

Edith Smeesters short bio

Edith Smeesters is an author, environmental activist and respected lecturer on ecological approaches to landscaping. Ms. Smeesters has written many books in French including: “Pelouses écologiques et autres couvre-sols” (Ecological lawns and other Ground Covers)(2008), “Solutions écologiques en horticulture” (Ecological Solutions in Horticulture) (2005), “Aménagement paysager adapté à la sécheresse” (Xeriscaping) (2004), “Pelouses et couvre-sols” (2000, out of print), (Lawns and Ground Covers) and “Le compostage domestique” (Backyard Composting) (2003, out of print).

Ms. Smeesters received a degree in biology from Leuven University, Belgium. She has lived in Quebec since 1970 where she became involved in the environmental movement. Since 1980, she has given hundreds of conferences and training sessions on ecological horticulture. Ms. Smeesters worked diligently as a leader in the Coalition for the Alternatives to Pesticides and in implementing the Quebec Pesticide Code of 2003 which created a ban on the use of many types of lawn pesticides.

Mrs Smeesters is currently a spokesperson for Equiterre (Organic Horticulture and Alternatives to Pesticides). She has received many prizes for her exceptional environmental work and is a member of the prestigious “ Quebec Phenix Circle ”. In November 2009, a magazine choose her has one of the 100 women that most influenced the province of Quebec.