

Marisha A. Auerbach

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www.fertileground.org, www.permaculturerising.com

Objective:

Experienced Permaculture designer, teacher, and farmer seeking land and financing for a home, nursery, and educational offerings.

Professional Experience:

1. Contract-based Permaculture Teacher, Organizer, & Consultant since 2002:

Permaculture Instructor on the university level at five colleges and universities:

***Oregon State University Online Program**, Corvallis, OR, Spring 2011- current, Program Assistant with Andrew Millison. *Developed the Permaculture Food Forest Self-Paced Course & Practicum, Spring 2020. Currently, graduates about 1000 students per year from its programs.*

***Portland Community College – Rock Creek Campus**, Portland, OR, Summer 2013 – 2019. Lead Instructor.

* **Pacific University**, Forest Grove, OR, Fall 2012 – 2018, Co-Instructor with Deke Gunderson

* **Master Gardeners/Oregon State University**, Portland, OR, Autumn 2010, Co-lead Instructor with Andrew Millison.

* **Certificate in Holistic Landscape Design, Bastyr University**, Fall 2011 – 2015, Adjunct Permaculture Faculty. Developed this program.

* **The Evergreen State College**, Olympia, WA, Summer 2012, Co-lead Instructor with Kelda Miller.

Twenty years experience in Permaculture teaching, organizing, lecturing, & facilitating workshops both nationally and internationally. See detailed annotated list following below.

2. Keynote Speaker at the International Permaculture Convergence, Cuba, November 2013.

3. President of [Fertile Ground](http://www.fertileground.org)

Fertile Ground gathers people together in the Cascadia bioregion to celebrate our relationship with the land, recognizing that true resilience comes from this connection.

We offer classes, workshops, seasonal celebrations, work parties, opportunities for reflection, community building activities, and times to play together; highlighting the intrinsic benefit of coming home to the land as a foundation for stability in our bioregion. We honor the seasonal cycles of life in Cascadia with celebrations and sharing information about the meaningful work that is necessary to grow food and sustain our natural environments.

Fertile Ground has been a non-profit in Olympia, WA for 30 years. With Marisha's leadership, we have expanded our focus area to the Cascadia bioregion.

Formal Education and Certification:

- * Advanced Permaculture Training with Sepp Holzer, Dayton, MT, May 2012.
- * Carbon Farming Series, Keyline Design, Advanced Permaculture Training with Darren Doherty, Summertown, TN, September 2009.
- * Certificate of Completion, Sustainable Aid: 2/3rds World Permaculture, Advanced Permaculture Training with Robyn Francis, Quail Springs, CA, August, 2009.
- * Certificate of Completion, Working with Cultural Diversity, Advanced Permaculture Training with Robyn Francis, Quail Springs, CA, August 2009.
- * Permaculture Teacher's Certificate, Cascadia Permaculture Institute, Lost Valley Education Center, Dexter, OR, 2002.
- * Diploma of Herbal Studies, Australasian College of Herbal Studies, Portland, OR, 1999.
- * Certificate of Permaculture Design, Leisure Coast Permaculture Visions, MT. Kembla Village, NSW, Australia, 1998.
- * Bachelor of Arts, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA, 1998.

References:

Andrew Millison, Oregon State University. amillison@gmail.com, (541) 231-1917
John Henrikson, Wild Thyme Farm, john@wildlogic.com, (360) 273-8892
Mark Lakeman, The City Repair Project, trout@communitecture.net, (503)381-5885
Jude Hobbs, Cascadia Permaculture Institute, infocascadiapc@gmail.com, (541) 342-1160
Michael Pilarski, Friends of the Trees Society, friendsofthetrees@yahoo.com, (360) 643-9178
Tao Orion, Resilience Permaculture, taoorion@gmail.com, (541) 556-1426
Patricia Labine, Emeritus Faculty, The Evergreen State College, Ecological Agriculture Program.
Oysterbayfarm@comcast.net, (360) 556-5482

Annotated List of Permaculture Teachings, Courses, Lectures and Workshops:

