

## Winter distractions

Sources of inspiration, information and education about gardens, environment, nature, benefits of green, sustainable cities  
There are many online sources for video recordings primarily documentaries, educational videotapes and some movies, the easiest way to find information on a particular subject is to Google the topic and add movie/film or documentary after the subject.

Most links should be clickable, if not copy and paste into your browser.

### Options

<https://topdocumentaryfilms.com> Top documentary films has hundreds of choices, their library is sorted into categories, it easier to find topics you find interesting by searching for a keyword

<https://vimeo.com> has many films and documentaries, high picture quality, can be searched by keyword

<http://www.infocobuild.com/books-and-films/nature.html> <http://www.cultureunplugged.com> a free online film archive to watch films (documentaries, short films, talks & more). There are many fascinating features on this site in a wide range of subjects, some are listed below \*\* not the easiest site to search; search by keyword is simplest

<https://www.youtube.com> YouTube, many videos are very short, sometimes the picture quality is not good, or they have been uploaded in a language other than English; it is worth searching for all manner of garden related information especially how to information. Many university and colleges upload educational material to YouTube.

<https://archive.org/about/> The Internet Archive is a digital library of Internet sites, movies, videos and books, a search for garden movies/videos has 3,238 results, and 11,607 results for books, magazines and periodicals, dated from the 1850s to the present. An account is not required, most printed material is downloadable.

**Amazon Prime**-movies and videos, rental or purchase, yearly membership cost includes free delivery on many Amazon items

**Netflix**-has some garden related offerings, many are available at no cost on other platforms

Source	Description	Website address
<b>TVO</b>	<p><b>To Make a Farm</b> As global food shortages loom and large-scale industrialized farming is promoted as the answer to the crisis. To Make a Farm is the story of a group of young Canadians who disagree. Filmed over the course of a year, To Make a Farm follows the lives of seven young adults who have decided to pursue one of the most difficult and unforgiving professions in the world: farming</p>	<a href="https://tvo.org/video/documentaries">https://tvo.org/video/documentaries</a>
	<p><b>Monty Don's French Gardens</b> Monty tells the stories behind France's important historic gardens. These include elaborate walled gardens designed to please the mistress - and then the wife - of a king, magnificent displays of flowers and fountains that involved thousands of soldiers moving tracts of land and incited violent jealousy in another monarch, and a modern-day chateau garden that came close to bankrupting its owner. Monty sees how throughout history the French have used gardens as a public expression of money, power and passion.</p>	<a href="https://vimeo.com/search?q=Monty+Don%27s+French+Gardens">https://vimeo.com/search?q=Monty+Don%27s+French+Gardens</a> <a href="http://www.infocobuild.com/books-and-films/nature/french-gardens-monty-don.html">http://www.infocobuild.com/books-and-films/nature/french-gardens-monty-don.html</a>
	<p><b>Kew on a Plate</b> The world's most important centre of botanical expertise becomes the home of a new kitchen garden as chef Raymond Blanc and journalist Kate Humble take over Kew Gardens. On the site of Kew's original vast Georgian kitchen garden, they plant fruits and vegetables, cook the produce and explore the stories behind the ingredients -- from the excitement that met the arrival of the first pineapples in Europe to the broad beans that were smuggled from France in a pair of stockings during wartime.</p>	<a href="https://tvo.org/video/documentaries">https://tvo.org/video/documentaries</a>
	<p><b>Call of the Forest: The Forgotten Wisdom of Trees-</b> Forests are one of the world's most significant sources of food, new medicines and oxygen. Scientist and author Diana Beresford-Kroeger explores our profound biological and spiritual connection with trees, and meets people who are taking the lead to replant, restore and protect the last of the planet's great ancient forests.</p>	<a href="https://tvo.org/video/documentaries">https://tvo.org/video/documentaries</a>
Amazon Prime	Greenfingers: Movie based on a true story of a British prison that gave inmates a chance to become gardeners and this changed their life forever. A prison inmate with a green thumb goes on to compete in a national gardening competition. (Chelsea Flower Show) Based on a true story. Helen Mirren, Clive Owen.	
Amazon Prime	Grow Your Own: Movie a refugee family are given an allotment plot to help rehabilitate their traumatized father. At first they are met with suspicion by the men who have worked the gardens for years but eventually they are accepted into a diverse community, united by their love of making things grow.	

