

Permaculture In Action

A guide to social permaculture



To celebrate:
Love, Resilience, & Action Ypsi

Permaculture in Action

What is Permaculture?

It is three things: awareness, better process, and the goal of ensuring life on this planet. Clearly seeing, improving our action, and having a goal.

The Ethics of Permaculture

The core of permaculture. What we do has to be in the context of ethical decisions to achieve our most basic of goals, survival. It gives us direction.

Earth Care – People Care – Future Care

What Is Social Permaculture

The world works by how well we interact with those around us. More than half of the world population lives in urban areas, this essentially means they live and interact with people all the time. The better our relationships, the more we can accomplish. It's better together!

Permaculture in Action

Permaculture in Action

Change requires we do something. The more we do the more changes. Start with one thing. Change adds up.

- Take walks
- Get in shape
- Explore
- Talk to people
- Foster gratitude
- Love
- Plant a seed
- Don't push the river
- Connect
- Care for the world
- Limit media
- Recognize opportunities , recognize barriers
- Be mindful about your impact
- Everyone has their own power
- Eat whole & simple foods
- Take time to observe Ask yourself empowering questions and answer them
- Transition from a consumer to an active participant and producer

Permaculture in Action

- 7. Design From Patterns to Details** – “Can’t see the forest for the trees”
By stepping back, we can observe patterns in nature and society. These can form the backbone of our designs, with the details filled in as we go.
- 8. Integrate Rather Than Segregate** – “Many hands make light work”
By putting the right things in the right place, relationships develop between those things and they work together to support each other.
- 9. Use Small and Slow Solutions** – “Slow and steady wins the race” or “The bigger they are, the harder they fall”
Small and slow systems are easier to maintain than big ones, making better use of local resources and produce more sustainable outcomes.
- 10. Use and Value Diversity** – “Don’t put all your eggs in one basket”
Diversity reduces vulnerability to a variety of threats and takes advantage of the unique nature of the environment in which it resides.
- 11. Use Edges and Value the Marginal** – “Don’t think you are on the right track just because it’s a well-beaten path”
The interface between things is where the most interesting events take place. These are often the most valuable, diverse and productive elements in the system.
- 12. Creatively Use and Respond to Change** – “Vision is not seeing things as they are but as they will be”
We can have a positive impact on inevitable change by carefully observing and then intervening at the right time.

Permaculture in Action

Eight Forms of Capital

<http://www.appleseedpermaculture.com/8-forms-of-capital/>

Capital	Currency
Social Capital	<i>Connections</i>
Material Capital	<i>Materials; "natural" resources</i>
Financial Capital	<i>Money</i>
Living Capital	<i>Carbon, Nitrogen, Water</i>
Intellectual Capital	<i>Ideas, Knowledge</i>
Experiential Capital	<i>Action</i>
Spiritual Capital	<i>Prayer, Intention; Faith, Karma</i>
Cultural Capital	<i>Song, Story, Ritual</i>

This framework gives us a chance to explore other forms of wealth, releasing money's grip and giving us the ability to live more balanced lives.

Permaculture in Action

Relative Permanence

What we do exists in context. Knowing the effects of our actions vs. the amount of energy it takes to create them. Work for more effect for less energy when possible.

Sectors

Energy flows, or lack of, define our reality.

Relationships in Time

Keep things you do often close or together. Keep friends and loved ones close too. Proximity breeds action.

Work in complete units

When you do something bring it to completion, even if it's not perfect. Something worth doing is usually worth doing badly.

Permaculture in Action

Contact

This book is created by C. Milton Dixon.

milton@permacultureproductions.com

<http://permaproductions.com>

Ann Arbor Permaculture Design Course

<http://glpdc.info>

The Cooperative at Dawn Farm

<http://thecooperativeatdawnfarm.org>

