Backyard Magic
18 expert tricks to transform your garden

Travel steals under $200
50 BEST WINES (OUR CLIP-OUT GUIDE)

Grass-fed beef
The secret to healthier steaks and burgers
The front lawn is a symbol of leisure (unless you’re the one who has to mow it). But for L.A.–based architect and artist Fritz Haeg, a lawn is something else altogether. “It wastes resources, isolates us from our communities, and we rarely set foot in it!” he says. In his ongoing project and accompanying book, Edible Estates: Attack on the Front Lawn (Metropolis Books, 2008; $25), Haeg partners with garden fans from Pasadena to London to transform lawns into highly productive edible landscapes.

**What’s the goal of Edible Estates?** I want to avoid romanticizing it, because growing your own food is a lot of work! Ultimately, the goal is to reveal important truths about who we are and how we’re collectively living as a society today. Food grown in our front yards connects us to the seasons, the organic cycles of the earth, and our neighbors.

**What role does community play in your work?** A large part of the project is social—the gardens are all on the street and very visible. A common response from people I’ve done gardens for is that they meet everyone in the neighborhood after just a few months of gardening.