## Reducing Community Vulnerability Through Ecological Design

## Exercise

# Introductions

# Workshop Overview

Re•sil•ience /ri'zilyəns/

noun: resilience; plural noun: resiliences

1. the ability of a substance or object to spring back into shape; elasticity.

2. the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness.

Resilient communities are capable of bouncing back from adverse situations.

They can do this by actively influencing and preparing for economic, social and environmental change.

A high level of social capital means that they have access to good information and communication networks in times of difficulty.



- Resilience is seen as <u>something bigger</u> <u>than disaster preparedness</u>.
- Resilience-building is seen as <u>an</u> <u>important municipal responsibility</u>, although respondents ascribed different specific activities to it when describing their efforts.
- Citizens want <u>resilience-building actions</u>.



#### Resilient against what?

inderstanding and acting on resilience



- Post Carbon Institute

#### Can we do better?











We need to see our communities as the ecosystems they are and consider how the components of these places could be better

integrated.







Permaculture is Solution Oriented.

We ARE Change Agents.

Framework for Ecological Design.

Humans Guide the Creation of New Ecosystems.

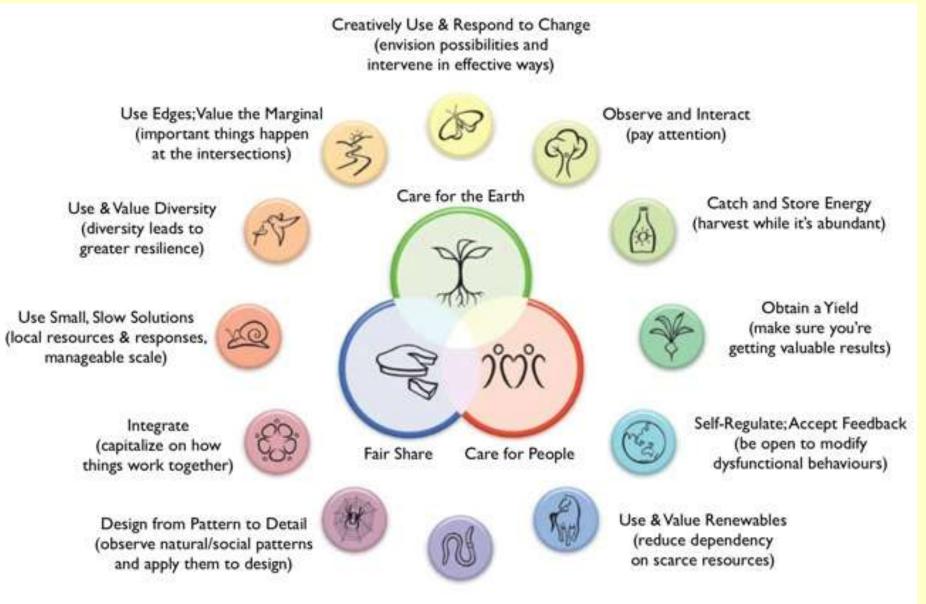


Permaculture is an approach to designing human settlements and agricultural systems that are modeled on the relationships found in natural ecologies.

We design ecosystems!



#### The Permaculture Ethics and Principles



Produce No Waste

# Permaculture Ethics

#### Earth Care – Rebuilding Natural Capital

Caring for the living soil, forests, rivers and all other life forms – they all have their own intrinsic value, and need to be respected for the functions that they perform even if we don't see them as useful to our needs.

#### People Care – Look After Self, Family & Community

Grow through self-reliance and personal responsibility focusing on non-material wellbeing, taking care of ourselves and others without producing or consuming unnecessary material resources. Empower ourselves to make better decisions and recognize that greater wisdom lies within a group of people who can work together.

#### Fair Share - Set Limits and Redistribute Surplus

The growth in human consumption and the accelerating extinction of species make clear the impossibility of continuous growth. Sometimes we need to make hard decisions and consider what enough is. By finding the right balance in our own lives we provide positive examples for others, so that they can find their own balance.

<u>Principle 1</u>: Observe & Interact "Beauty is in the Eye of the Beholder"







<u>Principle 2</u>: Catch and Store Energy "Make Hay When the Sun Shines"







<u>Principle 3</u>: Obtain a Yield "You Can't Work on an Empty Stomach"