Amazon Prime	The Garden: Movie a 2008 American documentary film directed by Scott Hamilton Kennedy. It tells the story of the now demolished South Central Farm; a community garden and urban farm located in Los Angeles, California. The Garden details the plight of the farmers who organized and worked on the farm. The owner of the lot decided he didn't want to allow the farmers to use it anymore, and had the garden shut down, their decade of hard work was about to be bulldozed.	
Amazon Prime	DIRT! The Movie tells the story of Earth's most valuable and underappreciated source of fertility — from its miraculous beginning to its tragic degradation. This insightful and timely film tells the story of the glorious and unappreciated material beneath our feet.	
Amazon Prime	Gardening with Soul: a feature length documentary following a year in the garden with 90-year-old Sister Loyola Galvin. Sister Loyola's optimism is infectious and it's fed every day by her love of gardening. Themes of faith, aging and compassion sit alongside the practicalities of community life, issues within the Catholic Church and the importance of good compost in this intimate, funny and moving portrait of a woman approaching the end of her life.	
I Tunes	Portrait of a garden: Movie –Netherlands; A search for meaning, companionship and the perfect ingredients... In a picturesque garden on a grand country estate, two gardeners, long-time friends, tend to the espaliers. Surrounded by vegetable patches, citrus trees, the orchard and lush grapevines, they talk about food, the weather, their craft (which is quickly disappearing) and the changing world around them. For fifteen years, they've been working on the pear arbor. But will it finally come together this year? And what about the harvest, will it be ready for the end-of-season banquet? A wondrous gift for anyone interested in nature, food or the organic world,	
	Back to Eden: Movie; Film shares the story Paul Gautschi and his lifelong journey, walking with God and learning how to get back to the simple, productive organic gardening methods of sustainable provision that were given to man in the garden of Eden. The food growing system that has resulted from Paul Gautschi's incredible experiences has garnered the interest of visitors from around the world.	<a href="https://vimeo.com/28055108">https://vimeo.com/28055108</a>
Amazon Prime	My Father's Garden: Movie; an engrossing documentary about the use and misuse of technology on the American farm. The main story concerns Fred Kirschenmann, organic farmer and leader in the sustainable agriculture movement. Fred's message is deeply serious. We are rapidly losing the natural resources and human wisdom that are necessary to grow food...but there is a	

	<p>way out of this dilemma. Intertwined with Fred's story is the personal narrative of the filmmaker, told through the use of home movies from the 1950's. Her father was a successful and innovative farmer at the dawn of the chemical era in agriculture. His use of the new miracle sprays enabled him to utterly transform their Florida farm into a man-made paradise. My Father's Garden is at its essence a story of hope. By examining the central philosophies that guide our relationship with nature, the film shows how each of us can bring health and beauty back into the Garden, our planet.</p>	
	<p>Plants for a Future: Documentary; A garden you can eat, a garden you can wear, a garden you can use as your medicines, a garden you can use as fuel and to build your houses... a garden full of purposes, and a garden you can enjoy as well - that you can sit in - and a garden that doesn't take up all your time. You can actually, for a few hours of work each week, produce the things that you need. Ten years as a London bus driver drove Ken Fern to look for an alternative way of life. After a period of grudgingly hard work growing annual crops on a small plot in Sari, he decided to investigate new ways of rearing plants which were not quite so labor intensive. Inspired by Robert Hart's ideas and the will to make their dreams a reality, Ken and his wife Addy finally settled on a 28 acre field in Cornwall, which is exposed to the full force of southwest winds blowing in from the Atlantic.</p>	<p><a href="https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/plants-for-a-future/">https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/plants-for-a-future/</a></p>
	<p>The Botany of Desire: Documentary; Michael Pollan, a professor of journalism and a student of food, presents the history of four plants, each of which found a way to make itself essential to humans, thus ensuring widespread propagation. Apples, for sweetness; tulips, for beauty; marijuana, for pleasure; and, potatoes, for sustenance. Each has a story of discovery and adaptation; each has a symbiotic relationship with human civilization. The film tells these stories and examines these relationships.</p>	<p><a href="https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/botany-desire/">https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/botany-desire/</a></p>
	<p>The Nature of Cities: Documentary; How can we make better cities than ever, better workplaces, better schools... how can we immerse ourselves in nature everyday instead of thinking we have to get in SUV and drive 50 miles? There is no doubt that we need nature. It's absolutely essential to daily life. We can find it in the cities where we live, it's all around us if we look, but there are also many innovative ways in which nature can be designed into urban environments.</p>	<p><a href="https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/nature-cities/">https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/nature-cities/</a></p>
	<p>Small Farm Rising: Documentary; follows a group of first-generation farmers from three unique farms as they carry plants, land, and animals through an entire growing season. These modern small farms have robust business models, sustainable practices and deep connections to the communities they serve: a goat</p>	<p><a href="https://vimeopro.com/bens-techsulte/small-farm-rising/video/81276996">https://vimeopro.com/bens-techsulte/small-farm-rising/video/81276996</a></p>

