

Seacoast Permaculture Connections, Volume 2, New Year 2021 Edition

January 5, 2021

Dear Seacoast Permaculture Enthusiasts,

We welcome the growing light and fresh page of the calendar and hope you are all well so far this winter. We'd like to share the (best laid?!) plans we are making for upcoming events.

We will continue with our programming through Zoom. Although imperfect, we have been getting very good feedback about what we have been able to do, and we hope to offer some events with teachers from farther away while online. We've also been happy to connect with attendees from farther afield!

We are not doing our winter bee school, but will offer a series of gardening classes, and other skill building events. We plan for a number of book studies, conversation groups and panel discussions, which have worked very well on Zoom. We might try more films. Coming right up are: [The Work That Reconnects workshop](#) on January 7, and a [film showing of Kiss the Ground](#) on January 13.

While we are taking deposits for some classes again, we remain committed to offering access to our events. Just reach out to me if you need scholarship funds for any of our events.

Our intent is to continue sending out this newsletter on Equinoxes and Solstices, with some in between if changes or updates call for it.

Here are a few links and resources we recommend in these deep, dark times of the year:

- Help [map Community Gardens in NH](#)
- A [slow-motion video of insects in flight](#)
- Many interesting conversations and webinars were recorded as part of the "[World Localization Day](#)" [program](#)
- An [interview with Ian McSweeney](#) from Agrarian Trust

A thought to start your new year... "Do you already know that your existence--who and how you are--is in and of itself a contribution to the people and place around you? Not after or because you do some particular thing, but simply the miracle of your life. And that the people around you, and the place(s), have contributions as well? Do you understand that your quality of life and your survival are tied to how authentic and generous the connections are between you and the people and place you live with and in?"
--Adrienne Maree Brown, Emergent Strategy: Shaping Change, Changing Worlds

In Solidarity,

Amy & Karen for Seacoast Permaculture

Seacoast Permaculture Newsletter, Vernal Equinox 2021

March 25, 2021

Happy Spring!

We hope that your winter has been restful, and that you are enjoying the extra light and warmth now arriving. Hopefully we'll get some spring rains soon, too!

We have been happy to see many of you at our Zoom events over the winter. It has been especially exciting to feature speakers from far away, suddenly made accessible through online events! We continue to plan meetups on Zoom for now. It will be wonderful to be together in person again, and we'll keep assessing safety issues moving towards that day.

Here are some great resources we recommend for your spring reading/listening:

-[Atlanta Georgia's Food Forest](#) (short article)

-The [Ecological Civilization issue of YES](#) magazine recently published (many articles to check out)

-A look at the ongoing [Indian Farmer Protests](#) (podcast)

-The [UN Decade on Restoration](#) begins June 5th

Happy planting!

Amy & Karen for Seacoast Permaculture

Seacoast Permaculture Connections, Volume 2, Summer Solstice Edition
June 21, 2021

Hello Seacoast Permaculture friends,

Happy Summer Solstice & Green Growing Time!

We are always so happy to see you at our Zoom events and will continue to offer those.

We are also in the process of figuring out how to restart in-person gatherings in a way that will honor the permaculture ethic of "People Care" and the principles that ask us to pay attention (principle #1), self-regulate our behavior (#4), and move slowly (#9). Of course, Creatively Use and Respond to Change (#12) has particularly been guiding us through the past year and a half!

We hope to have a plan to share with you soon.

Meanwhile, if you want suggestions for your summer reading & activities:

-Join our morning Zoom [book study of Gathering Moss](#) by Robin Wall Kimmerer

-Go to an in-person exhibit, [The Art of Mending](#), in Kennebunk Maine:

-Watch "[In conversation: David Holmgren and Helena Norberg-Hodge](#)" (we'll have a discussion of this interview later in the summer on Zoom)

-Read about local work by SELT and others [protecting our water](#) as droughts continue

-Seacoast Permaculture has been glad to do more lately to acknowledge the importance of Indigenous communities in our movement and learning. We are not alone in recognizing this need: <https://e360.yale.edu/features/how-returning-lands-to-native-tribes-is-helping-protect-nature>

Be well, happy gardening, and we hope to be together soon!

A summer thought to close with: "Those who dwell among the beauties and mysteries of the earth are never alone or weary of life." -Rachel Carson

Karen & Amy for Seacoast Permaculture

Seacoast Permaculture Connections, Volume 2, Autumn Equinox 2021 Edition
September 24, 2021

Happy Autumn, all!

We hope you are enjoying a productive harvest season.

We are excited for our upcoming in-person event! [John Forti will talk with us](#) about his new book, The Heirloom Gardener: Traditional Plants and Skills for the Modern World, on Saturday, October 2, 3:30pm in Lee NH. Spaces are limited but not yet all full.

Many of us food growers are in our busiest season now, but if you do have some down-time here are some suggestions for your attention - or save them for colder times.

-It's apple season! Meet the Appalachian Apple Hunter Who Rescued 1,000 'Lost' Varieties [here](#).

-Learn more about spiders, beyond their spooky Samhain/Halloween connection! Read about their enormous ecological value [here](#).

-Here's a 5 minute Alnoba (in Kensington NH) film "[Kids in Nature](#)" about their programs to connect city-dwelling children to nature.

