



True Nature Farm

Sustainable Living & Wilderness School

Boulder, Utah www.TrueNatureFarm.org 801-717-9293

Sustainable Living Apprenticeship

April 1 – September 30, 2012

True Nature Farm – Sustainable Living & Wilderness School is an Organic Farm and a Nature Awareness School in its initial (and very exciting!) stages of establishing the farm and the school. We are dedicated to creating a sustainable community through nature education, Permaculture design, traditional living skills & fostering a learning community.

True Nature Farm's Apprenticeship is a unique program designed to create a hands-on wholistic experience of sustainable living, weaving together primitive, traditional and modern skills.

Apprenticeship Overview

We are looking for folks who are interested in being a part of creating the Permaculture farm and are interested in sharing, learning and participating in community living, have desire to live & work mostly in the outdoors, are open-minded and hard-working.

The service learning time commitment is for **25 hours per week**.

The Apprenticeship coordinator works with Apprentices to match your area or areas of interest with projects on the farm.

Apprenticeship activities usually occur during the week, although we do have some weekend projects and participatory events. The Apprenticeship coordinator and apprentice team meet weekly to coordinate, check-in and share.

Some of the topics and projects covered in the Apprenticeship:

☀ **Permaculture - From Design to Practice:**

Learn the theory, ethics & principals of Permaculture and then apply them on a farm-wide scale. We will be learning and implementing the various concepts of Permaculture, including Personal Sustainability, Natural Building, Farming, and Land Stewardship.

*The Apprenticeship includes a 14-day [Permaculture Design Certification Course](#).

☀ **Natural Farming & Organic Gardening:**

Sustainable food production systems - design, construction, tending & harvesting (Food Forest, Kitchen Garden, Grain Fields, Animal Husbandry, Rainwater Harvesting, Composting systems and more).

Be a part of the entire process - from seed-planting to seed-saving.

☀ **Traditional Living skills: Primitive Technology, Wilderness Survival, Homesteading, and other Simple-Living skills.**

While we live in a modern world, there is much we can learn from the past thousands of years of human experience. By using viable practices, appropriate technologies and simple, natural solutions that have proved to be sustainable for millennia, we can bring about the balance between the old and new, the traditional and modern.

(See our [Earth Living Skills](#) photo album.)

☀ **Natural Building: Design, Techniques, & Hands-On Practice.**

Participants will be learning the basics of working with wood, cob, straw-clay and other natural materials, taking on natural building projects and seeing them through from design to completion.

(For example, see our [Cob-Oven](#) photo album.)

☀ **Personal Sustainability: Be the change you want to see in the world!**

Conscious Community Living, Group Council, Nature Awareness, [Dream-Tracking](#), and more...

In everything we do at True Nature Farm, we put great emphasis on personal growth and community living. We believe that, of all the skills necessary in today's world, these are the most important ones.

☀ **Permaculture Design Certification Course – 14-Day Intensive Training:**

We believe that the Permaculture Course is an important part of the training we offer, so we decided to include this course as a part of the Sustainable Living Apprenticeship.

Permaculture Design Certification (PDC) is a world-wide recognized course, training you to become a competent Permaculture designer of sustainable living environments & bountiful food systems.

Our 14-day hands-on intensive Permaculture Design Certification covers over 90 hours of practical experience and theoretical knowledge in natural farming, sustainable technologies, natural building and fostering a healthy community.

You will learn to design and apply natural principles to create stable and resilient systems that provide food, water, shelter and energy needs while regenerating ecology, community and economy.

The course is taught by world renowned Permaculture teacher Warren Brush and True Nature Farm Staff.

To learn more about the Permaculture course, go to:
<http://www.truenaturefarm.org/permaculture-design-certification.html>

Location:

Our farm is located near Boulder, Utah, surrounded by nearly four-million acres of pristine wilderness (and a few other farms). This little town (population 200) is the home of ranchers, farmers, artists, and nature enthusiasts who were drawn to this remote area by the beauty and serenity of the pristine wilderness.

We are surrounded by breath-taking and diverse landscapes. From the green lush forests of Boulder Mountain to the Slickrock slot canyons of the arid desert, it is all within a walking (or horseback riding) distance.

We are close to some of the most beautiful National Parks in the world, including [Bryce Canyon National Park](#), [Zion National Park](#) and [Capitol Reef National Park](#).

Our home playground is [Dixie National Forest](#) and [Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument](#).