	<p>farm that produces award-winning cheeses; a horse-powered CSA (community supported agriculture) farm which provides 100 members with a full diet year round; and a vegetable farm run by two young entrepreneurs. Filmed in the Champlain Valley and Adirondack Mountains of New York State, Small Farm Rising explores the reinvention of small-scale agriculture in America, and the hard work and beauty found within that tradition.</p>	
	<p>Various gardening videos, information about each video with links to YouTube</p> <p><u>Bill's Big Pumpkins</u></p> <p><u>Ruth Stout's Garden-the mulch queen</u></p> <p><u>No Dig with Charles Dowding at Homeacres-no dig gardens</u></p> <p><u>A Simpler Way: Crisis as Opportunity-</u> feature-length documentary that follows a community in Australia who came together to explore and demonstrate a simpler way to live in response to global crises</p> <p><u>Thriving 23-Year-Old Permaculture Food Forest-</u> New Zealand's South Island</p> <p><u>Seeds of Permaculture</u> – Tropical Permaculture</p> <p><u>Locally Abundant'</u> – Sustainable Food Documentary</p> <p><u>Making a Heirloom Organic Vegetable Garden Start To Finish</u></p> <p><u>Urban Farming: Making \$75,000 on 1/3 Acre in a Residential Neighborhood-</u> Kelowna, British Columbia; Curtis Stone is an urban farmer who makes his entire living farming on converted lawns.</p> <p><u>Hidcote: A Garden for All Seasons;</u> This documentary is all about Hidcote — the most influential English garden of the 20th century</p> <p><u>Beautiful Japanese Gardens;</u> The expert guest in this film is Takahiro Naka, a professor of garden history who is actively involved in garden design and restoration projects around the country.</p> <p><u>Dream Window: Reflections on the Japanese Garden;</u> Dream Window reveals the secrets of both classical and contemporary Japanese gardens,</p> <p><u>Satoyama Japan   The Secret Watergarden;</u> Satoyama is a Japanese term applied to the border zone or area between mountain foothills and arable flat land.</p> <p><u>License to Farm;</u> A documentary exploring the role of science, sustainability and food safety in modern agriculture, encouraging farmers to stand up for their right to farm.</p> <p><u>How Plants Communicate &amp; Think;</u> A BBC documentary about how plants communicate and think</p>	<p><a href="https://www.epicgardening.com/20-inspiring-gardening-documentaries/">https://www.epicgardening.com/20-inspiring-gardening-documentaries/</a></p>
	<p><u>How to Be a Gardener</u> is a BBC documentary series presented by gardener Alan Titchmarsh, providing a complete online guide gardening for beginners. Let's face it, gardening can be pretty daunting. All those Latin names, the bugs and blights</p>	<p><a href="http://www.infocobuild.com/books-and-films/nature/how-to-be-a-">http://www.infocobuild.com/books-and-films/nature/how-to-be-a-</a></p>

