



Bring Permaculture into your garden



Invitez
la *permaculture*
dans votre *jardin*

An American tragedy: why are millions of trees dying across the country?

A quiet crisis playing out in US forests as huge numbers of trees succumb to drought, disease, insects and wildfire - much of it driven by climate change



📷 Oak trees at dusk near in California. The state has seen more than 66 million trees killed in the Sierra Nevada alone since 2010. Photograph: David McNew/Getty Images

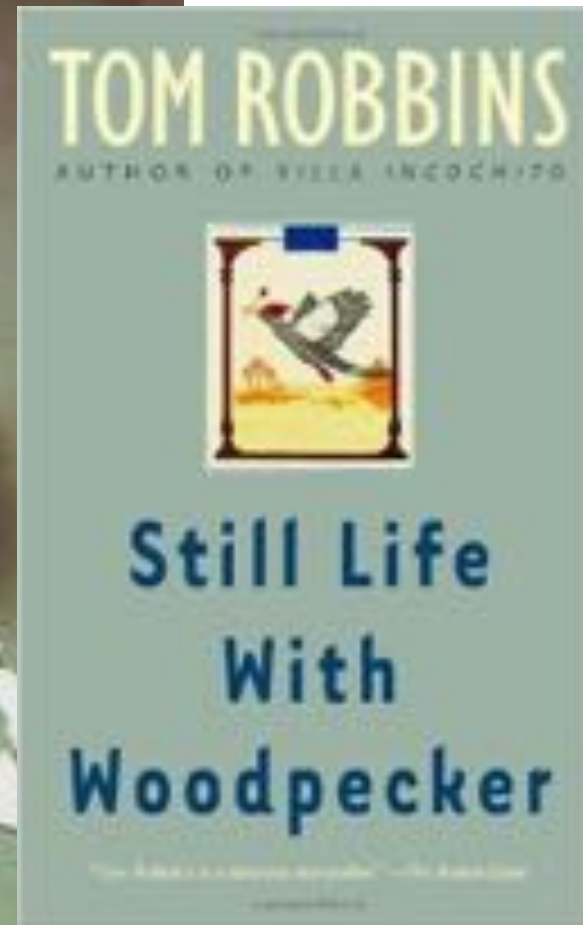
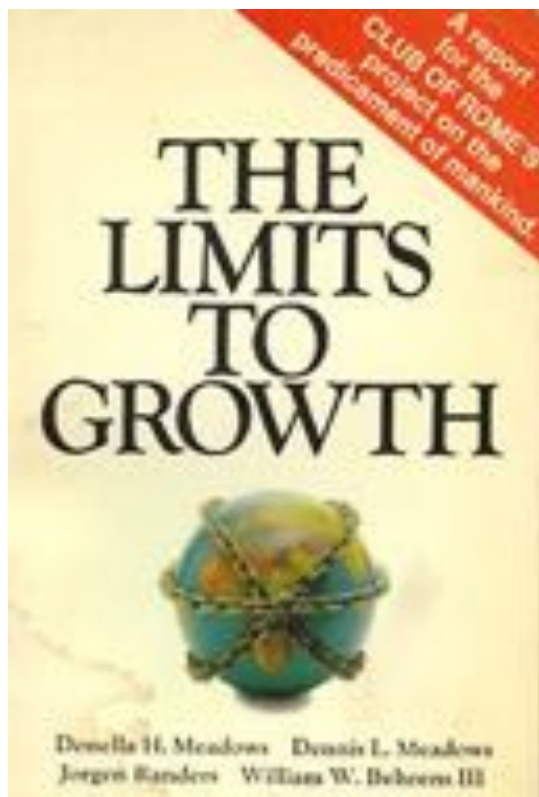
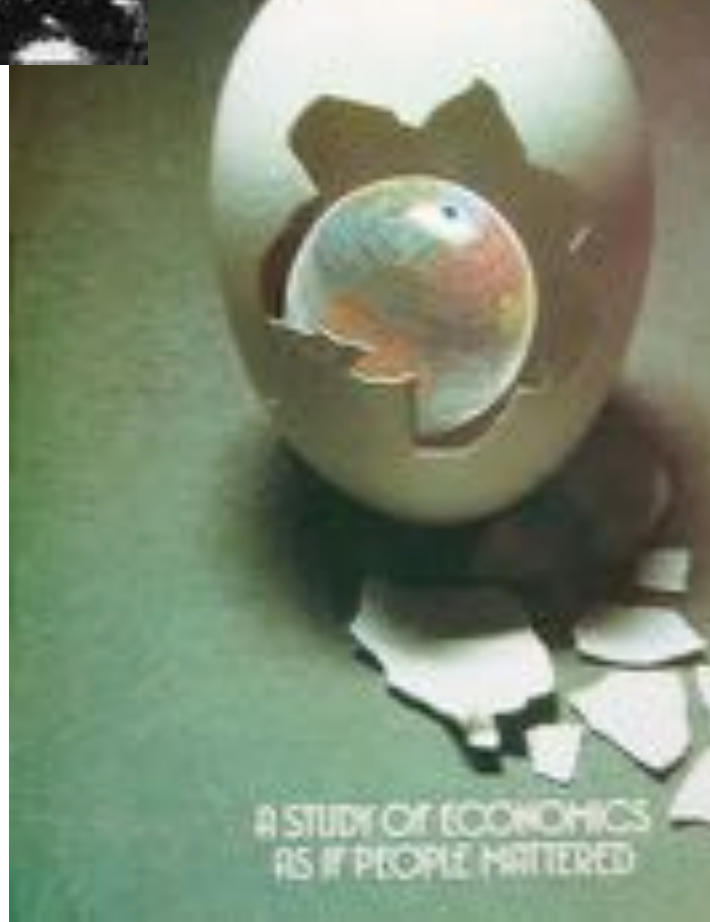
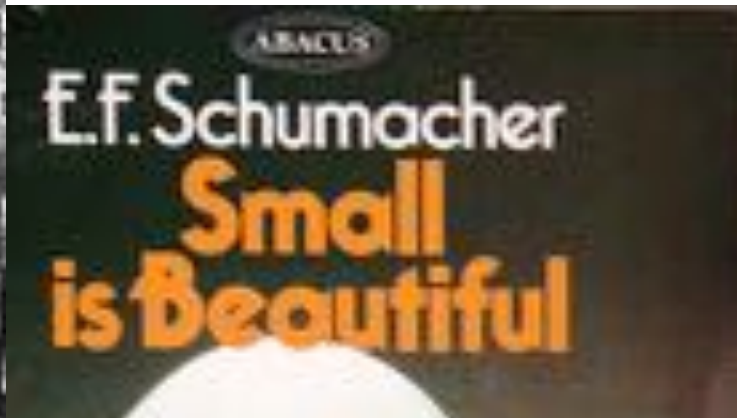
Soy & corn, corn & soy...