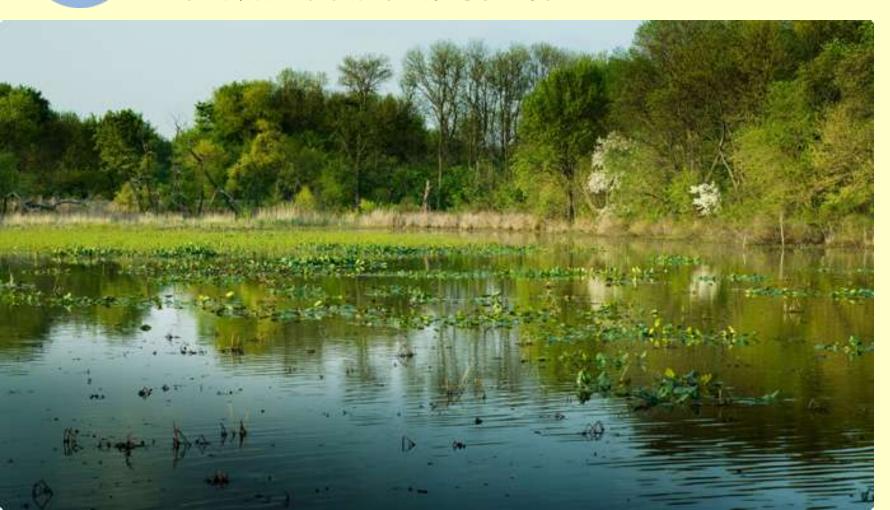


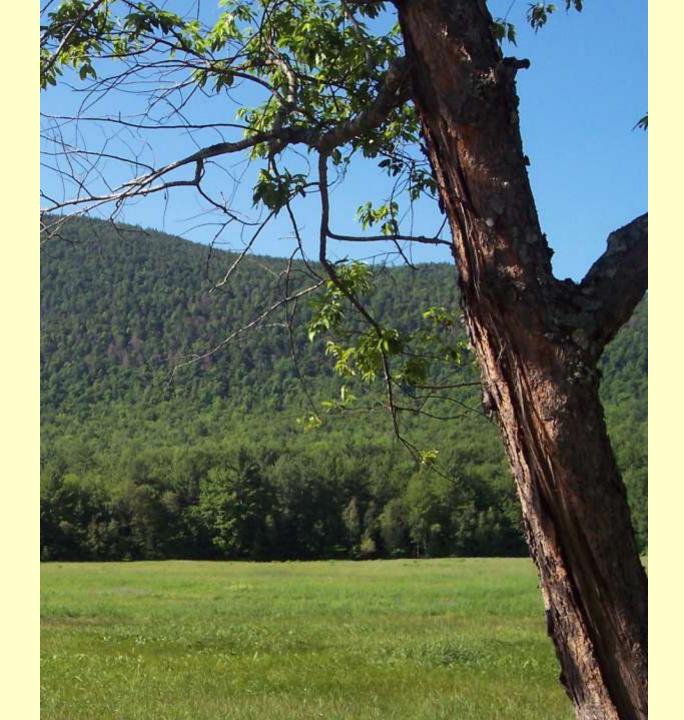
<u>Principle 4</u>: Apply Self Regulation & Accept Feedback "The Sins of the Fathers are Visited on the Children unto the Seventh Generation"





<u>Principle 5</u>: Use & Value Renewable Resources & Services "Let Nature Take Its Course"





<u>Principle 6</u>: Produce No Waste "Waste Not, Want Not"





We Only Accept Organic Materials
Smoking is Prohibited

#### ACCEPTED MATERIALS

#### UNACCEPTED MATERIA

ACCEPTED MATERIALS Organic Materials ONLY Food Scraps Yard Wastes Animal Manure & Bedding (fed vegetarian diet) Agricultural Waste Clean Untreated Wood Shredded Cardboard (includes wax covered) Shredded Newspaper

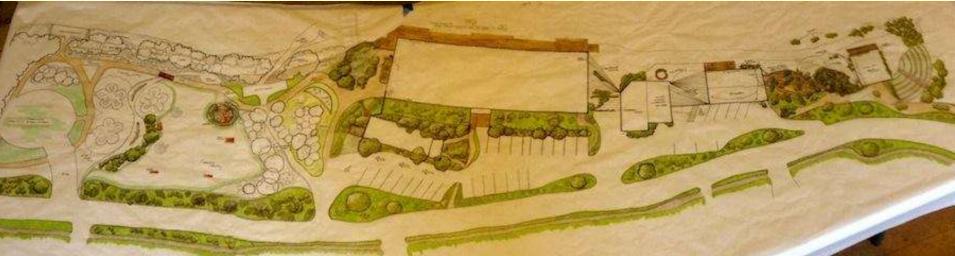




<u>Principle 7</u>: Design from Patterns to Details "Can't See the Forest for the Trees"









<u>Principle 8</u>: Integrate Rather Than Segregate "Many Hands Make Light Work"



