

## PERMACULTURE WEST e-newsletter

### Permaculture Association WA (PAWA)

24<sup>th</sup> April 2009

#### From the Committee:

#### PAWA promotions

The committee would like to thank everyone who assisted with promoting 'Permaculture West' at the Perth Sun Fair and Ballingup Small Farms Field Day. Special thanks to promotion organisers Warwick Rowell and Jeremy Parker.

Please help to promote Permaculture at the forthcoming Gidgegannup Small Farms Field Day on Sunday June 7 by volunteering to help on the stand for an hour or two.

Contact Jeremy at [zamiahill@activ8.net.au](mailto:zamiahill@activ8.net.au)

*PS: A great opportunity to advertise your Permaculture business or upcoming course.*

#### Events Summary:

Further information about the following events is detailed throughout the e-newsletter.

Date	Event	Location	Contact
April 23	Living Smart 8 wk program	City Farm East Perth	Sparkles <a href="mailto:sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au">sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au</a>
April 25 &26	Introduction to Permaculture	City Farm East Perth	Sparkles <a href="mailto:sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au">sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au</a>
April 25 &26	Biodynamics for Crops, Pastures, Horticulture & Viticulture.	Chittering	Darryl 089578080
April 27	A One Day Introduction to Biodynamics for Gardeners	Fremantle	Louise Edmonds on 0431 285 852.
April 30 - May1	Biodynamics for Crops, Pastures, Horticulture & Viticulture.	Mt Barker	John or Sheryn Howard 98514147 or Deanna Forster 0419 209 761
May 4	Permaculture Design Cert 2 week full time	Various	Ross Mars <a href="mailto:rossmars@yahoo.com">rossmars@yahoo.com</a> Mobile: 0439971213 <a href="http://www.cfpermaculture.com">www.cfpermaculture.com</a>
May 4 - May 5	Biodynamics for Crops, Pastures, Horticulture &	Cowaramup	Fiona Sharp 08 9755 5277.

	Viticulture.		
May 7	WA Community Garden Network meeting	Perth City Farm East Perth	Anne Goodall <a href="mailto:anne@wacgn.asn.au">anne@wacgn.asn.au</a> <a href="http://www.wacgn.asn.au">www.wacgn.asn.au</a>
May 9	<b>PAWA presentation: Community Gardening</b>	<b>Perth City Farm</b>	<b>Elizabeth</b> <a href="mailto:admin@earthsanctuary.com.au">admin@earthsanctuary.com.au</a>
May 16	<b>Hills Local Permaculture Group</b>	Various	<a href="mailto:joythom@bigpond.com">joythom@bigpond.com</a>
June 7	<b>Gidgegannup Small Farms Field day</b>		To assist with PAWA promotion – <b>Jeremy</b> <a href="mailto:zamiahill@activ8.net.au">zamiahill@activ8.net.au</a>
June 13	<b>PAWA presentation: Biodynamics</b>	<b>Perth City Farm</b>	<b>Elizabeth</b> <a href="mailto:admin@earthsanctuary.com.au">admin@earthsanctuary.com.au</a>
June 20	<b>Hills Local Permaculture Group</b>	Various	<a href="mailto:joythom@bigpond.com">joythom@bigpond.com</a>
June 15-27	Permaculture Design Certificate 2 week full time	Environmental Technology Centre, Murdoch	International Permaculture Greg Knibbs. <a href="mailto:gknibbs@internationalpermaculture.com">gknibbs@internationalpermaculture.com</a> <a href="http://www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses2">www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses2</a>
Winter - Spring	Organic Gardening Courses	APACE Fremantle	Margot on 9336 1262.
July 11& 12	Introduction to Permaculture	City Farm East Perth	Sparkles <a href="mailto:sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au">sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au</a>
July 26	Permaculture Design Cert part time (10 weeks)	Various	Ross Mars <a href="mailto:rossmars@yahoo.com">rossmars@yahoo.com</a> Mobile: 0439971213 <a href="http://www.cfpermaculture.com">www.cfpermaculture.com</a>
Aug 10-22	Permaculture Design Certificate 2 week full time	Ghana West Africa	International Permaculture Greg Knibbs. <a href="mailto:gknibbs@internationalpermaculture.com">gknibbs@internationalpermaculture.com</a> <a href="http://www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses2">www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses2</a>
Sept 7-19	Permaculture Design Certificate 2 week full time	Environmental Technology Centre, Murdoch	International Permaculture Greg Knibbs. <a href="mailto:gknibbs@internationalpermaculture.com">gknibbs@internationalpermaculture.com</a> <a href="http://www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses2">www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses2</a>
Sept 21 - 25	Permaculture Intro and Hands On	ETC Murdoch	International Permaculture Greg Knibbs. <a href="mailto:gknibbs@internationalpermaculture.com">gknibbs@internationalpermaculture.com</a> <a href="http://www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses2">www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses2</a>

## **Forthcoming PAWA Events:**

### **Community Gardening**

**May 9**

11am

**Presented by Anne Goodall from Growing Community**

Perth City Farm, East Perth (near Claisebrook Station)

What's happening in WA, how to tap into resources to start a community garden or get involved with one near you. Plus news from Perth's thriving community garden scene.

