



The Verge Permaculture Newsletter

When you look at your land, it's easy to note "There's a bare ridgeline over here, and forest over there, and a stream running through that corner." But how do those features affect one another, and more importantly, how do they impact your design? That's where SWOT (strength, weakness, opportunity, and threat) diagnosis comes in: you begin to see what each element of your property needs and offers to the whole. With this understanding, you can create an integrated design in which each element naturally participates. Today we look at some approaches to understanding and applying integrated design: enjoy!

Free Resources

Silvopasture: How to Integrate Livestock with Agroforestry for Multiple Harvests

In this clip from our Building Your Permaculture Property Summit, Mark Shepard describes how he strategically integrates cattle, pigs, and chickens foraging amongst managed crops of berries, fruits and nuts, resulting in an agricultural ecosystem that benefits both animals and plants.



Weekly Reflections

"A single, one-dimensional way of thinking has created a monoculture of the mind. And the monoculture of the mind has become a self-fulfilling prophecy. This is the root of why we have pitted equity against ecology and sustainability against justice." — Vandana Shiva

From Verge

Needs and Yields - The Most Valuable Permaculture Design Tool

In this workshop excerpt, Rob Avis uses the example of a chicken and a compost heap to explain the principle of integrated design: each element interacts with, supports, and is supported by the others.



From the Archives

How Permaculture Design Can Save The Day in Our Cities!

Rob Avis teaches Calgary urban planners about the five steps of Verge Permaculture's design process: clarifying vision, values, and resources; diagnosing strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats; designing resources to meet your vision and values; implementing the right design to improve the weakest resource; and monitoring your resources for indicators of well-being or suffering.



Thank you for your support and desire to help our planet,
The Verge Permaculture Team

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