-While you are working on canning, freezing, dehydrating food for the winter, Quivira has some great podcasts you can listen to such as this [interview with Joe Maxwell](#) from the Family Farm Action Alliance about how to shift our food system to benefit farmers and eaters.

We continue to tune in to the changing situation around us as we plan for programming. We will offer many online programs through the winter, and expect to expand our in-person events as we head towards spring. We will observe and interact, practicing flexibility, adaptability, and patience - just like nature does.

We leave you with a quote/question to ponder... "Is it too much to ask, to live in a world where our human gifts go toward the benefit of all? Where our daily activities contribute to the healing of the biosphere and the well-being of other people?" -Charles Eisenstein, The More Beautiful World Our Hearts Know Is Possible

Karen & Amy for Seacoast Permaculture

Seacoast Permaculture Connections, Volume 2, Winter Solstice 2021 Edition Dec. 24, 2021

Hello Seacoast Permaculture Folks,

Happy Winter Solstice! After a busy harvest season, many of us are grateful for this colder, darker time when we can rest, dream, and catch up on our indoor activities, including meetup events!

We are planning for 2022. We'll be starting out with online programming through Zoom, but hope for in-person offerings as the light and warmth come back to us. Our general plan is to move to offering both in the future so that those who don't like online events will be able to come back but we will stay connected to those farther away or with mobility, transportation or other challenges.

Here are some upcoming events we are offering or working on:

Two book studies, both with just a couple of spaces still open:

-A Small Farm Future by Chris Smaje [book study](#) starting on January 6

-Sand Talk by Tyson Yankaporta [book study](#) starting on January 10 (see below for a podcast with him)
Plus

-Film showing and panel discussion of [The Seeds of Vandana Shiva](#) on January 9

-Again offering a Branching Out Series of speakers, some from afar to take advantage of our current online status. None of those are finalized yet, but will appear on our meetup site as soon as they are.

We are also excited to see how the [Sewing Community Quilt](#) comes together, a wonderfully creative project some members are engaging in.

Here are some recommendations for other content for your learning and growing:

-[Podcast of Tyson Yankaporta](#) interviewed by Resilience.org (author of Sand Talk)

-[David Bollier](#) (author of Think Like a Commoner which we read last winter) writes about protecting what's valuable

-This "Plant of the Month" series explores and highlights the unparalleled significance of plants to human culture one fascinating plant at a time (including a recent look at paw paws!)

-[English Hedgelayers](#) Unite and Compete!

We hope any holidays you celebrate are joyous.

Last thought to share, a quote by Wendell Berry: "And the world cannot be discovered by a journey of miles, no matter how long, but only by a spiritual journey, a journey of one inch, very arduous and humbling and joyful, by which we arrive at the ground at our feet, and learn to be at home."

Peace,

Amy & Karen for SP

Newsletter: Seacoast Permaculture Connections, Spring Equinox 2022

March 24, 2022

Greetings Seacoast Permaculture-interested people,

There is a lot to pay attention to in this moment of multiple crises in our world. At the same time, the spring is coming, there are gardens to plant, and there is so much to learn. Here are resources, programs and news relating to topics this group cares about.

First note that we have great programs coming up via Zoom. Here are a few...

-On Wednesday, March 30, 7-8:30pm Enrique Salmon will join us from CA to discuss The [Resilience of Indigenous Foodways](#).

-We welcome Dave Jacke back on Thursday, April 7, 7-8:30pm with [We Are Nature, Working](#): Lessons From Ecology for Social Structure Design.

-On Wednesday, April 13, 7-8:30pm [Everybody Eats](#) authors Marianne LeGreco and Niesha Douglas tell us their story of food justice in Greensboro NC.

We are also co-presenting a film with Kittery Land Trust on April 9 at the Star Theater, Kittery ME. At 2:30PM see "Inhabitants" a film that reveals how time-tested practices of North America's Indigenous tribes are increasingly relevant in a rapidly changing world. A panel discussion follows with Paul and Denise Pouliot, spokespeople for the Cowasuck Band of the Pennacook-Abenaki People. Get your tickets [here](#).

NH Poultrykeepers! Stay informed on the [current threat of avian influenza](#) from our migratory bird corridor to domestic chickens and turkeys. NH & Maine are two of the states with confirmed cases at this point.

Here's a spring activity you can be a part of... serve on Salamander Crossing Brigades at amphibian road crossings to help salamanders, frogs, and toads make their way to vernal pools to breed. Watch [this video](#) from the NH Harris Center for more info.

This winter we offered two book study groups. Here's a [review](#) of one of those (Sand Talk) by the author of the other (Small Farm Future)!

You folks already know how important and alive soil is... but did you know how [LOUD underground life](#) can b? Amazing!

This [video](#) brings us a fascinating conversation between Helena Norberg-Hodge, founder and director of Local Futures and Dr Iain McGilchrist, author of The Master and His Emissary: The Divided Brain and the Making of the Western World.

A thought to leave you with today... "Every morning I awake torn between a desire to save the world and an inclination to savor it. This makes it hard to plan the day. But if we forget to savor the world, what possible reason do we have for saving it? -E.B. White

Karen & Amy for Seacoast Permaculture