

# **PERMACULTURE WEST e-newsletter**

***Permaculture Association WA (PAWA)***

**25<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

## ***From the Committee***

### **Conveners report**

Hello Fellow Permies! and welcome to another year of PAWA activities.

We have made ‘Local Heroes’ our theme for the year as we wanted to recognise and learn from the many Western Australians who are pioneers of sustainability and landcare strategies and have been applying Permaculture principles successfully for a long time.

Whilst media interest in these topics has increased in recent years in response to the evidence of climate change and Peak Oil concerns, they are not new concepts! The Permaculture movement was founded 30 years ago in response to growing awareness of pollution, loss of plant and animal species, depletion of non renewable resources (particularly the oil shocks of ’73 and ’75) and a destructive economic system. Since then it has grown to become a worldwide movement.

Western Australians, whether prominent internationally, or through work in local schools & community organisations, or just doing a great job of developing their own Permaculture systems have played a part in this. By showcasing the achievements of these people, we hope to bring the knowledge & benefits of Permaculture to people who are new to it, but nevertheless have motivation to reduce/ reuse/ recycle and live well!

Last year we conducted an online survey to seek feedback on various issues, but mainly the suitability of venue and meeting time. What we found was that more people were in favour of meeting on a weekend, and that for many, Bassendean was not central enough. So, to that end we have confirmed arrangements for our change of venue to City Farm, East Perth and the next meeting will be on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 11:00am**. Jeremy Albertson will talk about and demonstrate the making and use of compost teas with a focus on using herbs as dynamic accumulators of nutrients

At this month’s meeting on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March** PAWA screened the DVD ‘Garbage Warrior’. Unfortunately due to email problems we weren’t able to announce this event widely. However the DVD – a documentary about a US architect who struggles with the law to build functional houses from junk materials is available from most DVD rentals and is well worth viewing.

The 2009 calendar of events is shaping up with a focus on practical skill building. Events will be detailed via the e-news or visit PAWA’s recently redesigned website at [www.permaculturewest.org.au](http://www.permaculturewest.org.au)

Our main promotional event for the year will be a presence at **Perth Sun Fair to be held at University of Western Australia (UWA) on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April**. We need as many permies as

possible to get behind this event and volunteer for a 1-2 hour shift on the stand. Please contact Warwick if you can help. Email address below.

We are also planning a Celebration Weekend - 30 years of PAWA – with a focus on past and present PAWA members getting together, sharing experiences and learning something new to take into the future.

I wish you all abundant success in all your projects for the year and hope to see many of you at our meetings.

Challis Wilson  
(Convenor)

### **PAWA Logo**

PAWA is in the process of redesigning its logo. If you have strong feelings/ opinions regarding colours/ images/ symbols that would adequately reflect Permaculture in Western Australia please contact Challis at: [aubergine70@hotmail.com](mailto:aubergine70@hotmail.com)

### ***Events Summary:***

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

Date	Event	Location	Contact
March 28 – April 1	Growing Communities Ben Neil Visit	Various	Anne Goodall <a href="mailto:anne@wacgn.asn.au">anne@wacgn.asn.au</a>
March 28 – April 5	Conservation Week	Various	<a href="http://www.conservationwa.asn.au">www.conservationwa.asn.au</a> or contact Jessie Cochrane on (08) 9420 7266 or email <a href="mailto:clo@conservationwa.asn.au">clo@conservationwa.asn.au</a>
March 29	Festival of the Trees	Men of the Trees Hazelmere	
March 29	Earth Solutions Expo	Northam	<a href="mailto:helenevans@westnet.com.au">helenevans@westnet.com.au</a> <a href="http://www.earthsolutionsexpo.com.au">www.earthsolutionsexpo.com.au</a>
April 5	Perth Sun Fair	UWA Nedlands	To assist with PAWA stand: <a href="mailto:warwick.rowell@bigpond.com">warwick.rowell@bigpond.com</a> .
April 6	<b>Hills Local Permaculture Group Start Up Meeting</b>	Mahogany Creek	<a href="mailto:joythom@bigpond.com">joythom@bigpond.com</a>
April 11	<b>PAWA presentation: Compost tea/ Using herbs as dynamic accumulators with Jeremy Albertson</b>	Perth City Farm East Perth	Elizabeth <a href="mailto:admin@earthsanctuary.com.au">admin@earthsanctuary.com.au</a>
April 12	Ballingup Small Farms Field Day	Ballingup	To assist with PAWA stand: Jeremy

			<a href="mailto:zamiahill@activ8.net.au">zamiahill@activ8.net.au</a>
April 18 & 19	Introduction to Permaculture	City Farm East Perth	Sparkles <a href="mailto:sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au">sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au</a>
April 23	Living Smart 8 wk program	City Farm East Perth	Sparkles <a href="mailto:sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au">sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au</a>
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>
<b>May 9</b>	<b>PAWA presentation: Community Gardening</b>	<b>Perth City Farm</b>	<b>Elizabeth <a href="mailto:admin@earthsanctuary.com.au">admin@earthsanctuary.com.au</a></b>
<b>June 13</b>	<b>PAWA presentation: Biodynamics</b>	<b>Perth City Farm</b>	<b>Elizabeth <a href="mailto:admin@earthsanctuary.com.au">admin@earthsanctuary.com.au</a></b>
Winter - Spring	Organic Gardening Courses	APACE Fremantle	Margot on 9336 1262.
July 11	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		Ross Mars <a href="mailto:rossmars@yahoo.com">rossmars@yahoo.com</a> Mobile: 0439971213 <a href="http://www.cfpermaculture.com">www.cfpermaculture.com</a>

### ***Forthcoming PAWA Events:***

#### **Making Compost Tea/ Using Herbs as Dynamic Accumulators**

**April 11**

**Presented by Jeremy Albertson**

11am – 12:30pm

Perth City Farm, East Perth (near Claisebrook Station)

Members Free/ Visitors \$5.00

#### **Community Gardening**

**May 9**

11am

Perth City Farm, East Perth (near Claisebrook Station)

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**

Greetings Hills' Permies.

