

## DESCRIPTION

'Permaculture' is an integrated landuse design methodology based on ecological principles, with practical application from sustainable household to eco-nation to global restoration. The tutors of this course have extensive experience in this field and have worked in a wide range of countries and conditions. Their teaching style caters for all learning modalities, is inspiring, interactive, dynamic and fun.

The course covers the *standard two week international Permaculture Design Certificate curriculum*, taught over a 3-week period in an integrated hands-on way, culminating in several land-use design projects. Upon completion, a Permaculture Design Certificate will be issued by *The Institute of Earthcare Education Aotearoa*.

The beginning of the course offers the opportunity for participants to personally deepen in the ecological and social foundation of Permaculture, under the guidance of tutors whose lives and work are dedicated to conscious design and development of 'all-species communities'. This includes spending time studying in 'the library of nature', experiencing Deep Ecology and the Maori world view, and visiting inspirational properties in the Golden Bay which demonstrate Permaculture in practice.

The themes of **community building and eco-village development** will weave throughout our 3 weeks of practical permaculture learning, which encompasses many **hands-on skill building** activities and mini-design exercises happening on Tui land, where this residential course takes place.

Tui Community is a 26 year old, 40 member, rural residential community governed by a Charitable Trust. It is situated on 150 acres

of land, has an established orchard, gardens, wilderness areas and a thriving community business and many creatively designed buildings. We will be based at Tui's Outdoor Events Treefield, situated in Wainui Bay, adjoining the Abel Tasman National Park. For more on Tui and its programmes, visit: [www.tuitrust.org.nz](http://www.tuitrust.org.nz)

### Course Programme broadly covers:

- permaculture **ethics**, design **principles** and **installation**,
- **organic growing** methods (vege gardens, herbs, fruit),
- **rural** land management (orchards, pastures, trees, water systems),
- integrated **animal** systems,
- **water** harvesting & storage, grey-water recycling,
- ecological **building**, 'waste' recycling & renewable **energy** systems,
- **urban/suburban** scale household design,
- sustainable **community/eco-village** design and development,
- '**invisible structures**' (eg financial, legal, governance systems)
- design for **wildlife habitat** & degraded land restoration,
- **nature** connection, wild foods harvest.



## MAIN TUTORS BACKGROUNDS



### Robina McCurdy

Robina is co founder/resident/trustee of Tui Land Trust & Community and founder/trustee of the Institute for Earthcare Education Aotearoa. She has a Diploma in Permaculture, plus various teaching qualifications.

For 25+ years Robina has been engaged in community development,

permaculture design and tutoring, organic growing, the development of environmental education resources and the creation of participatory processes for decision making and collective action. She has taught in households, neighbourhoods, schools, farms, ecovillages and bioregions, in Aotearoa/New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, Ireland, Brazil and USA. Robina was the originator/coordinator of Golden Bay's 'PLANET Organic', a year-long vocational training in community-scale sustainable landuse design, management & facilitation. Throughout her life, she has worked to bring about significant changes in the lives of people, their communities and their environment. Consequently, human capacity building is one of Robina's special skills - inspiring, guiding and offering specific tools and techniques for people to access their gifts, develop their potential, build their resourcefulness, and live their dreams.

Robina has published a manual of her facilitation tools: 'GROUNDING VISION - EMPOWERING CULTURE: how to build & sustain community together - a Manual of Participatory Tools for Social Change Facilitators'.



### Gary Williams

Gary works as a consultant engineer on water and soil resource management, specializing the management of catchments and river systems. He grew up on a hill country sheep and cattle farm and 20 years ago, moved to the Horowhenua to pioneer, develop and

co-manage (with his wife Emily) a 50 ha permaculture farm, using organic and biodynamic methods. This haven features a diversity of gardens, farm, forest and wilderness. Gary is on the executive committee of PINZ (Permaculture in New Zealand). As a passionate organic practitioner, he a co-initiated an organic support group in

the Horowhenua area, as well as an organic cluster group formed under Enterprise Horowhenua to promote organic agriculture in the region.

Gary has authored a deeply thought-provoking book on cultural transformation, 'Out of the Helix' - about how the patterns and principles governing the natural world (especially the forms and processes of water) relate to social systems, supporting humans to shift to holistic thinking to achieve a healthy, just, sustainable way of life.



### **Margaret Kwok**

Margaret has a Diploma of Permaculture, lived at Tui Community for 10 years and is currently living with her family in Auckland.

She specializes in large scale Zone 1 food production and community infrastructure. Margaret has been

involved in a variety of community and permaculture projects including community gardens, wormframing, composting, waste minimization, design and hands on creative education. At the moment, Margaret is passionate about food forests, Steiner education and dance.



### **Inna Alex**

Inna is a trained Environmental Planner and Landscape Architect. Living at Tui Community, she aims to integrate her Permaculture knowledge by co-ordinating and co-teaching some of Earthcare's Permaculture Education Programmes, living

actively in intentional community, teaching yoga and tending the garden. Her main focus in teaching is integrated watershed management, deep ecology as well as the design process. Inna's main focus in life at the moment is her daughter Kiva who was born last year.



## **LOGISTICS:**

### **Cost:**

NZ\$ 1980-1580

*Includes:* tuition, accommodation, field trips, manual, food. Sliding scale. More details on registration.

### **Registration:**

Registrations will be accepted on a 'first come' basis (15 min, 20 max).

Registrations open Thurs, 1 Sept, 2011. You may email us your expression of interest anytime and we will be in touch with you once registrations open.

To register, please email us the following:

- Name, nationality, contact details: phone, email, address
- Physical limitations or special needs e.g. dietary.
- Describe your experience and any qualifications in: permaculture, organic growing, community.
- You are also encouraged to share about your motivation for choosing to attend the course.
- The amount you plan to pay on the sliding scale.

Once registration is accepted, a deposit of NZ\$350 payable by cheque or direct credit is required to hold your place. From mid January onwards, we will email out an information sheet, including 'what to bring', 'how to get here', and further programme details.

### **Registration Dates & Discounts:**

Registrations open September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

- .Deposit by Fri 28 Oct, 2011 - \$100 discount
- Deposit by Fri 9 Dec, 2011 - \$50 discount
- Fri 20 Jan, 2012 - Registration Closing Date

### **Enquiries & Registration:**

Inna Alex: earthcarenz@gmail.com

Address:

Inna Alex, 'Earthcare Education Aotearoa'  
Tui Community, RD1 Wainui Bay  
Takaka, New Zealand.

# **PERMACULTURE DESIGN COURSE**

**- with a Deep Ecology &  
Community Development emphasis**

**Thurs 2 – Wed 22 FEB 2012**  
(extended 3 week hands-on course)



**Tui Community, Golden Bay,  
South Island**

**Main Tutors: Robina McCurdy &  
Gary Williams**