



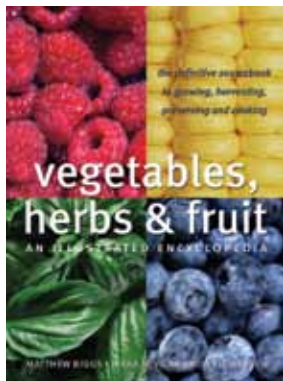
A View of the Bay: Collingwood and Beyond

By John de Visser & Judy Ross

The team of John de Visser and Judy Ross, which has brought us several picture books about Muskoka, now presents the Collingwood area. De Visser's wonderful eye has again captured lovely, informative photographs, this time of Niagara Escarpment properties, community events, beautiful old houses and fascinating interiors. Ross's chapters enrich the photos with charming detail about the region's history and present.

Attention is focused on the ship building heritage, Currie's Market, Creemore Brewery, Thornbury, Blue Mountain and more. After this, every community along the Escarpment is sure to want its own coffee table book.

The Boston Mills Press, 2008, hardcover, \$39.95.



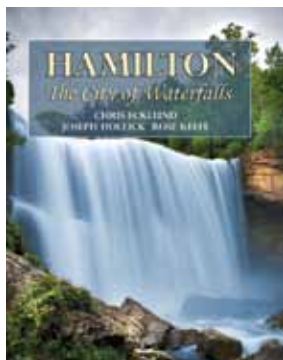
Vegetables, Herbs & Fruit: An Illustrated Encyclopedia

By Matthew Biggs, Jekka McVicar, Bob Flowerdew

Describing itself as "the definitive sourcebook to growing, harvesting, preserving and cooking," this book has the appearance and organization of well-known herb expert Jekka McVicar's earlier *The Complete Book of Herbs*. Each plant is described and shown in a full-colour photograph, with instructions on growing and suggestions on using as food. The book is divided into sections on vegetables, herbs, various categories of fruits, and nuts, with a final section on gardening techniques.

All three authors are English, so everything included here might not be applicable to gardens in southern Ontario, but this is a good, comprehensive and interesting resource.

Firefly Books Ltd., 2008, hardcover, \$29.95.



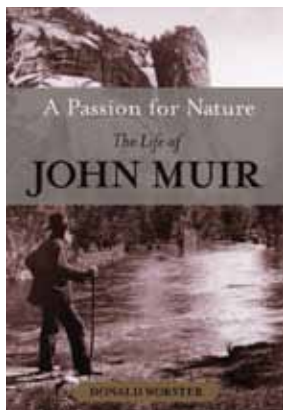
Hamilton: The City of Waterfalls

By Chris Ecklund, Joseph Hollick and Rose Keefe

A movement has begun in the City of Hamilton to change its identity from steel town to the city of waterfalls. Community members like Chris Ecklund want to celebrate and promote the fact that Hamilton has more than 100 of them.

This self-published book contains photos of 116 known waterfalls in alphabetical order, most taken by Joseph Hollick, starting with Albion Falls and ending with Westcliffe Falls. Each waterfall is described by height, width and type. Some have their history provided. Directions on how to get to each falls is given. More waterfalls continue to be discovered, leading to the claim that Hamilton is the waterfall capital of the world.

www.cityofwaterfalls.ca, hardcover, \$35.



A Passion for Nature: The Life of John Muir

By Donald Worster

John Muir, born in Scotland in 1838, was one of 300,000 emigrant Scots who fled poverty and other difficulties in 1848, for North America. Always a lover of natural, open spaces, Muir was fond of wandering and collecting plants. During the Civil War he avoided hostilities by moving from the U.S. to Canada. He explored what was then Canada West, "a ruggedly beautiful landscape of dense forests, lofty limestone ridges, tumbling rapids, and dark, mysterious wetlands... This colony sprawled from Lake Ontario to the Ottawa River – some of it flat and fertile, but much of it bisected by a rocky escarpment that ran northwestward from Niagara Falls to the Bruce Peninsula."

Yet it was the mountains of Yosemite Valley in California that inspired him the most. Muir is credited with helping to create the United States' national parks and wilderness areas, and for founding the Sierra Club, intended to defend conservation achievements in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

Muir was ahead of his time in his awareness of the need to protect wild spaces.

Oxford University Press, 2008, hardcover, \$37.95

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