



Just Permaculture Your Life

by Christopher Kelly-Bisson

The beauty of permaculture design is that it applies to virtually anything. The universe – including all of its physical and imaginary parts, is highly complex and systematic in nature. Permaculture design is at its very core a way of creating working and lasting systems out of complexity in order to meet our human needs. My recommendation is to simply read, study

and contemplate the many wonderful works of permaculture thinkers, and just apply it to what you are already doing; or what you would like to do.

Permaculture is therefore not a “thing”, but a “way of doing a thing”. One does not do permaculture, one does something in a permaculture way. If you are a web developer you do not need to sell all of your things and head back to the country to do permaculture; you can simply permaculture your web development work.

Good permaculture starts when you really sit down with photos, maps, paper and spreadsheets – when you observe a system deeply that you are a part of. Good permaculture happens when you improve a system to be more harmonious, efficient, effective, and equitable. It is not an ideology, it is a process. You cannot create an ideal permaculture world, you can only practice permaculture.

The worst thing that new permaculturists do is proselytize. This world does not need more people who think they know how to do things the ideal way, and then impose it on everyone. The world needs more people to sit down, think systematically about the world they live in and apply the process of permaculture design to what they do. If you live and work in a city you can make your life more sustainable and livable. If you are a farmer you may be able to gradually increase long-term yields of certain crops by following the way the local ecosystems function (too little scientific evidence to actually claim this yet). If you are a university student you can organize your timetable, activities and social life to support each other and not take so much time and energy. If you are a policy maker or activist you can help push for a world that is more socially and ecologically just through systematic and democratic thinking, planning, and movement building.

Just get out there and get into the permaculture process!!!

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<http://www.savoursoilpermaculture.com.au/>