	that can attack your plants just when they are looking their prettiest. How does anyone manage to grow anything? The series consists of eight 30-minute long episodes that cover everything you need to know to give you a great start in gardening	<a href="http://gardener-bbc.html">gardener-bbc.html</a>
	<u>Nature and Environment</u> -Listing of 186 documentaries and films This site also includes collections of selected videos links to websites offering education videos, open films, documentaries, science videos, and live news streaming service. Here you can find many things: classic full-length films and the latest original short films, videos made to spread ideas, free video lectures, interviews with scientists, documentaries about social issues, arts and environment, live news streaming service to tell what's happening around the world.	<a href="http://www.infocobuild.com/books-and-films/nature.html">http://www.infocobuild.com/books-and-films/nature.html</a>
PBS	<u>Kentucky's Secret Gardens Special</u> - Rustic garden rooms, colorful planters, elaborate ponds, Japanese-inspired archways, whimsical beds of wildflowers – all are highlighted as part of Kentucky's Secret Gardens special that takes viewers behind fences and gates to enjoy some of the most beautiful private gardens in the state.	<a href="https://video.wosu.org/video/kentuckys-secret-gardens-fdaxga/">https://video.wosu.org/video/kentuckys-secret-gardens-fdaxga/</a>
PBS	<u>Gardens of Western Pennsylvania</u> - Discover some of the impressive public gardens in Western Pennsylvania	<a href="https://www.wqed.org/tv/watch/specials/gardens-western-pennsylvania?page=4">https://www.wqed.org/tv/watch/specials/gardens-western-pennsylvania?page=4</a>
PBS	In the Garden with Bryce Lane is an Emmy® award-winning half-hour home horticulture show offering practical tips on how to grow plants and home landscaping techniques. The host, horticulture instructor Bryce Lane, focuses on how to make the home landscape look great without spending a lot of time or money on it.	<a href="https://www.pbs.org/show/garden/">https://www.pbs.org/show/garden/</a>
**	Garden Story: episodes 1-10 Episode 1 - The Garden as Muse <a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/6737/Garden-Story--Episode-1---The-Garden-as-Muse">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/6737/Garden-Story--Episode-1---The-Garden-as-Muse</a> Episode 2 - The Garden as Environmental Stewardship <a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7093/Garden-Story--Episode-2---The-Garden-as-Environmental-Stewardship">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7093/Garden-Story--Episode-2---The-Garden-as-Environmental-Stewardship</a> Episode 3 - The Garden as Exploration in Creativity <a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7094/Garden-Story--Episode-3---The-Garden-as-Exploration-in-Creativity">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7094/Garden-Story--Episode-3---The-Garden-as-Exploration-in-Creativity</a> Episode 4 - The Garden as Classroom	<a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com">http://www.cultureunplugged.com</a>

