**Ecosystems Approach to the Design of Your Site**

*Permaculture design is the art and science of putting combinations of plants and animals together in patterns that forge mutually beneficial relationships, creating an ecosystem that is more than the sum of its parts. By using fruits, nuts, vegetables, herbs, mushroom and other useful plants, in a way that mimics natural ecosystems, we can create a beautiful, diverse, high-yield garden. We design with an understanding of ecosystem function, creating a largely self-maintaining site.*

Permaculture Design Questionnaire

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| Primary Contact Person(s): |  |
| Street Address: ----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------- |  |

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| 1. Size of property / lot: |  |
| 2. Do you have a copy of the tax map, plot plan or survey map of the property? Please send a plan to us in advance if possible. |  |
| 3. Are you aware of any historic uses? |  |
| 4. Does your property have any desirable views? From which perspective? |  |
| 5. Does your property have any undesirable views? From which perspective? |  |
| 6. Are there any special privacy or “screening” needs?7. Special needs/hobbies? |  |
| 8. Does anyone living here have allergies (to plants, bee stings, etc.) that you’re aware of? |  |
| 9. How much time do you currently spend maintaining your yard or landscape? |  |
| 10. In the future, how much time would you like to spend maintaining your yard or landscape? |  |
| 11. What are some favorite outdoor activities that you currently enjoy on your property? |  |
| 12. What are some of the activities that you wish you could enjoy on your property in the future? |  |
| 13. What types of company do you have at your place?  (i.e. adults/children/mixed? friends/family/co-workers? neighbors?) |  |
| 14. Are there any pets that you allow outside? |  |
| 15. To what degree are you interested in growing a portion of your own food? |  |
| 16. During which seasons of the year do you spend time in your yard? |  |
| 17. Does your lifestyle incorporate any particular spiritual or religious practice that you would like to mention? |  |
| 18. Do you have (or have an interest in) animals as part of an integrated permaculture design (i.e.chickens, ducks, rabbits, etc.) ? |  |
| 19. Would you describe yourself as a gardener (Experienced? Beginner?) and do you feel the need for more learning in this area? |  |
| 20. Is someone in the household “handy” at things like carpentry, plumbing or general “fix-it” type activities? |  |
| 21. What most worries you about the future? |  |
| 22. What most excites you about the future? |  |
| 23. How is your hot water heated? |  |
| 24. How old are your windows? |  |
| 25. Are you interested in renewable energy for you home? (solar, hot water, solar electric, wind, etc.) |  |
| 26. Are you interested in an energy audit to determine how best to reduce energy consumption and become more efficient? |  |
| 27. Are you interested in harvesting and using the rainwater that falls on your property? |  |
| 28. Any known structural problems with your house? |  |
| Garden Design Considerations |
| 29. Do you have a favorite style or type of gardens? |  |

(i.e. edible perennials (fruits, nuts, berries, etc.), vegetable gardens, medicinal plants, flower, culinary herbs, cottage gardens, pollinator gardens )

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| 30. What “moods” or tones do you want your landscape to convey? (i.e. bright, welcoming, meditative, cheerful, playful, relaxing, social, other) |  |
| 31. If you said ‘yes’ to edible plantings, what varieties are you most interested in? (apple, peach, berries, nuts, etc.) |  |
| 32. Do you have any particular types of plants that you really love? |  |
| 33. How much “lawn” do you want in your landscape and what activities will the lawn be used for? |  |
| 34. Do you have color schemes that you envision in your landscape? |  |
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| 35. What type of hardscape materials appeal to you? (i.e. flagstone, stone, wood, slate, concrete) |
| 36. Are there specific landscape features would you like to incorporate into the design?(i.e. deck, patio , arbor, etc .) |

37. Are there utility elements that should be incorporated into your design to support your lifestyle/landscape? (i.e. compost bins, firewood, storage,  clothesline , boat storage, etc.)

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| Design Relationships (You, Your Home, Your Landscape Working Together) |
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| 38. Think about how the foot traffic flows from inside the home to outside the home? Please draw a simple map for us, with thick lines and arrows showing the primary routes and thin lines and arrows showing the minor routes. |  |
| 39. Are parts of the home “too exposed” to cold winds or hot sun? |  |
| 40. Are you planning renovations to the home either now or in the future? |  |

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| Prioritize Goals & Motivations for Doing This Work |
|  | Very Important | Somewhat Important | Interested, but not a priority | No interest | Don’t know |
| To create an overall permaculture design for our property. |  |  |  |  |  |
| To live more sustainably or be more resilient. |  |  |  |  |  |
| To have an edible landscape / grow more food. |  |  |  |  |  |
| To create an aesthetically/visually pleasing environment. |  |  |  |  |  |
| To more easily entertain in my home/yard. |  |  |  |  |  |
| To have a more energy-efficient or “greener” home. |  |  |  |  |  |
| To increase the value of my property. |  |  |  |  |  |
| To reduce the operating costs (i.e. energy, water, etc.) of my home. |  |  |  |  |  |

Any final Comments?