's do it!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janeen Lane". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the text "So let's do it!".

Special note to apartment and condo dwellers: Yes, you have a yard too! Whether it's your balcony, a window box or the grounds of your building, you can probably garden your little patch of soil in a more eco-friendly way. You can also work with the owner or management or the condo board of directors to have your grounds maintained differently or re-landscaped. In the long run this usually saves money on maintenance—a good incentive. Show them this book!