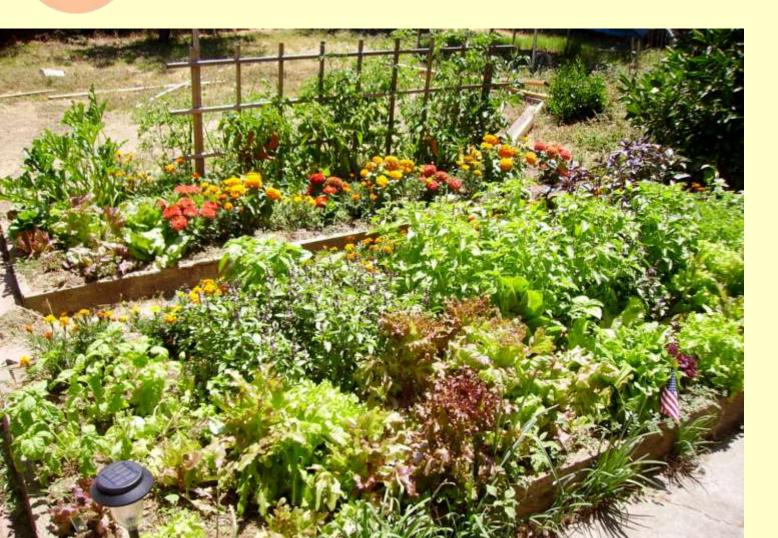


<u>Principle 9</u>: Use Small and Slow Solutions "Slow and Steady Wins the Race"





<u>Principle 10</u>: Use & Value Diversity "Don't Put All Your Eggs in One Basket"







### Permaculture Principles



<u>Principle 11</u>: Use Edges & Value the Marginal "Don't Think You are on the Right Track just because it's a Well-Beaten Path"





### Permaculture Principles



<u>Principle 12</u>: Creatively Use & Respond to Change "Vision is not Seeing Things as They Are but as They Will Be"







## Exercise..





#### Franklin Falls at Odell Park

- Week-long Design Charette for an Advanced Permaculture Diploma
- Generate a resilient ecological design for underutilized mills in the downtown district
- Low energy solutions, repurposed materials, and the multifunctional use of interior and exterior spaces within a historic portion of downtown Franklin
- Presented plan to the town and several champions are leading implementation





## Other Examples...



## City Repair



#### Miracle on Elmer Avenue

TreePeople is an environmental nonprofit that unites the power of trees, people and naturebased solutions to grow a sustainable future for Los Angeles.

Elmer Avenue - a neighborhood in Los Angeles' NE San Fernando Valley that was transformed from a flood hazard zone into a green street that is a model of sustainability.



## Tucson...1994



## Tucson...2006





#### Tactical Urbanism – Pavement to Parks and Pop Up Cafes



## Tactical Urbanism –



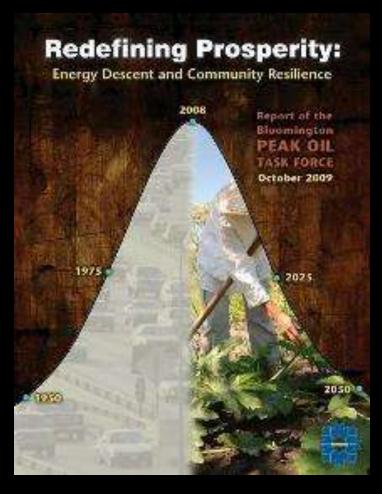




- Chair Bombs
- Open Streets
- Pop Up Town Hall
- Reclaim Setbacks
- Pop Up Libraries
- Mobile Parks
- Guerilla Gardening...

## Redefining Prosperity

- Bloomington, Indiana "Redefining Prosperity: Energy Descent and Community Resilience" Adopted in 2009
- Recommendations include:
  - new transportation efforts
  - creating a centralized composting system
  - removing and reducing the legal, institutional, and cultural barriers to farming in an ecologically friendly way within and around the city.





## Are we vulnerable or resilient?



# Social Capital...

## Innovation...

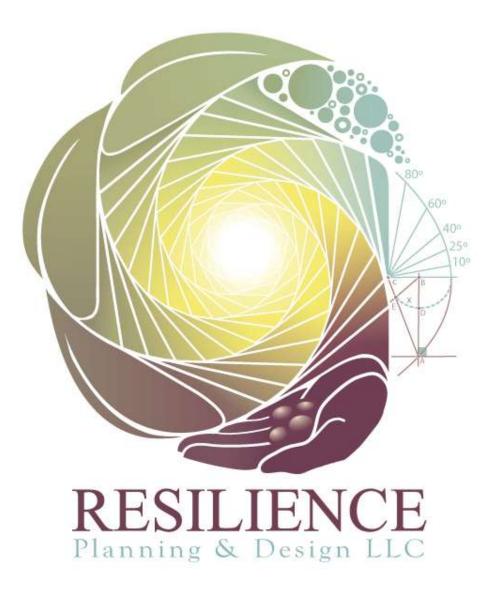


# Feedback Loops...

## Ecosystem Services...

## Discussion and Next Steps





Thank you!

https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/112269 9426/inhabit-a-permaculture-perspective