

INVESTING WITH NATURE

An introduction to ways that we can work with nature using permaculture concepts to lead more prosperous lives.

MANY FORMS OF CAPITAL

- Financial
- Material
- Time
- Living (Health)
- Knowledge
- Spiritual
- Social (Community)

PERMACULTURE HISTORY

- 1970s
- Bill Mollison
- David Holmgren

- Permaculture Research Institute (PRI)
- Geoff Lawton

PERMACULTURE PRIME DIRECTIVE

- The only ethical decision is to take responsibility for our existence and that of our children.
- From "PERMACULTURE A DESIGNER'S MANUAL" by Bill Mollison.

PERMACULTURE ETHICS

- 1. CARE OF THE EARTH** - Provision for all life systems to continue and multiply.
- 2. CARE OF PEOPLE** - Provision for people to access those resources necessary to their existence.
- 3. RETURN OF SURPLUS** – Abundance is returned in service of the first two ethics.

GREENING THE DESERT



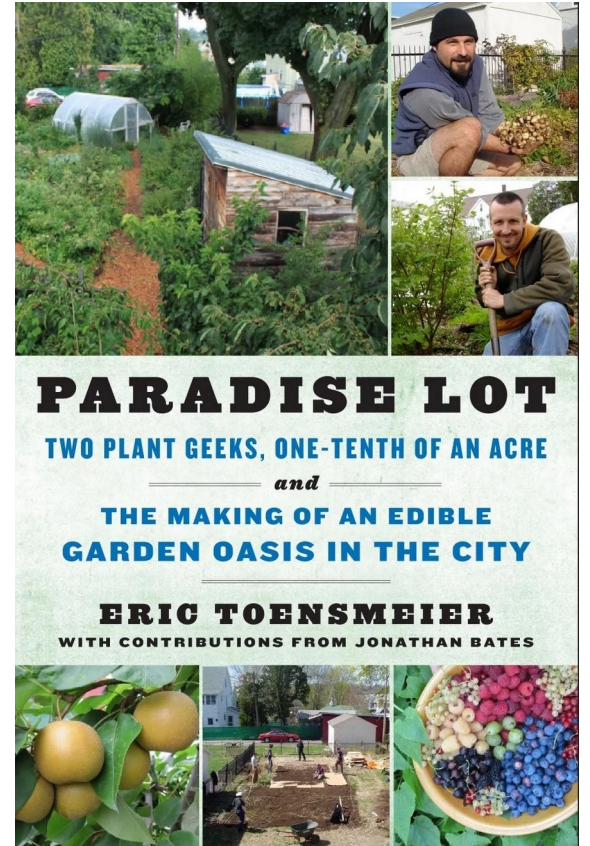
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xgF9BU4uYMU>

SOME PERMACULTURE PRACTICES

- Observation
- Succession
- Elements perform multiple functions
- Work with nature – not against
- Maximize edge
- Capture and store energy

PARADISE LOT

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-A966tojhA>
- Holyoke MA
- 200+ species of plants



NITROGEN FIXING PLANTS

- Work with bacteria or fungi to add N to soil
- Legumes (Bean family)
- Clover
- Eleagnus – Guomi, Autumn Olive

NUTRIENT ACCUMULATORS

- Make nutrients from soil available
- Comfrey – *Symphytum officinale*

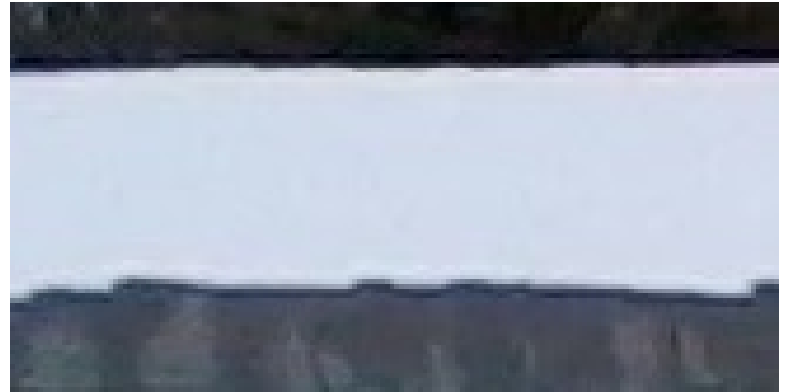


PLANT GUILDS – THREE SISTERS

- Corn – trellis for beans, feeds Nitrogen fixing bacteria
- Beans – Nitrogen fixing
- Squash – ground cover keeps soil cool & moist and helps with weed suppression

PERMACULTURE IS NOT JUST FOOD

- Natural and ecological building design



PERMACULTURE CERTIFICATION - PDC

- Must complete a design project with no type 1 errors
- 2 Week in person course
- Geoff Lawton – 8 months
- Weekends – Flanders and NWCD
- OSU – 1 semester online course
- Anyone who has completed a PDC can teach – quality varies.

PERMACULTURE INTERNET RESOURCES

<https://geofflawtononline.com> Geoff Lawton

<https://permacultureglobal.org/> PRI

<https://permies.com/> Paul Wheaton

<https://www.perennialsolutions.org/> Eric Toensmeier

<https://www.wholesystemsdesign.com/> Ben Falk

<https://thepolycultureproject.substack.com/> Paul Alfrey -

The Polyculture Project

<https://pfaf.org/user/> Plants for a Future – reference database

PERMACULTURE BOOKS

- PERMACULTURE A Designer's Manual – Mollison
- GAIA'S GARDEN – Toby Hemenway
- EDIBLE FOREST GARDENS – Dave Jacke, Toensmeier
- PERENNIAL VEGETABLES – Eric Toensmeier
- The Resilient Farm and Homestead – Ben Falk
- BUILDING A BETTER WORLD IN YOUR BACKYARD – Paul Wheaton, Shawn Klassen-Koop

PLANTS

- <https://www.treepeony.com/> - Cricket Hill – Thomaston
- <https://tripplebrookfarm.com/> Tripple Brook Farm
- <https://www.logees.com/> Logees – Danielson CT
- <https://www.earthtonesnatives.com/> Earth Tones
- <https://www.noursefarms.com/> Nourse (Johnny's)
- <https://www.prairiemoon.com/> Prairie Moon
- <https://znutty.com/> Z Nutty Ridge
- <https://www.perfectcircle.farm/> Perfect Circle

PLANTS

<https://onegreenworld.com/> One Green World

- <https://www.burntridgenursery.com/> Burnt Ridge
- <https://raintreenursery.com/> Raintree Nursery
- <https://territorialseed.com/> Territorial Seed
- <https://www.primorabio.com/> Primora