1960s & 70s
ecological,
social,
economic
inspirations

Counter -
culture




For nearly 40 years...

We have been inspired by Permaculture. It is time to look at where we have come from and to the future of Permaculture.

What have we learnt? What ideas, inspirations, information have emerged in that time? How has the world changed...?

Charlie wants to challenge himself and workshop participants to take a fresh look. What has worked and what hasn't?

Join us and guest speakers....



taking
Permaculture
to the Edge
Intensive

Dr Charlie Brennan
+ Guests

7 days
General \$750
Concession \$500
Youth (13-20) \$300

For nearly 40 years we have been inspired by Permaculture. It's time to look at where we have come from and to the future of Permaculture. What have we learnt? What ideas, inspirations, information have emerged in that time? How has the world changed...? Join us and guest speakers....

Having been involved in Permaculture for more than 30 years, Charlie wants to challenge himself and workshop participants to take a fresh look at Permaculture - inspiration, practical solutions, and new ideas and projects.

LUCKY TRAVEL

My story...UK and Australia – farming, study, market gardening...

Landscape - design & construction

Landcare – community based ecological regeneration

Bush regeneration – technique for repairing native vegetation

Permaculture – designing sustainable (food) systems

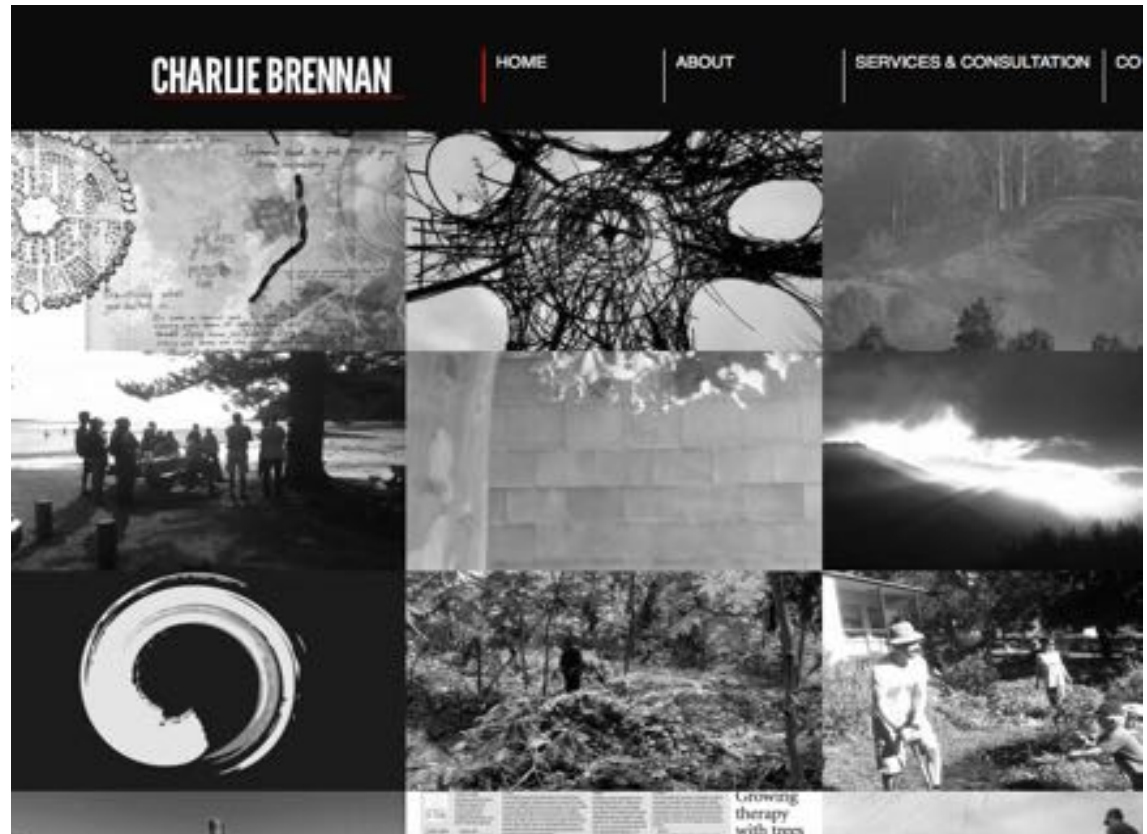
Edible Streetscapes – publicly grown available food

Connectivity conservation – connecting habitat, communities, values & organisations.

Study - Social Ecology,
Ph.D in 2011

Teaching /research –
Ethics, place, social science
conservation,
research methodologies

Consulting - combining
these above in a package
Research, design
project management



What's happening in the landscapes around us?

Australia & US seem similar & parallel in some ways...

