Full Circle Garden Solutions

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Permaculture Design Questionnaire - Initial Quick Survey - Designed by Samyol Soulfyre of Full Circle Garden Solutions.

Ideal Permaculture designs regenerate & sustain the Earth's life-giving functions. We aim to feed & house Earth's Wildlife in harmony, while joyfully providing for all of our Human needs too. **Permanently.** Every helpful change we make for the Planet & People, try to make it live on and achieve its function **forever**.

Our goal is to sustainably use the resources available near the project sites, transform wastes into resources, and use only clean inputs from fair trade, eco-friendly sources. We plan & act to provide health, happiness, peace & love for all. **We work with other people to make community that will sustain the projects beyond us**. Permaculture = Permanent Culture & Solutions :)

On the next page we will clarify the wants and needs of you and your loved ones from this Land stewardship. First, though, let's ask the Planet what it wants, and try to answer that in the space provided.

Find a peaceful, beautiful place on the land to sit or walk quietly & ask the Land what it wants.

Listen, focusing for as long as you can to the Earth, the plants, the animals, the wind and the water. The Planet is our ancient parent, the eldest elder. It continually gives us everything we love in life, including life itself… so it makes sense to ask the Land for guidance. Let's observe how we fit in to the bigger, 10,000 & 10 million year plan, before and ahead of us…and then we ask what the World needs from us? How can we give back and help heal the Planet now, with this land project?

What animals & plants have shown up already? What is the ecosystem name(s) of your parcel? What animals & plants are endangered or threatened in your region & ecosystem that you can help?
(**Example:** Mixed CA forest & chaparral; Owls, bats, amphibians, pollinators need habitat & control pests)

What plants and animals already provide useful resources? Can we find mutual solutions? How did the native people live in harmony & survive with this landscape? (**Example**: Harvest and store edible plants like Native people. Erect fences with gardens that also grow plants for deer, & hunt some deer when food is needed.)

Name some goals for each of the **("3 Permaculture Ethics")** to help feed the land that feeds us:
Ethic 1: Planet Care - Regenerating Ecosystems and Wildlife Populations:
Example: Provide abundant habitat for endangered, native, local and migratory wildlife.

Ethic 2: People Care - Providing for people that live with and steward the land:
Example: Provide happiness, health and peace, income & food for the people that live with the land.

Ethic 3: Fair Share- Giving Back to the Planet and People in Need:
Example: Give a % of yields back to environmental and social justice organizations & Create eco-jobs.

List the top 5 Functions you want to Add to the Land (ie. yield $50k, feed all inhabitants & wildlife)

Function	Completion Date	Components to Achieve Function	Budget & Yield

List the top 5 Issues you want to Remove or Prevent on the land: (ie. view of road, bear damage)

Issue to Remove / Transform	Completion Date	Strategy to Achieve Desired Outcome	Budget

List 5 major wastes to transform on the land. These are things you do not use or have to export & remove from the land (ie, trash to landfill, unharvested yields, e-waste). Let's transform them!!

Waste Items	Volume	Strategy toTransform into a Resource	Value / Yield

What are 5 items you import the most of? Let's find a way to grow, create, trade for these things!!

Imported Items	Volume & Cost	Strategy to Grow, Make or Trade Locally	Value / Yield

==Imagine all of your goals that you just described are accomplished. See it, feel it, taste it. Imagine what life would be like after achieving your land goals. We are heading in that direction.==

As you walk the land again, look for examples of some of your desired functions already happening in nature. Also research how native people or animals achieved those functions from the land.

(**Example.** Native People & Animals ate abundant plant & meat foods. Most people today import plants and meat grown far away, in ways that harm the animals and ecosystems involved. Many edible & medicinal plants & animals are present, like acorns, greens, berries, mushrooms, medicinal leaves and flowers, squirrel, turkey, deer, rabbits. Let's try to sustainably utilize those indigenous resources on the land. Where is water already flowing? Where is the land most fertile?)

==**Now think about challenges to these goals.**== Over the next 1000 years, what might prevent or reduce the success of these land functions? Add some components & social planning to the design that will protect the functions from failure, with efficient maintenance & multiple backup resources. (==**"Resilience"**==) This is "Perma" in Permaculture. ==**Who will carry on your project when you leave?**==

(**Example:** All water on the land can flow with no electricity or machinery needed, using gravity fed trenches or pipes that are linked to a clean, naturally-filling water body at the highest point of the land. Resilience to this system failing would be planting drought resistant perennial plants, installing hugelkultur swales & thickly mulched soils to keep the land as moist & fertile as possible. Someone will check on these functions each change of season, install & repair irrigation systems if needed.)

Now let's see if some of the Goals, Issues, Wastes, Imports & Resources can serve each other.
That's called (==**"Stacking Functions"**==) Use a different colored marker to draw arrows to the Goal or Import that an Issue or Waste can serve. The most valuable and successful components have multiple functions, & also have multiple resources.

(**Example:** Hugelkulture and swales transform fire-hazard wood into productive soil, prevent wildfires, capture rainwater, clean runoff sediment for the watershed, grow valuable food and medicine plants, and are a teaching tool for workshops and a booming business for eco-jobs)

Make a basic map sketch (to scale) of the entire project area. Include all permanent structures, waterways and plantings. Include houses, storage spaces, fences, roads, bushes, trees, ponds, main irrigation pipes, wells, springs, water tanks, septic tanks and leech lines , gas and electric lines, pre-existing garden beds etc… Include the legal parcel lines of this project and the structures and plantings of neighboring parcels that border this land's boundaries. Orient yourself with the Earth's four directions, and draw a compass rose with the correct relationship to the map.

Find the elevation above sea level range for this project. Look up the generic term for the land's climate & ecosystem name. Identify native foods, major challenges, abundant & endangered wildlife.

Example: (2411-2433' elevation, Mediterranean climate, Nevada County Sierra foothills mixed Oak and Conifer Forest and Manzanita Chaparral. Abundance of overgrown fire hazard brush, and mosquitoes. Opportunity to improve habitat for endangered and threatened plants and vertebrates; healthy forest and meadow plant communities to support birds, bats, reptiles, mammals, amphibians (and humans) that help control pests and maintain balanced, healthy, abundant ecosystems.)