The New Culture of Food & Urbanity

Urban Patchwork  Vista Planning & Design
• History and Back to Basics
• The Rise of Corporate Food
• The Rise of Chronic Disease
Community Gardens & Urban Agriculture, Permaculture, Food Forest: Coming Full Circle

- Creatively Use & Respond to Change
  (envision possibilities and intervene in effective ways)
- Use Edges; Value the Marginal
  (important things happen at the intersections)
- Use & Value Diversity
  (diversity leads to greater resilience)
- Use Small, Slow Solutions
  (local resources & responses, manageable scale)
- Integrate
  (capitalized on how things work together)
- Design from Pattern to Detail
  (observe natural/social patterns and apply them to design)
- Produce No Waste
- Fair Share
- Care for People
- Care for the Earth
- Catch and Store Energy
  (harvest while it’s abundant)
- Obtain a Yield
  (make sure you’re getting valuable results)
- Self-Regulate; Accept Feedback
  (be open to modify dysfunctional behaviors)
- Use & Value Renewables
  (reduce dependency on scarce resources)
Permaculture uses observation of nature to create regenerative systems, and the place where this has been most visible has been on the landscape.
Permaculture draws from several disciplines: organic and natural farming, agroforestry, integrated farming, sustainable development, biomimicry and applied ecology.
Permaculture design emphasizes patterns of landscape, function, and species assemblies to determine where these elements should be placed to provide maximum benefit to the local environment.
The focus of permaculture is on the relationships created among elements by the way they are placed together; the whole becoming greater than the sum of its parts.
So what happens when you start listening to clients' needs/wants, and assessing a site for how you're going to create a new design...this is how you start to see everything around you:
We must broaden our acceptance of more food in an aesthetic landscape.

We must broaden our acceptance of what in our landscape IS edible.
Pecan: Nuts Live Oak: Nuts ground into powder for soups and baking, medicinal uses

Mexican Plums: Fruit

Yaupon Holly: Tea, Medicinal uses
# Fruit Varieties for Travis County

by Skip Richter, Travis County Extension Director and Susan Decker, Master Gardener

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPLES</th>
<th>JUJUBES</th>
<th>PERSIMMONS--Asian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fuji, Gala, Granny Smith, Mollie’s Delicious, Mutsu, Pink Lady, Smoothee</td>
<td>Chico, Honey Jar, Li, Lang, Shanxi Li, Sherwood, Sugar Cane, Winter Delight</td>
<td>Non-Astringent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thorny, Brazos, Kiowa, Rosborough, Thornless, Apache, Arapaho</td>
<td>Freestone, Dixiland, Flavorcrest, Gala, Goldprince, Harvester, Hawthorne, Juneprince, La Feliciana, Regal, Southern Pearl, Tex Royal, Texstar, Cling, Bicentennial, Junegold</td>
<td>Fuyu, Ichikikai Jiro (dwarf), Izu, Suruga, Chocolate (Astringent when seedless)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITRUS</td>
<td>PEACHES</td>
<td>PLUMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lemon, Improved Meyer, Lime, Mexican Lime, Satsuma, Miho, Seto, Owari</td>
<td>Freestone, Dixiland, Flavorcrest, Gala, Goldprince, Harvester, Hawthorne, Juneprince, La Feliciana, Regal, Southern Pearl, Tex Royal, Texstar, Cling, Bicentennial, Junegold</td>
<td>Allred, Methley, Robusto, Santa Rosa</td>
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<tr>
<td>FIGS</td>
<td>PEARS</td>
<td>POMEGRANATES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alma, Celeste, LSU Purple, Texas Everbearing/ Brown Turkey</td>
<td>Ayers, Garber, Kieffer, LeConte, Magness, Moonglow, Orient, Warren</td>
<td>Cloud, Fleischmans, Granada, Wonderful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figs</td>
<td>Pears</td>
<td>STRAWBERRIES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAPESES</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chandler, Douglas, Seascape, Sequoia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Black Spanish (Le Noir), Blanc du Bois, Champanel, Favorite, Lake Emerald, Verdelet | | }
• Farming of both Livestock and crops is the largest human endeavor on Earth, using more than 38% of ice-free land.

• Our next largest impact: erosion caused by agriculture, building, logging, and mining.
FIGURE 3.1
PRODUCTS AND BEHAVIOURS OF A HEN.
Analysis of these inputs and outputs are critical to self-governing design. A deficit in inputs creates work, whereas a deficit in output use creates pollution.
FOOD FOREST LAYERS

**Canopy**
Large Fruit and Nut Trees

**Vertical**
Climbing Vines, Grapes, Beans, Peas

**Low Tree**
Low Fruit Trees

**Shrub**
Currants, Berries

**Soil Surface**
Ground Cover, Low plants, Mulches

**Rhizosphere**
Root Vegetables, Beets, Carrots

**Herbaceous**
Herbs including medicinals, Lettuce, Chilies
System Balance
Community Spiral
Plant Guilds:
Each location around the food forest will have specific plant guilds. Guilds are groupings of plants and other components that have a symbiotic relationship which in turn builds a larger whole community or micro-ecosystem all working together for optimum performance. Plants with soils, microbes, insects, birds and other wildlife contribute to a whole system producing food or supporting food production.

The Community Spiral:
The spiral is a central organizing metaphor for our community; our message of free, local, healthy food, spiralling outward to embrace our whole community. Spread outward to touch our neighbors. Ever-spiralling outward to spark new initiatives of food security and strengthening community bonds. The spiral will take on many forms from archways and gateways to seat walls and patterns on the ground. Different sections will have different characters as differing ideas or groups dedicate themselves and their stories to the spiral sections.

Rainwater Harvesting:
Four cisterns are located around the spiral for storing rainwater. When the RBJ redevelopment occurs, it is our sincere hope that this project will benefit from rainwater capture from RBJ roof surfaces. The spiral in this section will have a continuous aqueduct that will fill all four cisterns in the rainy season to be used for irrigation throughout the year.

The Community Garden Shed:
Our community envisions a multi-purposed structure that will be located on the boundary between the existing Festival Beach Community Garden and the Food Forest. The building will be symbolic in that we are reaching out to the community garden with a new facility for our shared use. We share our resources; we share our water.

We are neighbors, brothers and sisters in celebrating the bounty of the earth.

Light & Shade:
A variety of micro-climates are necessary including varying amounts of sunlight that reaches into a garden. The 1st phase will be planted with many trees and being young trees, there will be plenty of light allowing for sun-loving plants to thrive. As time passes and trees grow providing more shade, the sun-loving plants will migrate or transplant to later phases toward the RBJ redevelopment.
“I am grateful for all of the rain our gardens and trees have been blessed with.”
• Food Forest and Culture
One Method: Neighborhood Farms

www.urbanpatchwork.org