Come along to City Farm enjoy a Fairtrade coffee, browse the organic growers market and join us for this inspiring presentation. Sat May 9 is also Fairtrade Fiesta at City Farm.

Members Free/ Visitors \$5.00

### **Bio-dynamics**

**June 13**

Perth City Farm, East Perth (near Claisebrook Station)

Members Free/ Visitors \$5.00

## **Local Permaculture Groups**

### **Hills Group**

A meeting to discuss reactivating the Hills Local Group of the Permaculture Association of WA was held on Monday April 6. Ten people attended and there was considerable enthusiasm for re-starting.

We talked about the activities offered by PAWA and will try not to duplicate these. The main areas of interest for the group are: learning, sharing knowledge, being a network, Permaculture as a means of addressing climate change, growing food, soils, natural insecticides, chooks, 'Care of People' Permaculture ethic, sharing seeds, seedlings and produce.

We will meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month, 9:30 for 10am start finishing at 12:00. Elizabeth Nicholas will be the link with the PAWA committee and Joy and Thom the initial contact person for the local group.

[joythom@bigpond.com](mailto:joythom@bigpond.com) or phone 9295 2408.

### **Other Local Groups?**

Local Permaculture groups give people greater opportunity to share experiences, celebrate achievements (and share gluts) as well as overcome challenges. Belonging to a local group can also provide inspiration (and motivation), hands on practical help, opportunity to share equipment or swap seeds and cuttings. Lastly and maybe of greatest value, local groups can provide a sense of comradeship and connectedness.

If you would like to be a contact person for interested Permies in your local area you can forward a request through the e-news. See below for email contact details.

## **Permaculture West Quarterly Magazine**

The autumn edition of '*Permaculture West*' with the theme 'Retrofitting your House for Winter' will be out in a couple of weeks.

The winter edition will focus on the Permaculture Principle 'Protracted and Careful Observation'. What didn't the books tell you? What did your own careful observations reveal and what design tips can you pass on to others? Analysis and innovation ensure that Permaculture (the marriage between ethics, landscape and people) is successful.

Send your experiences to Warwick at [warwick.rowell@bigpond.com](mailto:warwick.rowell@bigpond.com)

## **Permaculture Courses/ Training**

### **Introduction to Permaculture: 2 courses**

**25th and 26th of April**

**11th and 12th of July**

**Facilitated by Sparkles**

10am – 4pm

Perth City Farm, 184 Brown St, East Perth (near Claisebrook Station)

Cost: \$100 or \$80 concession, there are special options available for unemployed and students.

#### **Course Description:**

Permaculture is a world view which opens people up to the vision of a sustainable future. In this introduction you will learn about intelligent organic gardening and design principles as well as issues surrounding sustainable behaviour, both in and out of the compost heap!

Permaculture is much more than just growing your own food, it is about skill sharing, using resources wisely and connecting with your community. It incorporates everyone, and encourages diversity, whilst empowering individuals into self sufficiency and resilience.

The course will cover all the basics of Permaculture and organic gardening (ie composting, good soil, seed saving etc), and go into resource management, community building and touch on design.

Contact Sparkles on 0406 449 369 or [sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au](mailto:sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au)

### **Permaculture Design Course (PDC) 2009**

Full time: **May 4 – May 15 (10 days)** Not May 9/10. (WA school holidays)

Part time: **July 26 – Sept 27 (10 days)** Every Sunday.

Facilitated by **Dr Ross Mars**

#### **Course Description:**

The Permaculture Design Course is a 72 hour intensive course which combines theory with practical experience. Satisfactory completion of the course will enable you to begin to develop and implement your designs in a sustainable Permaculture system.

Cost: \$550.00

For more information or to receive a brochure please contact Ross at the following:

Telephone a/h 92956263

[rossmars@yahoo.com](mailto:rossmars@yahoo.com)

Mobile: 0439971213

[www.cfpermaculture.com](http://www.cfpermaculture.com)

## **Permaculture Design Course (PDC) 2009**

### **3 Full time courses**

**June 15 – June 27.** (Environmental Technology Centre, Murdoch University.)

**August 10 – August 22.** (Ghana)

**Sept 7 – September 19.** (Environmental Technology Centre, Murdoch University.)

The courses are taught by Greg Knibbs (and friends). Greg is a registered teacher with the Australian Permaculture Institute founded by Bill Mollison. Greg has worked on Permaculture projects with communities, non-government organisations and private companies in the Philippines, West Africa, Cambodia and Australia.