	<p><a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7095/Garden-Story--Episode-4---The-Garden-as-Classroom">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7095/Garden-Story--Episode-4---The-Garden-as-Classroom</a> Episode 5 - The Garden as Teacher <a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7096/Garden-Story--Episode-5---The-Garden-as-Teacher">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7096/Garden-Story--Episode-5---The-Garden-as-Teacher</a> Episode 6 - The Garden as Catalyst for Community <a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7097/Garden-Story--Episode-6---The-Garden-as-Catalyst-for-Community">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7097/Garden-Story--Episode-6---The-Garden-as-Catalyst-for-Community</a> Episode 7- The Garden as Healer <a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/festival/play/7098/Garden-Story--Episode-7--The-Garden-as-Healer">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/festival/play/7098/Garden-Story--Episode-7--The-Garden-as-Healer</a> Episode 8 - The Garden as Public Park <a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7099/Garden-Story--Episode-8---The-Garden-as-Public-Park">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7099/Garden-Story--Episode-8---The-Garden-as-Public-Park</a> Episode 9 - The Garden as Autobiography <a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7100/Garden-Story--Episode-9---The-Garden-as-Autobiography">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7100/Garden-Story--Episode-9---The-Garden-as-Autobiography</a> Episode 10 - The Garden as Protector of the Planet <a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7101/Garden-Story--Episode-10---The-Garden-as-Protector-of-the-Planet">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7101/Garden-Story--Episode-10---The-Garden-as-Protector-of-the-Planet</a></p>	
	<p><u>The Trees Around You</u>: Vancouver Island is home to some of the largest areas of old-growth forests on the planet. Old-growth refers to peak ecosystems that have been allowed to age with minimum human impact for thousands of years. These forests are so rich in life and biodiversity that a square meter of soil can hold up to 200 million invertebrates</p>	<p><a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/53477/The-Trees-Around-You">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/53477/The-Trees-Around-You</a></p>
	<p><u>Battle For the Trees</u>: This documentary examines the battle strategies of citizens, scientists, loggers, environmentalists and First Nations people who are fighting on the west coast of Canada over the liquidation of public forests and, with it, a way of life.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/53236/Battle-For-the-Trees">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/53236/Battle-For-the-Trees</a></p>
	<p><u>The Healing Gardens of New York</u> illustrates the significance of gardens and green spaces in the face of ever growing urbanization and development. In cities dominated by glass and concrete, it takes an in-depth look at how gardens can be a platform for social change and an opportunity to develop new skills and transform lives</p>	<p><a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/52462/THE-HEALING-GARDENS-OF-NEW-YORK">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/52462/THE-HEALING-GARDENS-OF-NEW-YORK</a></p>
	<p><u>The gardens of Versailles</u> have always been associated with power, rigor, pomp and ceremony and a certain classicism. These gardens designed by Le Notre in the 17th century for king Louis XIV are now famous all around the world. Unlike</p>	<p><a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/53547/The-">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/53547/The-</a></p>

	all the previous films made about the gardens and which only underline the beauty of their 18,500 trees, 350,000 bushes, square kilometers of grass and its so special green shine spreading over 815 hectares, this documentary will give an inside view of the gardens as it will follow the everyday life of the people who work there	<a href="#">gardener-of-Versailles</a>
	<u>Gardening is Good</u> An odyssey around east end London, England, showing how gardening can fix almost everything, from climate change to loneliness.	<a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/54728/Gardening-is-Good">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/54728/Gardening-is-Good</a>
	<u>A Garden's Family</u> : By exploring the meaning of the garden in their lives, Canadian organic gardener Mary Perlmutter and her family members learn about themselves and each other. This film explores how the garden takes on various roles and functions within the lives of the family for whom it provides sustenance and enjoyment, including that of a mirror of the family itself.	<a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/53888/A-Garden-s-Family">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/53888/A-Garden-s-Family</a>
	<u>The Healing Power of Flowers</u> : Meet doctors and other scientific experts who are helping to create what some have called "the future of medicine." According to Dr. Judy Griffin, the flowers in her garden gave her instructions on how to heal herself and others, and revealed how they can help us to achieve our greatest potential. Her flower essences are being used at Baylor University Hospital to help cancer patients relax and use less pain medication	<a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7766/The-Healing-Power-of-Flowers">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/7766/The-Healing-Power-of-Flowers</a>
	<u>A guerilla gardener in South Central LA</u> : Ron Finley plants vegetable gardens in South Central LA -- in abandoned lots, traffic medians, along the curbs. Why? For fun, for defiance, for beauty and to offer some alternative to fast food in a community where "the drive-through's are killing more people than the drive-by's"	<a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/12657/Ron-Finley--A-guerilla-gardener-in-South-Central-LA">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/12657/Ron-Finley--A-guerilla-gardener-in-South-Central-LA</a>
	<u>A Garden Under the Lines</u> : In the heart of a North American city, a cast of retired Haitian and Italian immigrants tend their gardens, planted on a vast vacant lot soon to be replaced by a highway.	<a href="http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/53492/A-Garden-Under-the-Lines">http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/53492/A-Garden-Under-the-Lines</a>