- * **Maya Mountain Research Farm**, San Pedro Columbia, Belize, February 2014 - 2019. Co-Instructor. (6 courses total)
- * **Alderleaf Farm Permaculture Design Course**, Monroe, WA, Summer 2013. Lead Instructor.
- * **Place of Gathering**, Dayton, MT, April 2012 – May 2012, with Michael Pilarski and Kelda Miller
- * **Lost Valley Education Center**, Dexter, OR, Annual, Winter 2005 - 2011, with Jude Hobbs and Rick Valley.
- * **Rocky Mountain Sustainable Living Association (RMSLA)**, Ft. Collins, CO, March 2011, Co-lead Instructor with Kelly Simmons.
- * **Living Mandala/Big Bend Hot Springs**, Big Bend, CA, Summer 2010, Co-lead with Jay Ma.
- * **Maharishi University of Management**, Autumn 2009, Co-Lead Instructor with Lonnie Gamble and Doug Crouch.
- * **Tryon Life Community Farm**, Portland, OR, Summer 2009 & 2008, Lead Instructor.
- * **Permaculture Now!/Raw Vegan Source**, Remond, WA, Spring - Summer 2009, Co-lead Instructor with Jenny Pell.
- * **Trackers NW**, Portland, OR, February - May 2009, Lead Instructor.
- * **Vashon Co-Housing**, Vashon, WA, Fall 2008, Lead Instructor.
- * **O.U.R. Ecovillage**, Shawnigan Lake, BC, Summers 2007 & 2008, Lead Instructor.
- * **Bellingham Permaculture**, Bellingham, WA, June 2008, Lead Instructor.
- * **Fertile Ground Community Center**, Olympia, WA, Autumn 2007, Lead Instructor.

- * **Friends of the Trees Society/Sahale Retreat Center**, Tahuya, WA, February 2005 & 2006, Instructor with Michael Pilarski.
 - * **Wild Thyme Farm**, Oakville, WA, 2002, Primary Organizer.
- * Guest Instructor at numerous Permaculture Courses since 2004. A few examples are below.
- * **Planet Repair Permaculture Design Course**, Portland, OR, 2011 – present.
 - * **Aprovecho Sustainability Education Center**, Cottage Grove, OR, 2010 – present.
 - * **Sustainable Tacoma Pierce Permaculture Design Course**, Tacoma, WA, 2010 – 2018.
 - * **Permaculture Teachers Training**, Seattle Tilth, Seattle, WA, 2010.
 - * **Ecovillage and Permaculture Certification Program**. Lost Valley Education Center, Dexter, OR, annually 2004 - 2018.
 - * **Oregon State University**, Corvallis, OR, 2009
 - * **Washington State University Permaculture Program**, Vancouver, WA, 2008.
 - * **Living Routes Permaculture Program**, Sirius Community, Shutesbury, MA, 2007.
- * Lead Developer and Presenter for the following Workshop Series
- * **Grow Your Own Produce Workshop Series**. Offered once a month, February – November, 2013 - current. Currently about 90 students per year.
 - * **Permaculture Skillbuilder Series**. With RT Permaculture, Online. 2022.
 - * **Seedsaving Workshop Series**. Seattle, Forest Grove, OR, Portland, OR, 2021
- * Presented Workshops with Various Organizations since 2004. A few examples are below.
- * **Panel on Cooperative Business Models**. The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA, 2022.
 - * **Ecological Entrepreneurship: How I Developed a Career Rooted in the Earth and Community**. The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 2022.
 - * **Permaculture Food Forests**. Atlan Community, White Salmon, WA, 2022.
 - * **Ecosystem Restoration Course**. Atlan Community, White Salmon, WA, 2022.
 - * **Cultivated Ecology**. Planet Repair Permaculture Course. Portland, OR 2021.
 - * **Permaculture: A Tool for Climate Stability and Community Resilience**. Seattle, WA, 2021.
 - * **Temperate Climate Permaculture**. Florida Gulf Course University. 2020.
 - * **Introduction to Permaculture**. Small Farm School, Oregon City, OR, 2019.
 - * **A Permaculture Approach to Soil Building**. Soil School. Oregon City, OR. 2018.
 - * **Responding to Climate Change and Building Community**. Northwest Permaculture Convergence. 2018.
 - * **From Retrofit to Neighborhood Outreach**. Northwest Permaculture Convergence. 2017.
 - * **Women's Leadership in Permaculture**. Bioneers Conference. San Rafael, CA. 2017.
 - * **Fermentation**. Portland, OR. 2015.
 - * **Herbal First Aid**. Northern California Permaculture Convergence, Hopland, CA, 2015.
 - * **Growing Herbs in your Permaculture Landscape**. National University for Natural Medicine, Portland, OR, 2015.
 - * **Understanding Soils**. Seattle Tilth, Seattle, WA, 2014
 - * **Organic Landcare**, Seattle Tilth, Olympia, WA, November 2013.
 - * **Growing Berries in the Pacific Northwest**. Portland Nursery, Portland, OR, 2013.
 - * **Hood River Master Gardeners**, Hood River, OR. February 2013.
 - * **Financial Permaculture**, Miami-Dade College, Miami, FL, January 2013
 - * **Farm Resource Assessment**, OSU Small Farm School, Oregon City, OR, September 2012.
 - * **Medicinal Herbs, Business and Market Development Opportunities in the Puget Sound Region**, Northwest Agricultural Business Center, Mt. Vernon, WA, February, 2012.

