

Advanced Indigenous Permaculture Design Course



Permaculture is about creating sustainable human habitats by following nature's patterns. An ecological design system that inspires and empowers us to create our own solutions to local and global problems, it provides ways to design and create healthy productive places to work, rest and play...

This course will incorporate traditional indigenous knowledge of agricultural practices with permaculture design principles, ethics, and characteristics. We will explore the practical aspects of permaculture through study and application of permaculture design methods and principals in the areas of microclimates, soils, water, earthworks, gardening, animal husbandry, aquaculture, seeds, plants, and distribution, site design, market and food preservation, forest gardens, maps and plans, including comprehensive community food systems. The course will be 72 hour of hands-on and classroom instruction.



Juan Nelson Rojas

Co-Facilitators for the course are Juan Nelson Rojas and Ronaldo Lec Ajcot of the Mesoamerican Permaculture Institute (IMAP). Tsyunhehkwa and Oneida Nation Program staff will offer instruction in many of the topic areas currently being practiced as a part of the Oneida Community Integrated Food Systems.



Ronaldo Lec Ajcot



Hosted by:
**College of Menominee Nation
Sustainable Development Institute**



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Course Agenda

Tuesday May 26, 2009 - Introduction to Permaculture Design

- 8:00–9:00am - Welcome - Rick Hill - Oneida Nation of Wisconsin Chairman
S. Verna Fowler - President, College of Menominee Nation
Juan Nelson Rojas - Mesoamerican Permaculture Institute, El Salvador
Ronaldo Lec Ajcot - Mesoamerican Permaculture Institute, Guatemala
Melissa Cook - Sustainable Development Institute
Ted Skenandore - Tsyunhehkw[^]
Prayer/Ceremony - Bob Brown - Oneida Nation
- 9:00am-12:00pm - Analysis of agriculture and its tendencies worldwide – Juan Rojas, Ronaldo Lec Ajcot
Analysis of the environment and global warming
First Nation's Cosmovisión at Abya Yala (Virgin land & turtle island)
Permaculture in time and space
- 12:00pm-1:30pm - Lunch at Norbert Hill Center
- 1:30pm-4:30pm - Tour of Oneida Nation – Kirby Metoxen
- 4:30pm-5:00pm - Daily Summary and Wrap Up

Wednesday May 27, 2009 - Natural Principals, Ethics and Characteristics in Permaculture

- 8:00am-10:00am - Permaculture, ethics, characteristics and natural principles – Juan Rojas, Ronaldo Lec Ajcot
Applying laws and principles to design
- 10:15am-12:00pm - The moon and its influence on agriculture - Juan Rojas, Ronaldo Lec Ajcot
- 12:00pm – 1:30pm – Lunch
- 1:30pm-2:45pm - The Mayan calendar, a practical guide to simply living - Juan Rojas, Ronaldo Lec Ajcot
- 3:00pm-4:30pm - Oneida Cultural Heritage – Randy Cornelius
- 4:30pm-5:00pm – Daily Summary and Wrap Up

Thursday May 28, 2009 - Forest Based Gardening

- Bus departs from Tsyunhehkw[^] at 8:00am
Bus arrives back at 5:00pm
- 8:00am-9:00am – Travel to Menominee Nation
- 9:00am-12:00pm - Forest garden design elements – James Chamberlain, US Forest Service
Native plants, fruits, berries, medicines, grasses and trees
- 12:00pm-1:00pm – Lunch
- 1:00pm-4:00pm – Tour of Menominee Forest – David “Jonesy” Miller, David Napoose Turney
Menominee Ancestral Way of Life
- 4:00pm-5:00pm – Travel Back to Oneida Nation

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Friday May 29, 2009 - Cultivated Ecosystems, Care for the Earth