History –

Aboriginal / Native / Indigenous people and culture for 10's thousands of years

'Settlers' arrived here from Europe bringing new land practices

These peaked in early to mid 20th century then farming to some extent in decline & land being left

'Back to land' 1970's movement. Interest in living sustainably on the land, conservation, lifestyle.

Currently a mosaic of the above & urban expansion & climate change & plastics &

What is Permaculture?

Permaculture is a set of ideas and practices that aim to design sustainable living systems, most commonly in the form of edible landscapes.

Seminal texts

Permaculture One: A Perennial Agriculture for Human Settlements (Mollison & Holmgren, 1978) and Permaculture Two: Practical Design for Town and Country in Permanent Agriculture (Mollison, 1979).

According to Permaculture writer Gladwell (2005), this was a right idea at the right time. Mollison (Grayson, 2007) suggests that Permaculture gave direction to the back-to-the-land 'alternates' and 'New Settlers' of the 1960s to the 1980s, who 'could define those aspects of the global society that they rejected ...'.

Permaculture offered positive vision, grounded action as well as political consciousness.

Origins & inspirations:
Fukuoka's One Straw Revolution (1978), Yeomans' Water for Every Farm (1973), as well as Tasmania's rich heritage of organic farming, intentional communities and intellectual ferment (Grayson, 2007).

Permaculture icons

Mandala gardens, chicken tractor, herb-spiral, and composting toilet, tyre ponds, tyre retaining walls, garden beds 'edged' with Lemon Grass and Comfrey, Weeds are good & composting! Zones 1-5 to organise land use, 'each element of a design should have three functions'.



Permaculture big ideas

A set of ideas, guidelines and rules to guide the actions of people interested in living sustainable lives.

Based upon systems thinking - careful observation of phenomena of dynamic systems (Holmgren, 2002, p. 15).

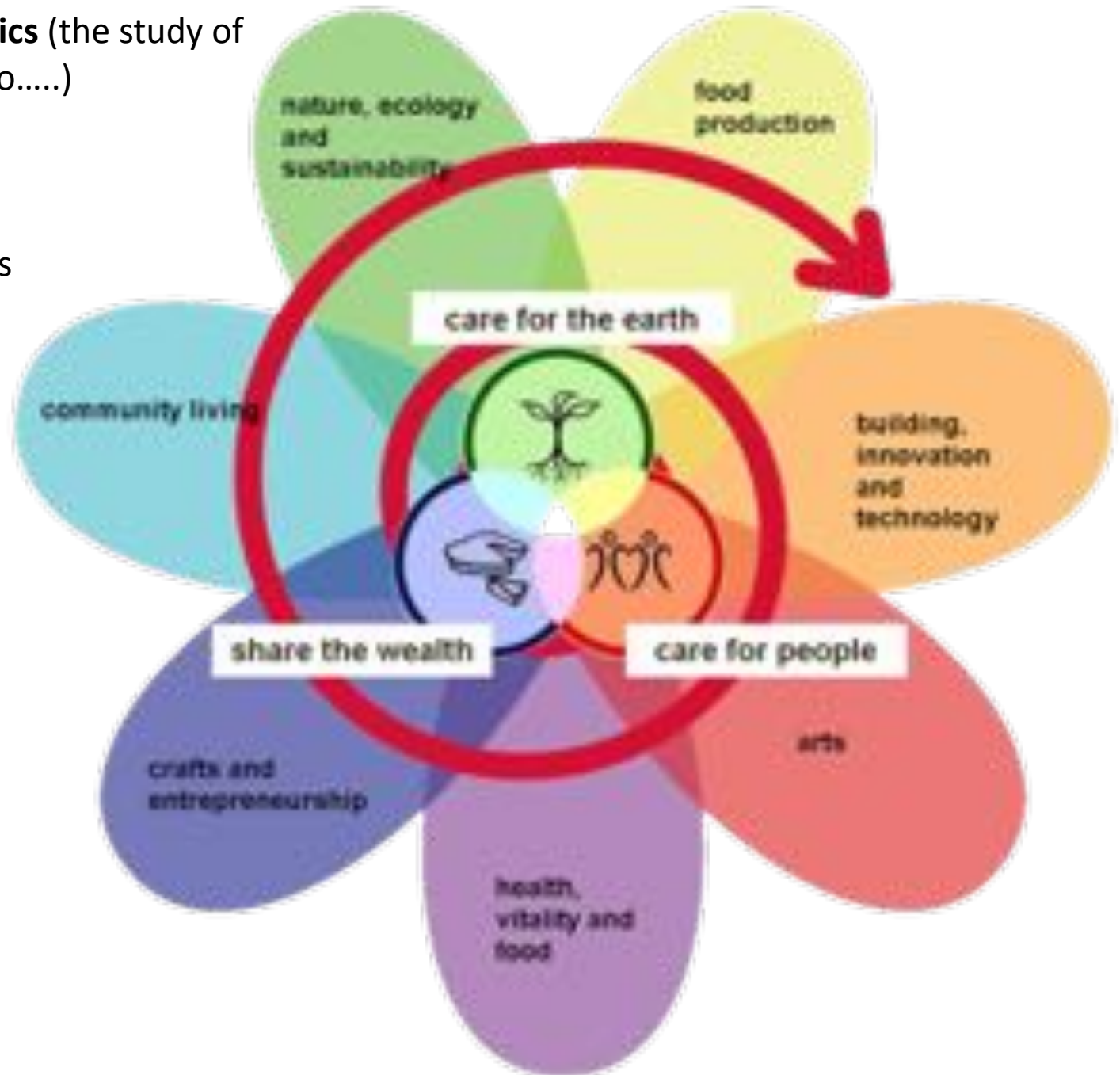
Emphasis upon the (re)designability of so many aspects of our lives

