

## THE COURSE IS FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT TO:

- Apply and evolve Permaculture knowledge and skills
- Sustain themselves and their communities by growing and processing their own food
- Teach these practical life skills to others
- Experience living and working co-operatively in an intentional community
- Expand their horizons and enrich their lives
- Become guardians of the land
- Do their part in creating a sustainable world

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an internship style course where participants primarily learn through doing. Learning will be interactive and tailored to individual learning styles. Each week includes guided outdoor practical activities (five ½ days), community work exchange (10 hours), classroom permaculture design tutoring (1 afternoon and 2 evenings), mentored self-directed study, and community living skills. The main teachers are Tui Community members, complemented by local guest tutors.

### The Core Curriculum

- Organic vegetable, fruit and animal production and processing – *from tilth to table*
- Rural land management skills – *many hands make light work*
- Permaculture Design and implementation – *working within the cycles of nature and culture*

### Additional course activities

#### Social Ecology

- Community living
- Effective communication
- Deepening our connection with nature
- Local food self-reliance
- Bio-regional sustainability
- Permaculture facilitation

#### Crafting & Culinary

Participants will have the opportunity to learn additional skills offered by Tui residents (eg weaving with natural materials, healthy cooking, cheese making)

#### Wellbeing

The course includes Yoga & movement Somatics (2 sessions per week) as well as wilderness experiences (1 weekend). Hopefully the beach (15 minutes walk away) will still be warm enough for swimming too!

#### A typical week

Mon	am	Orientation to the Week Garden Skills
	pm	Orchard Skills
	eve	Permaculture Theme
Tues	am	Wellbeing Session Community Work Exchange
	pm	Community Work Exchange
	eve	Independent Study, Design Time or Free
Wed	am	Farm Skills
	pm	Mentored Permaculture Design Time
	eve	Community Building
Thurs	am	Community Work Exchange
	pm	Independent Study & Design Time and preparation of community meal
	eve	Permaculture Theme
Fri	am	Wellbeing Session Farm Skills
	pm	Garden Skills
	eve	Independent Study, Design Time or Free
Sat & Sun		A changing programme of crafting & culinary skills, Saturday workshops, weekend field trips and time off

## COURSE PREREQUISITES

(1) An introductory level knowledge of permaculture is required. The course will be an opportunity to advance your practical rural living skills under experienced guidance, deepen your design practice and implement some of your own designs on the land. Upon completion, a certificate issued by Earthcare Education Aotearoa will be issued.

(2) Physical fitness and willingness to work outdoors in rain or shine for about 25 hours per week are required for the overall 'hands-on' nature of this course.

## MAIN TUTORS BACKGROUND



### Robina McCurdy (main tutor & coordinator)

Robina is co founder/resident/trustee of Tui Land Trust & Community and founder/trustee of the Institute of Earthcare Education Aotearoa. She was the originator-coordinator of 'PLANET Organic', which this internship-course is

modeled on.

Robina has a Diploma in Permaculture, plus various teaching qualifications. For 25+ years she 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 worked with households, neighbourhoods, schools, farms, ecovillages and bioregions, in Aotearoa/New Zealand and around the world. This culminated in her book, 'GROUNDING VISION – EMPOWERING CULTURE: how to build & sustain community together - a Manual of Participatory Tools for Social Change Facilitators'. Human capacity building is one of Robina's special skills - inspiring, guiding and offering specific tools for people to access their gifts, develop their potential, build their resourcefulness, and live their dreams.



### Andrew Earl (main tutor)

Andrew has lived in this area most of his life, and at Tui Community for 2½ years, where he is currently employed as the land worker. He has a farming and building background with a wealth of practical skills, e.g. construction, building, machinery maintenance, and appropriate technology invention.

Andrew is passionate about developing and utilizing new and old alternatives that promote local sustainability, empowerment and health, through awareness of natural systems. He will be guiding the Farm Management Skills sessions.



**Ngarie Jones** (main course coordinator) - Ngarie has a background in organizational management and in organic horticulture and has been living in Golden Bay for 7 years. She moved to Tui Community 1½ years ago, attracted by the natural environment, the experience of living in community and with permaculture principles. Ngarie is currently involved with the Tides Trust and enjoys horse riding, mountain biking and photography.



**Inna Alex** (registrations and social ecology) - Inna is a trained Environmental Planner and Landscape Architect. Living at Tui Community, she integrates her Permaculture knowledge by coordinating and co-teaching some of Earthcare's Permaculture Education

Programmes, living actively in intentional community, teaching yoga and tending the garden. Inna's main focus in life at the moment is her daughter Kiva who was born last year.

## COURSE VENUE & LOGISTICS

Tui Community is a 26 year old, 30 member, rural residential community governed by a Charitable Trust. It is situated on 150 acres of land, has an established orchard, gardens, farm and wilderness areas, as well as a thriving community business and many creatively designed buildings.

### ACCOMMODATION

Participants will be accommodated in the community's visitor lodge and sleep-outs. More private accommodation is potentially available at an extra cost (please enquire). Participants will join the community for shared meals three times per week.

### FOOD

Included in course fee:

- three community meals per week
- seasonal fruit from the orchard (quite abundant at this time of year).

Not included in course fee:

- Any food – however access to the community's organic food co-op is available for personal or group purchases.

## COURSE DETAILS

**Number of Participants:** 6-8

**Course length:** 6 weeks

**Cost:** New Zealand participants: \$290/week = \$1,740  
Overseas participants: \$340/week = \$2,040

**Includes:** tuition (practical hands-on and theoretical), educational materials, comprehensive library, Internet access, shared accommodation, three community meals per week plus fruit from the orchard.

- The fee includes a part work exchange component with Tui Community residents (10hrs/week).
- The fee is exclusive of any food. Please calculate approx. another \$50-60/week for this.
- For equalisation reasons, the fee is lower for NZ residents than for overseas participants.

### Enquiries and registrations of interest to:

Inna Alex: earthcarenz@gmail.com  
Phone +64 3 525 9535

Please include name, age, sex, nationality, physical limitations and special needs. State your motivation for doing this course and how you envision applying what you learn after completing it. Describe your experience and any qualifications in: organic growing, permaculture design, building, forestry, animal management, community organisation, community living, or other relevant experience.

Soon after receiving your registration of interest we will contact you for an interview, and if accepted for the programme, a deposit of \$350 is required two weeks later to hold your place. The final payment is due on final registration date. As there are only eight places available, early registration is encouraged.

**Final Registration Date:** Friday 1 April 2011

This pilot programme is developed and delivered by the Institute of Earthcare Education Aotearoa, and hosted by Tui Community.

For Information about Earthcare Education Aotearoa visit:  
[www.earthcare-education.org](http://www.earthcare-education.org)  
For more information on Tui Community visit:  
[www.tuitrust.org.nz](http://www.tuitrust.org.nz)



# EarthCare

## Practical Skills for Rural Community Living



A residential, hands-on comprehensive course in sustainable land-use design, organic growing and whole farm management

**16 April – 29 May 2011**  
(6 weeks)

**Tui Community**

Wainui, Golden Bay  
South Island  
Aotearoa / New Zealand