The farm is off the grid (solar powered), and currently has a straw-bale home, a yurt, barn, a few wall tents and corrals. It is located on 100 acres of pastures, oak grove and pinion-juniper forest, with 2 running stream (one of them year-round) and bordering the Dixie national forest. The nearest town,

Boulder, is about 15 minutes away and has coffee shops / restaurants, live music venues and a lively community.

Schedule

We usually work in the garden and on the farm in the mornings (8-1:30). In the afternoons, we offer sessions on Personal Sustainability, Nature awareness, Sustainable Living skills, documentary movies screenings and other topics.

Apprentices will also participate in various courses and workshops offered on the farm, such as Basket-Making, Wilderness Walkabout, Permaculture Design Certification Course, Animal Processing Workshop (optional) and other events.

In the evenings and weekends, your time is free for self-care, rest, play, study, outings, or self-guided projects. We encourage folks not to over-schedule or overdo. We provide very minimal phone/internet use for brief communications, and for research in cooperation with the Apprenticeship team. Cell phones reception is spotty and does not always work on the site. Your Apprenticeship at True Nature Farm may be a wonderful opportunity to 'unplug'.

On the Apprenticeship off days, you are welcome to stay onsite. We encourage thoughtful trips offsite and carpooling to minimize environmental and social impacts. There are countless places to explore in the area and many good people in the larger community to connect with. We'd like for you to share True Nature Farm with your close friends and family and we look forward to meeting them. Please make sure to check in with the apprenticeship coordinator and plan ahead so that visits from family and friends work with the farm schedule.

Summer break

About halfway through the apprenticeship you will have a week off. You are welcome to stay on the land during the week, or you may take the opportunity to go camping in the area, visit friends or family, and recharge.

Lodging & Facilities

You will be camping in the Oak-Juniper forest (with your own gear) by the creek.

We provide a large community wall tent, an outdoor kitchen and covered area, composting toilets, an access to an outdoor shower, and a sweat lodge.

Please note that you will be camping outdoors, living close to the elements, immersed in the natural world. This can be a profound experience of connection with the land, and we encourage you to come prepared with appropriate gear and mindset.

Food

On the farm, we have a simple, yet holistic, diet. We provide 3 healthy organic meals a day (cooked by the apprentices and staff). The diet is mostly vegetarian, and comes from various places: our garden, other local organic farms, and the organic co-op. If you have specific dietary restrictions or needs, please let us know.

Weather in Boulder

Our farm is located at 6800' elevation. The area varies greatly in elevation (11,000' on Boulder mountain to 5,000' down in the desert slot canyons). Clothing for warm days as well as cold rainy days is recommended. Windbreaker gear is advised as our spring season tends to have some windy days.

Basic Packing List

Daypack, notebook, pen, pencil, sturdy work gloves, reliable tent with rain fly and stakes, extra bedding, layered clothing (including work clothes), rain jacket, bathing suit, wool blanket, comfortable sturdy shoes and sandals, water bottle, mug, flashlight or headlamp, towel, toiletries (greywater compatible like Dr. Bronner's products), medication (maybe kept in fridge, labeled, child-safe) or special personal snacks as needed, musical instruments, art essentials...

Optional: a large tarp for extra rain-protection, rubber boots, a personal camp-shower bag that heats passively in the sun (we have outdoor showers)

Vehicle & Transportation

Though a vehicle is not essential, participants are responsible for their own transportation when away from the farm, or on field trips. In past, we have had some of the participants bring their own cars and carpool together. The farm is located about 8 miles from town, on a little traveled dirt road. There is no public transportation to or from Boulder.

Apprenticeship Group Size

We accept no more than 7 Apprentices for the Sustainable Living Apprenticeship. We choose our apprentices carefully according to their interest, passion for learning, commitment level, and personal skills.

Tuition

The tuition for the Sustainable Living Apprenticeship is \$3,450, and includes:

- 6-month hands-on service learning
- 14-day [Permaculture design Certification Course](#) (Usually costs \$1200-\$1400)
- Weekly classes on Sustainable Living Skills & Nature awareness
- Traditional Living Skills Workshops throughout the Apprenticeship
- [Dream-Tracking](#) Workshop (8 meetings)
- Camping on the land (with your own gear)
- 3 Healthy meals a day

Should you have any questions or would like to discuss the Apprenticeship, please don't hesitate to contact us!

In peace,

Eden Gal
Program Director

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