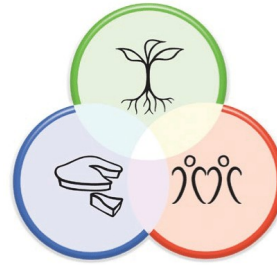


# The Mavis Institute

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## What is Permaculture?

Below is a list of the how to do permaculture. This is the introduction to the twelve permaculture principles: based on David Holmgren's book **'Permaculture: Principles and Pathways Beyond Sustainability'**

**1. Earth Care:** Caring for the Earth includes all living and non-living things, such as animals and plants, as well as land, water and air. Ecology and biology, shows all things are interconnected and interdependent. When one is affected, all are affected.

**2. People Care:** Caring of People is about promoting self-reliance and responsibility towards the greater community. Collaborative effort to bring change to one's own life and that of others.

**3. Fair Share:** Planning for the future. When we share our surplus produce, when we share our skills, knowledge, experience, and work load these actions build bonds between people which all works to foster a sense of stable, collaborative community.



**1. Observe and interact:** If we spend time in nature, observe the interactions, you will find a solution to almost every situation. Nature has had a lot more time to solve the big issues.

*"Beauty is in the eyes of the beholder"*

**2. Catch and store energy:** If we create systems to produce and/or store resources during their peak production we will need less during times of need. *"Harvest hay while the sun is shining."*



**3. Obtain a yield:** To have a fully functioning permaculture ecosystem then we must be able to be rewarded for the work we are doing. *"You can't work on a empty stomach."*

**4. Apply self-regulation and accept feedback:** We should try to constantly seeking feedback from the system, from ourselves and from others so that we can encourage our system to function well. *"The sins of the father are visited on the children back 7 generations."*

**5. Use and value renewable resources and services:**

Gentle use the abundance that nature provides.

*"Let Nature take it's course"*

**6. Produce no waste:** If we try making use of the resources available to us, and find as many uses for it we can ensure that little goes to waste. *"A stitch in time, saves nine. Waste not, want not"*

**7. Design from patterns to details:** Spend time to be in nature and observe the natural patterns in the world. This helps forms our design, the details that we can naturally follow. *"Design for the forest, but plan for the tree."*

**8. Integrate rather than segregate:** Relationships will form between things and they will begin to work together and support each other. *"Many hands make light work."*

**9. Use small and slow solutions:** Nature takes small steps in an ecosystem, small and slow systems are easier to maintain than big ones, allowing us to make more calculated choices.

*"Slow and steady wins the race."*

**10. Use and value diversity:** Diversity reduces vulnerability and takes advantage of nature and the environment. *"Don't put all your eggs in one basket."*

**11. Use edges and value the marginal:** The area in life between things is where the most interesting events take place. If we pay special attention to these areas as they are often the most valuable, and productive elements of the system.

*"Don't believe your on the right course, just because it's a well traveled path."*

**12. Creatively use and respond to change:** Unexpected change is a way of life. Through positive and careful observation we can find ways for the thrive even in choatic times.

*"Vision is not seeing things how they are, but how they will be."*

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