Permaculture works with formidable power of organic systems - not as a passive processes Gaia Hypothesis

Permaculture inspired the Transition Towns Movement.

Permaculture Ethics (the study of what we *should* do.....)

Care for the Earth
Care for People
Return the Surplus



David Holmgren's Twelve design principles

Observe and interact: By taking time to engage with nature we can design solutions that suit our particular situation.

Catch and store energy: By developing systems that collect resources at peak abundance, we can use them in times of need.

Obtain a yield: Ensure that you are getting truly useful rewards as part of the work that you are doing.

Apply self-regulation and accept feedback: We need to discourage inappropriate activity to ensure that systems can continue to function well.

Use and value [renewable](#) resources and services: Make the best use of nature's abundance to reduce our consumptive behavior and dependence on non-renewable resources.

Produce no waste: By valuing and making use of all the resources that are available to us, nothing goes to waste.

Design from patterns to details: 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.

Integrate rather than segregate: By putting the right things in the right place, relationships develop between those things and they work together to support each other.

Use small and slow solutions: Small and slow systems are easier to maintain than big ones, making better use of local resources and producing more sustainable outcomes.

Use and value diversity: Diversity reduces vulnerability to a variety of threats and takes advantage of the unique nature of the environment in which it resides.

Use edges and value the marginal: 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.

Creatively use and respond to change: We can have a positive impact on inevitable change by carefully observing, and then intervening at the right time.

Creatively Use & Respond to Change
(envision possibilities and
intervene in effective ways)

Use Edges; Value the Marginal
(important things happen
at the intersections)



Observe and Interact
(pay attention)

Use & Value Diversity
(diversity leads to
greater resilience)



Care for the Earth



Catch and Store Energy
(harvest while it's abundant)

Use Small, Slow Solutions
(local resources & responses,
manageable scale)



Obtain a Yield
(make sure you're
getting valuable results)

Integrate
(capitalize on how
things work together)



Fair Share

Care for People



Self-Regulate; Accept Feedback
(be open to modify
dysfunctional behaviours)