Elizabeth, Joy and Jim are hoping to reactivate the Hills Local Group of PAWA and are having a meeting to consider this on Monday 6 April at 6.30pm.

Venue is 510 O'Connor Road, Mahogany Creek.

We will have a short meeting followed by some simple finger food. Bring a plate to share if you can, but come even if you can't.

Please RSVP to [joythom@bigpond.com](mailto:joythom@bigpond.com) or phone 9295 2408. If you are unable to attend please email with thoughts and ideas.

Look forward to seeing you.

Elizabeth Nicholas  
Joy and Jim Thom

### **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 theme of the February edition of '*Permaculture West*' is '**Retrofitting Strategies for Better Climate Control of House Interiors in SW WA**'.

Last call for articles/ photos/ diagrams/ resources etc on any of the following:

- Principles/design features, and how they are, or need to be, varied in this mild climate
- Details of retrofitting to reduce heating costs,
- Details of retrofitting to reducing cooling costs,
- Easy-to-do aesthetics and their impact on ambience,
- Your or someone else's personal experiences of putting these all together,
- Reports on your thinking after doing a retrofit – what you have learned.

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

## **Permaculture Courses/ Training**

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

Facilitated by **Dr Ross Mars**

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.

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

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

Mobile: 0439971213

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

## ***Other Workshops***

### **Living Smart**

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

6:30 – 8:30

City Farm, East Perth

Contact: [sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au](mailto:sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au)

### **APACE Organic Gardening Course**

#### **Winter and Spring Seasons**

Apace Community Gardens

1 Johannah Street in North Fremantle

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.

Apace runs the courses from 9am to 12am on Wednesdays & Sundays. Courses are held throughout the winter and spring seasons. Course fees are \$25.00 or \$20.00 with concession. To register your interest please phone Margot on 9336 1262.

## ***Upcoming Events***

### **Growing Communities WA: Ben Neil Visit**

Growing Communities WA is hosting a 5 day visit to Perth by Ben Neil. Ben Neil is the CEO of Cultivating Community (Victoria) and President of the City Farms and Community Gardens Network.

### **Catch Ups and Conversations About Your Community Gardens**

Sat March 29

3:30 – 5:30

Earthwise, 315 Bagot Road Subiaco

**Getting Started in Community Gardening: How to Set Up a Garden in Your Neighbourhood**

Sun March 29

9:30 – 11:30

Leederville Bowling Club, 75 Cambridge Street, West Leederville

**Getting Underway with Community Outdoor Spaces**

Sunday March 29

2:00 – 3:30pm

For members of Learning Centre Link

**Community Food Systems: Local Initiatives to Secure Our Food Future**

Mon March 30

2:00 - 4:30pm

City of Stirling ‘Reception Hall’, 25Cedric Street Stirling

**School Kitchen Garden Forum**

Tue March 31

9:00 – 11:00am

Perth City Farm, East Perth

**Community Development Seminar: Growing Local Capacity Through Community Gardens**

Tue March 31

12:00 – 2:00pm

Perth City Farm, East Perth

**Working Together: Local Governments and Community Gardens**

Wed April 1

2:00 – 4:30pm

City of Swan ‘Admin Building, 2 Midland Square, Midland.

For local government officers, elected members....

RSVP or more info for above at [info@wacgn.asn.au](mailto:info@wacgn.asn.au)

**Conservation Week 2009**

Connecting Community and the Environment

March 28 - April 5 2009

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

**Perth Sun Fair**

**April 5**

Held in the Grounds of UWA

Warwick Rowell is coordinating the PAWA promotions at the forthcoming **SUN FAIR** festival in Perth in April this year. He requires digital photos on Permaculture related themes for a rolling

slide show. Please send to Warwick at: [warwick.rowell@bigpond.com](mailto:warwick.rowell@bigpond.com). Also if you are able to help on the stand for a 1-2 hour shift on the day please also reply.

## **Ballingup Small Farms Field Day**

**April 12** (Easter Sunday)

Several PAWA members attended last year. It was a fantastic few days away and the field day itself excellent value. In addition there were 4 one hour tours of various properties on offer. One last year included the organic market garden ‘Bossy Boots Farm’. PAWA will be represented by manning a stand. If you would like to be involved please contact Jeremy: [zamiahill@activ8.net.au](mailto:zamiahill@activ8.net.au)

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

### **Mt Claremont Growers Market**

Every Saturday 8:30 – 12:30

Mt Claremont Primary School.

---

*PAWA e-news is compiled by K.McKenzie. If you would like to contribute please email Karen at: [kimckenzie@amnet.net.au](mailto:kimckenzie@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.*

### **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.