Track 1

8:00am-9:00am - Broad climate zones, temperate, tropic and arid zones-Juan Rojas, Ronaldo Lec Ajcot
9:00am-10:00am - Reading the landscape, maps, slopes and valleys-Juan Rojas, Ronaldo Lec Ajcot
10:15pm-10:30pm – Travel
10:30am-12:00pm - Aquaculture, creek bank preservation – Steve Linskins, Dan Brooks, Rod Hill)
12:00pm - 1:30pm – Lunch
1:30pm-1:45 – Travel
1:45pm-3:00pm – Oneida Nation Farm, Raising Buffalo, management, grazing, etc – Dennis Van Vreede
3:00pm-3:15pm – Travel
3:15pm-4:30pm - Apple Orchard, growing, pruning, etc –Roger Arms, Jeff Scofield 4:30pm-5:00pm – Daily Summary and Wrap Up

Track 2

Bee Keeping Basics – Ross Conrad (Keshena CMN Campus)
1:00-1:30 – Introduction and overview
1:30-2:30 – Honey Bee Biology and tip for working with Bees
2:30-3:30 – Hive Construction and Layout
3:30-6:00 – Hands-On Building of equipment

Saturday May 30, 2009 - Developing Cultivated Ecosystems with Permaculture

Track 1

8:30am-10:30am - Water and soils, natural resources, biodiversity- Juan Rojas, Ronaldo Lec Ajcot
Climate and seasons, yield and storage
10:45am -12:00pm - Green House plants – Tsyunhehkwa Staff
Plant and seed distribution
12:00pm-1:30pm - Cookout Lunch
1:30pm-5:30pm - Preparing and planting garden beds – Tsyunhehkwa Staff
Planting a strawberry patch

Track 2

Bee Keeping - Ross Conrad (Keshena CMN Campus)
1:00pm-2:30pm - Colony Collapse Disorder (The current state of beekeeping and organic solutions)
2:30pm-4:00pm - Nontoxic Varroa Mite Control
4:00pm-6:00pm - Transfer Nucleus Colonies into New Equipment

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Sunday May 31, 2009 - Methods of Design

Track 1

- 8:30am-10:00am - Site Analysis, zones and sectors
Pest Management – Juan Rojas, Ronaldo Lec Ajcot
- 10:15am-12:00pm - Farmers Market/Oneida Community Integrated Food Systems – Bill Ver Voort
- 12:00pm-1:30pm - Cookout Lunch
- 1:30pm-5:30pm - Animal Husbandry, raising chickens, cattle, turkeys – Tsyunhehkwa Staff
Growing, Drying, Storing White Corn
Making corn mush – Vicky Cornelius, Jamie Betteres
Canning practices

Track 2

- Bee Keeping – Ross Conrad (Keshena CMN Campus)
- 1:00-2:30 – Natural Control of Honey Bee Pests and Predators (other than Varroa mites)
- 2:20-3:15 – Seasonal Management of Hives
- 3:15-4:45 – Products from the Hive and their Uses
- 4:45-6:00 – Field Visit to Bee Hives (Demonstrate and practice working with Bees)

Monday June 1, 2009 - Social Permaculture & Self Sufficiency, Care for the People

- 8:00am-10:30am - Ethics & access to land, Legal and invisible structures – Juan Rojas, Ronaldo Lec Ajcot
Population & social organization, Bioregion
- 10:45am-12:00pm - Suburban & Urban Permaculture - Juan Rojas, Ronaldo Lec Ajcot
Permaculture rural Communities
- 12:00pm-1:30pm - Lunch
- 1:30pm-4:30pm - Solar power and applications, Site tours – Mike Troge
- 4:30pm-5:00pm - Daily Summary and Wrap Up

Tuesday June 2, 2009 - Drawing Techniques in the Design

- 8:00am-4:30pm - Scales, maps and plans – Juan Rojas, Ronaldo Lec Ajcot
Instruments and drawing materials
Symbols, etc
- 4:30pm-5:00pm - Daily Summary and Wrap Up

Wednesday June 3, 2009 - Practical Designs in the Field

- 8:00am-4:30pm - Site analysis, gathering information – Juan Rojas, Ronaldo Lec Ajcot
Collective design exercise, stages of the practical design, etc.
Assessment of designs and end of the course.
- 4:30pm-5:00pm - Daily Summary and Wrap Up