Design from Pattern to Detail
(observe natural/social patterns
and apply them to design)



Use & Value Renewables
(reduce dependency
on scarce resources)

Produce No Waste

Film resources

Fukuoka - One Straw Revolution:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XSKSxLHMv9k>

PA Yeomans - Keyline system:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qz6vhoOg4Hc>

ABC Josh Burns - Gardening intro to Permaculture:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gB9lJpli7zQ>

BBC Rebecca Hosking - A farm for the Future:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXZUpzwOOZ8>

ABC Bill Mollison Global Gardener 1- 4

1 In the Tropics https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vdoaOuF_RWM

2 Dry lands https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5vJdZP_FMi4

3 Cool Climates <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5p4F8tSqiec>

4 Urban <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HF9lgvjCv84>

David Holmgren

Interview with Permaculture Pioneer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L2dUHI1DO4w>

Permaculture & Peak Oil

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OFjFG24BeX8>

Peter Andrews

Natural sequence farming

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gWGAKIZcBDA&list=PL002C460FFDDD6903>

Rob Hopkins/Transition movement

Transition to a world without oil

https://www.ted.com/talks/rob_hopkins_transition_to_a_world_without_oil

Curitiba

A Convenient Truth

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=swQTTG3NcYY>

Practice-based (Australian) critique..

Seems resistant to critique sometimes. Can be doctrinaire, evangelical, romantic, an Edenic Narrative...?

Where is the feedback from 40 years..?

Not sufficiently contextualised. Shadow Places anyone?

Is it just another colonial discourse? Ignores indigenous cultural custodianship, cultural influences, forerunners of the movement

Can ignore personal psychology/spirituality

Best combined with other solid practical skills in horticulture and so on. Underestimates need for /physicality/maintenance & need for on-going relationship with land

Can be naive about introduced species

Just a bit too cool

And anyway where *are* the Permaculture gardens??

What's different these day compared to 1978?

The age of information mass media

All this info is available now in thousand of variations! Critical literacy required not information

New forms of expression & learning

Adult education focussing on reflective practice. Courses are now interactive workshops & conferences instead. Different forms of community education including comedy, performance, arts..

Hypercapitalism

Is ramping up along with dominant discourses, climate change & even failed states. Professional conservation & Permaculture! GMO's & food corporations. Unstable financial sector. Is the Age of Neoliberalism is coming to an end? Impending crises?

Advances in science, research & study

Web of life (ie Capra), gut biota, biological remediation
Extinction studies/loss and grief
Feminist, cultural, Aboriginal & post colonial studies
Social science, social ecology, ecopsychology...

How do these critiques line up with Smaje & Scott readings ?

- a tendency to over-emphasise the role of smart design tricks and to under-emphasise the important but unglamorous basics of sound growing/farming skills
- a tendency to be over-impressed by the media schtick of various global permaculture gurus who very rarely make a living from producing basic food commodities, and a tendency not to notice what many unsung local farmers and growers are achieving as 'implicit permaculturists' who simply apply good design in their practice
- a tendency to a religious mode of thinking, in which the rudiments of scientific rigour are rejected as 'positivism' or 'reductionism' and replaced by an overwhelming faith in the views of permaculture gurus as per my previous point
- a metropolitan disdain for farmers past and present, and a conviction that the way they have done things is wrong
- an insufficiently fine-grained understanding of agro-ecosystems

Yes & Yes & yes &..but
Doubts about input/output
But also playing semantics..?

Why it *is* so special...

Emphasises re-design ability.
We have barely started redesigning
shaping, making & being creative.

