

DESIGNING EDUCATIONAL ECOSYSTEMS

A Whole Systems Permaculture Teacher Training • March 21-30, 2013 • La Vergne, TN

with Dave Jacke • Chris Jackson • Kim Almeida • Cliff Davis • Jessie Smith

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Information and Application

Designing Educational Ecosystems:

A Whole Systems Permaculture Teacher Training

March 21 through 30, 2014, Camp Y. I., La Vergne, TN

Draft 3, 130930

Course Objectives:

- Participants experience and develop the complete suite of skills needed to begin successfully leading short permaculture workshops and other events on their own.
- Participants leave able to contribute significantly to certified permaculture courses under the mentorship of an experienced permaculture teacher.
- Participants experience taking the seat of the teacher multiple times during the course in a variety of settings, both within the course and in a public venue.
- Participants grasp the essence and significant details of what it means to create effective learning environments and effective learning events, especially gaining a sense of how to create systems of learning events that create a course whose whole is greater than the sum of its parts.
- Participants come prepared to give a ten minute lecture on a permaculture topic of your choice, and to collaboratively co-create the teacher training course and co-lead a one day public permaculture workshop (specific requests for how to prepare will be laid out after acceptance into the program).
- Participants experience a community of learning teachers and teaching learners:
 - we cocreate a safe, supportive, fun, healthy, and whole learning environment;
 - we support each other to take risks, share ourselves, grow deeply, move through edges and perceived restrictions, explore new ideas, and try new teaching styles and approaches;
 - we share and constructively evaluate each others' work;
 - we cooperatively develop shared resources for the larger permaculture teaching community.
- Participants clarify, articulate, and evolve their beliefs about what is a teacher and what is their teaching pedagogy. We all experience putting that pedagogy into practice consciously. We all have the opportunity to deprogram beliefs that inhibit our effectiveness as teachers and learners.
- We experience all of the above through learning events and experiences that express, embody, and demonstrate the principles of permaculture design in action.
- We have a total blast doing all of the above.

Application Information Requests:

We request the following information for your application for the 2014 Teacher Training. The Nectary Project will accept, and the teaching team will review, applications on a rolling admissions basis until the course reaches it's maximum enrollment of teacher participants (yes, you are already a teacher, believe it or not!). You do not have to submit all of the items below, but the more you offer the better we will get to know you. There has been strong interest in this course, so to ensure you have a place get your application in as soon and as completely as possible.

Scholarships are limited, so *no one will receive a full scholarship from us*. We are working to find outside funding to support those in need. We will also support you to do your own fundraising from family, friends, associates, and so on, by sending information for ideas on one way to do that to those who apply for scholarship aid.

*Please submit the following to the **address below**. We prefer to receive applications electronically so please send pdfs or Microsoft Word formatted docs (Macintosh compatible preferred) to: thenectaryproject@gmail.com. **PAYMENT:** Make checks out to **Dynamics Ecological Design** and mail to 33 East Taylor Hill Road, Montague, MA 01351, or use the paypal to send money to davej@edibleforestgardens.com.*

Please briefly answer the following in writing (include your name and contact info on ALL pages please). All applicants must answer the first six questions to complete your application. The last two questions are optional.

- Why do you want to take this course? What do you hope to get from it?
 - What do you plan to do with what you learn in this course? What are your hopes and dreams as a teacher of permaculture?
 - Are there specific areas on which you would like to focus your teaching, in terms of topic areas, audiences, regions of the country/world?
 - Please write at least two paragraphs describing the qualities and personality of a fully-developed teacher of permaculture.
 - What are your greatest strengths as a teacher? What can/do you offer to your students/participants now or in the future?
 - What are your greatest fears as a teacher? What else do you believe most holds you back from being your most effective self?
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- Briefly discuss a recent, striking, fun, or deeply moving learning experiences (one or more of those adjectives may apply). What made it work best for you? What made the space you were in an effective learning environment for you? What lessons did/do you derive from that experience?
 - What experiences have you had living and working in a community of any kind?

In addition, please submit the following with your application—without all of these, your application is not complete. All must be received by January 15 to get your early reg discount!:

- A \$50 nonrefundable application fee, by check or electronically to the address above. If you are applying for scholarship, the application fee is refundable if you cannot afford the course after all.
- A resume or draft resume, ideally one that presents you *as a teacher of permaculture*, listing experiences and skills relevant to this role, *and includes your full contact information*.
- If the above leaves out significant or important background/life history/skill, please also include this information either within the resume or separately.
- A copy of your Permaculture course certificate. If necessary, a letter from the course teacher will suffice. Contact us for alternative documentation.
- Three references: name, phone, email, relationship to you (**not** family members or partners!).
- If you need a scholarship, write a few paragraphs explaining your situation, why you need help, and most importantly ***how much you can afford to pay for the course***. Please also consider people in your life who might be able to help you pay for the course and what you think it would take to get them to say yes to supporting you. Let us know how we can help! *We request that all scholarship recipients participate in creating a CSE or Community Supported Educator program*, where *you* find people to subscribe ahead of time for a one- or two-day workshop, proceeds from which will go to fund your teacher training (we will forward info on the CSE program to all applicants who request scholarships). After the training, you will then produce the workshop for subscribers and any others who may want to attend. We hope that you can work with other teacher trainees to run your workshop as well, that you will see the multiple functions of such an approach, and take full advantage of the support we can offer to help you fulfill this request.