- * **Medicinal Herbs**, Healing Arts Resource Project, Portland, OR Autumn 2011.
- * **Urban Alchemy Tour with Mark Lakeman**, Eugene, OR – Los Angeles, CA, August – September 2011.
- * **Various Workshops**, Synergy Conference, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA, 2001 - 2011
- * **Various Workshops including “Beneficial Insects and Pollinators”, “Bountiful Berries of Oregon” and more**, Portland Nursery, Portland, OR, Spring 2011 – 2018
- * **Urban Permaculture**, Portland Nursery, Portland, OR, 2011
- * **Keynote speaker, Master Gardeners Annual Awards Dinner**, Grays Harbor County, WA, November, 2009

Applied Experience

- * **Permaculture Consultant**, since 2000, various projects in the Pacific Northwest most focused on home scale food production, clients in both urban and rural locations.

- * **Marisha’s Permaculture Plant Nursery**. Since 1998.

Neighborhood scale permaculture plant nursery offering locally adapted varieties from Marisha’s collection that offer diverse ecological functions and services and yields for humans. The nursery has had a Community Supported Agriculture Program (CSA) since 2015.

- * **Team Leader**, Portland Fruit Tree Project, Portland, OR, 2012 - 2022.

<http://www.portlandfruit.org/>

Portland Fruit Tree Project is a gleaning organization that harvests underutilized fruit trees in urban areas for neighborhood food banks. Neighbors and volunteers share in the harvest, promoting healthy food, equitable access, and fruit tree stewardship in urban areas.

- * **Permaculture Advisor**, The Village Building Convergence, The City Repair Project, Portland, OR, 2005-2011. www.cityrepair.org

The Village Building Convergence is a ten day event held each spring, where a convergence of citizens, natural builders, and activists come together to help neighborhoods design and build their own community amenities.

- * **Internship Sponsor & Coordinator**, 1999 - 2011, primarily students from The Evergreen State College.

- * **Restoration Project Coordinator**, Social Ecology Education & Demonstration School (SEEDS), Vashon, WA, Summer 2008, www.socialecologyvashon.org

The mission of the Social Ecology Education and Demonstration School is to develop and offer educational experiences that enhance people’s abilities to knowledgeably and creatively address the interwoven social and ecological crisis of our time.

- * **Events Coordinator**, Fertile Ground Community Center, Olympia, WA, 2006- 2008, www.fertileground.org.

- * Responsible for booking and hosting events and maintaining the calendar

- * Responsible for managing interns and volunteers

- * **Caretaker**, Wild Thyme Farm, Oakville, WA, 1998 - 2002, www.wildthymefarm.com

- * Responsible for care and maintenance of this diverse 150 acre permaculture farm

- * Responsible for managing interns and volunteers

- * Continued work with the Wild Thyme Farm until present