

PERMACULTURE PRINCIPLES 7-12

3

Just as designing human systems and settlements for long-term sustainability and livability are guided by the the 3-basic ethics, we can also draw from nature clues for establishing some foundational principles that will ensure we achieve these goals. There are 12 in total.



WELCOME TO
BENDING OAK
PERMACULTURE FARM

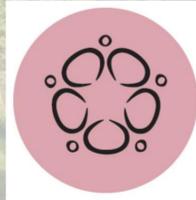


7. Design From Patterns to Details

"Cannot see the forest for the trees."

By stepping back, we can observe patterns in nature and society. These can form the backbone of our designs, with the details filling in as we go.

When considering the location of a tree or an addition to your home first consider the surroundings and how it will fit before you decide on the tree variety or the color of the blinds.



8. Integrate Rather than Segregate

"Many hands make light work."

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

When locating a hedge in your yard by your property line, it not only provides beauty, but could also act as a food source and a fence or buffer.



9. Use Small and Slow Solutions

"Slow and steady wins the race." or "The bigger they are, the harder they fall."

Small and slow systems are easier to maintain than big ones, making better use of local resources and produce more sustainable outcomes.

When steering a ship, a small correction is easy to adjust, but can have a huge impact further down the course.



10. Use and Value Diversity

"Don't put all your eggs in one basket."

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

Alternating pear and apple trees in your orchard decreases the damage of pests and gives you two yields or income sources.

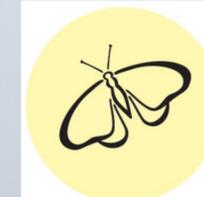


11. Use Edges and Value the Marginal

"Don't think you are on the right track just because it is a well-beaten path."

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.

The edge between a forest and a prairie has the most production and sustains the most wildlife.



12. Creatively Use and Respond to Change

"Vision is not seeing things as they are but as they will be."

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

Those who are most adaptable to change will survive.