Cost for courses held at Murdoch Environmental Tech Centre (ETC) – \$995 (included lunch/snacks). Early registration discount of \$95.00.

Course details and registration at: [www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses](http://www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses)

### **More about Ghana PDC**

Come to Ghana, get to know the people and culture and share in this 12 day Permaculture course. Visit local Permaculture sites and see what the members from the Ghana Permaculture Network are doing. Take part in helping to design the proposed Permaculture Demonstration Farm and Training Centre. Part of the course fees will help raise much needed funds to continue on the work that Greg and Paul are undertaking.

## **Permaculture Intro and Hands On**

Sept 21 – Sept 25 (5days)

Murdoch Environmental Technology Centre

Facilitated by Greg Knibbs

Cost: \$495.00

Course details and registration at: [www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses](http://www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses)

## **Other Workshops**

### **Living Smart**

**Starts April 23 and runs for 8 weeks**

6:30pm – 8:30pm every Thursday evening for 8 weeks

Perth City Farm, 184 Brown St, East Perth (near Claisebrook Station)

Contact: Contact Sparkles on 0406 449 369 or [sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au](mailto:sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au)

**THE LIVING SMART COURSE** is education for the community about issues and solutions surrounding sustainability. Delivered in a fun and motivating environment, it finds participants empowered and inspired to make positive changes in their home and neighbourhoods.

It was produced in partnership with Fremantle Council, The Meeting Place, Murdoch University and the SMRC (South Metropolitan Resource Centre)

This course is free to participants as it has been funded by City of Perth.

It will cover topics such as energy saving, water and waste management, organic gardening, healthy lifestyle and more.

This particular course is nearly full, but I will be keeping a waiting list for the next one which should be run some time in July.

### **Biodynamic Workshops**

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BIODYNAMICS THE FOLLOWING WORKSHOPS ARE BEING PRESENTED BY BIODYNAMIC EDUCATORS JOHN PRIESTLY AND HAMISH MACKAY.

These workshops will assist primary producers, horticulturalists, vignerons and land managers improve overall farm health, quality and yield of produce.

#### **2 Day Biodynamics for Crops, Pastures, Horticulture & Viticulture. 9 am - 5 pm. Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 April 2009**

Darryl Harts' farm 'Yaragan', 1552 Chittering Road, Lower Chittering, WA 6084.

For more information contact Darryl on 08 9571 8080, mobile 0410324295 or Deanna Forster on 0419 209 761

#### **A One Day Introduction to Biodynamics for Gardeners**

**Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

Fremantle.

Morning theory session 8.30 am Sullivan Hall, Cnr Nannine & Steven Streets, White Gum Valley. 1 pm lunch at FERN Cnr High & Montreal Streets, Fremantle and afterwards take part in the practical session on site. Cost \$85.

For more information ph Louise Edmonds on 0431 285 852.

#### **2 Day Biodynamics for Crops, Pastures, Horticulture & Viticulture 9 am to 5 pm Thursday 30 April and Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2009 at**

John and Sheryn Howard's Petersfield Farm, Cnr Boyup and Sturdee Roads, Mt Barker

For more info contact John or Sheryn Howard 98514147 or Deanna Forster 0419 209 761

#### **Two day workshop**

**Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 May 2009 9 am to 5 pm**

Cullen Wines, Caves Road, Cowaramup, WA 6284.

This is a Commercial Biodynamic Vineyard with ACO Certification.

Local contact: Fiona Sharp, ph 08 9755 5277.

**Please register by 24 April, 2009. Cost for 2 day workshops \$220.00pp. Includes GST, lunch, morning and afternoon tea.**

### **APACE Organic Gardening Course**

**Winter and Spring Seasons**

**Wednesdays/ Sundays**

**9am -12pm**

Apac Community Gardens, 1 Johannah Street in North Fremantle

Course fees are \$25.00 or \$20.00 with concession.

The three hour course covers topics & demonstrations on the principles of:

Organic Gardening

Compost Making

Crop Rotation

This is a great opportunity to tap into the wealth of knowledge Apace that community gardener, Dennis Tarrant, has harvested over years of organic gardening practice. To register your interest please phone Margot on 9336 1262.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **WA Community Garden Network Gathering**

**Thursday May 7**

6pm – 8:30pm

Perth City Farm, East Perth

Following on from the well-attended visioning session held in November where attendees voted overwhelmingly in support of the WACGN becoming a structured organisation, this ‘nuts and bolts’ workshop is the chance to discuss:

- what type of organisation should the WACGN be?
- who will be its members?
- how will its members make decisions?