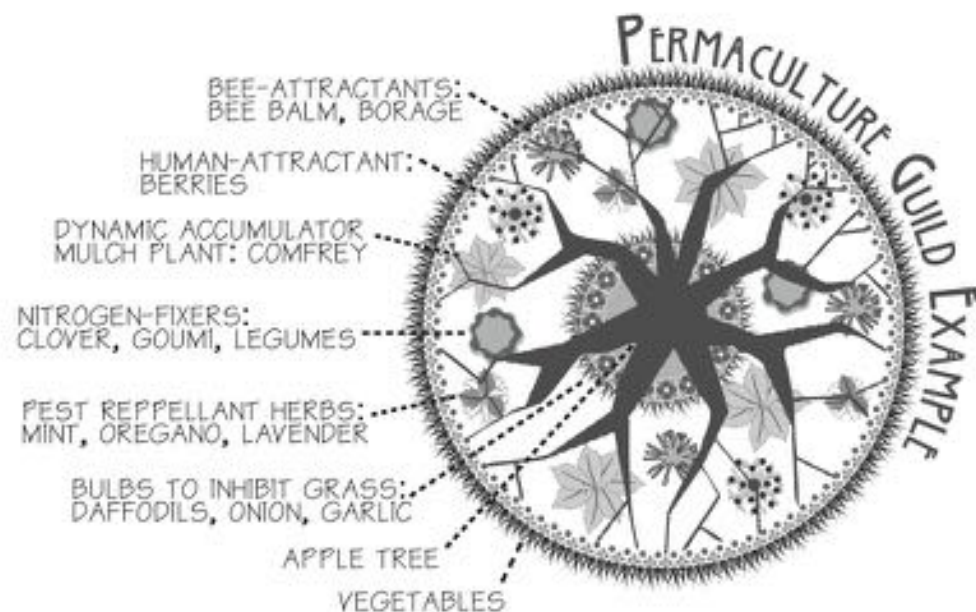
Emphasises living abundance.
Life is strong & there's plenty.
Lovelock's Gaia Hypothesis.

It gives many environmentalists
confidence in future.

It is galvanising, A source of changed practices.

It combines political awareness and environmental
action.

It find expression through Edible Streetscapes,
Permablitzs & the Transition Movement..



So...Permaculture endures. Why?

Permaculture is a set of ideas & practices, a social movement, an urban myth & a source of hope and inspiration

Permaculture is part of a suite of countercultural and sustainability practices –
Biodynamics, Organic gardening, local food, alternative health, yoga and so on.

Permaculture is of significant symbolic importance. It's a counter cultural motif/discourse that will not be silenced..

There is also an increasing openness around Permaculture moving beyond the material & literal to sense of place, ecopsychology, therapeutic horticulture, Sacred Land Design shamanic practice.

Finally, it must be doing something because here we are talking about Permaculture.

10's millions are doing it or something similar..!!

ECOPSYCHOLOGY & PLACE

*falling in love with our planet
all over again*


Dr Charlie Brennan, Tanya Fox, Alex Balnaves

\$300 - \$550 18 - 21 August

Catering Included

Places are as much Ecopsychological as they are ecological. They are symbolic, storied, full of memories and emotions. Our relationships to places are often rooted in childhood experience and broader cultural traditions and are to varying degrees conscious and unconscious. They can be haunted, sublime, distressed or enchanted and full of rich mythology. This workshop explores this through guided site visits, exploratory exercises, grounding activities, reading and discussion, films and the development of personal projects. If you want to explore your sense of belonging to a wider re-enchanted world please join us.



**SACRED
PLACES** 
www.chariebrennan.net.au

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**Final word:
Bring Permaculture
into your garden !!**



September 15 at 9:17am

Today's harvest Thursday, September 15, 2016 at 9:17am Thank you to Charlie Brennan for releasing the gardener in me by teaching me how to plant and garden in a way that allows my wildness. And maybe i have pulled 3 weeds all season because that's all that grew in my abundant garden.



 Like  Comment  Share

 You, Quita Sheehan, Claire Maitre and 34 others

1 share



Ellen Kozub I'd love to have lessons in this - such beautiful abundance! so few weeds! what is the size of the space you planted?

Like · Reply · September 16 at 1:02am