Don't miss this opportunity to contribute to shaping the future of the WACGN! RSVP attendance.

Regional garden representatives who would like to be involved please contact Anne.

Anne Goodall

Project Coordinator

Growing Communities WA

A project supporting community gardens

ph. 1300 501 357

[anne@wacgn.asn.au](mailto:anne@wacgn.asn.au)

PO Box 8252 PERTH BUSINESS CENTRE WA 6849

[www.wacgn.asn.au](http://www.wacgn.asn.au)

### **Wanted:**

2 male meat pigeons.

Contact: Warwick at: [warwick.rowell@bigpond.com](mailto:warwick.rowell@bigpond.com)

### **Other Items of Interest:**

#### **Trial Sites for GM Canola**

The Minister for Agriculture and Food announced the trial sites for GM canola on Wed this week .

See link for full

details <http://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/Results.aspx?ItemID=131685>

On behalf of Organic Growers Assoc WA, I have spoken to ‘The West Australian’ newspaper to express our disappointment that the Minister has chosen to ignore over 27,000 people who signed a petition (and which was presented to him at the rally last year). And as organic growers we have serious concerns about the contamination of our crops.

The purpose of this urgent email is to advise you of these sites and to let you know how you could be affected. Seeding would most likely start in about a week!

Please see below for the sites/towns and shires the sites are located. The link to the map is [http://maps.google.com.au/maps/ms?source=s\\_q&hl=en&geocode=&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=115349700817031655722.000467a13fa45ec06ed24&ll=-31.905541,117.240601&spn=3.259432,4.894409&z=8](http://maps.google.com.au/maps/ms?source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=115349700817031655722.000467a13fa45ec06ed24&ll=-31.905541,117.240601&spn=3.259432,4.894409&z=8)

If you happen to live in one of these shires, please write a letter or speak to either the CEO or Shire President immediately to let them know that you are opposed to the trials and request that your shire adopt a GM free Status.

And if you happen to live in neighbouring shires e.g. Frankland River is awfully close to Shire of Manjimup and towns such as Pemberton and Witchcliffe. So perhaps it may be advisable to bring this to the attention of your shire president.

Trial sites for GM canola: 17 farmer locations

Cunderdin (3)	Shire of Cunderdin
Woogenellup (2)	Shire of Plantagenet
York (2)	Shire of York

Single sites at:

Aldersyde	Shire of Brookton
Beverley	Shire of Beverley
Bulyee	Shire of Corrigin
Dudinin	Shire of Kulin
Frankland River	Shire of Cranbrook
Kendenup	Shire of Plantagenet
Many Peaks	Shire of Albany
Mobrup	Shire of Kojonup
Quairading	Shire of Quairading
South Stirling	Shire of Albany?

3 research sites:

The research trial sites are located on Department of Agriculture and Food research facilities at Geraldton (8 hectares) and Esperance (15 ha) and on a farm property at Wongan Hills (2 ha)

CBH receival points –

Mt Kokeby (Between Beverley and Brookton) and the other at Metro Grain Centre at Forrestfield

For those who might not live in one of these shires, have a look at the receival points, the one located in Forrestfield is of great concern. Any truck carrying GM canola seeds from York will most likely take the route of the Great Southern Highway, Great Eastern Highway - cutting across Hills suburbs of Helena Valley, Glen Forrest, then into Roe Hwy across suburbs Maida Vale etc.

The receival point at Mt Kokeby (Between Beverley and Brookton) will most likely receive GM canola from most of the trial sites but GM canola from the trial sites at the most southern point will go through towns such as Albany and Mt Barker.



Let's hope that there are no prevailing winds from the east, west, north or south to stop this from spreading....

Lastly, I also suggest you voice your concerns to the Minister and to your local MP.

All the best - apologies for being the bearer of bad news.

Kind regards

Maggie Lilith (Vice-President – Organic Growers Assoc WA).

**Join PAWA**

**PAWA membership.**

Membership fee is \$30.00 annually (1<sup>st</sup> July to 30th June). A pro rata fee of \$15.00 is charged for new members joining after December 31<sup>st</sup>. Please send a cheque or money order to Permaculture Association of WA, PO Box 442 BAKERS HILL 6562. Include your details (name, address, phone and email address) especially if they have changed.

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*PAWA e-news is compiled by K.McKenzie. If you would like to contribute please email Karen at: [kjmckenzie@amnet.net.au](mailto:kjmckenzie@amnet.net.au). The newsletter will be emailed to members around the 21st of each month. We welcome announcements from other environmentally focused organisations and support cross pollination between groups to further the sustainability message.*