

What to Expect 2024

What to expect 2024 ISCDC

28th Annual, Indigenous Sustainable Communities Design
“Indigenous solutions for a sustainable future”

Dear Participant , student , learner ,

Welcome to the 28th Annual “Indigenous Sustainable Communities Design Course 2024 (“Indigenous Solutions for a Sustainable Future”)

What is ISCDC :

ISCDC 2024 is a holistic indigenous approach based on traditional knowledge and practices (*“putting the words of our elders and ancestors into actions”*) as a tool for community health, ecosystems understanding and management, traditional farming, traditional diets and nutrition, pattern understanding, Indigenous Women in agriculture, herbal processing, earth building , alternative energy , communal and global responsibilities.

ISCDC takes a permaculture*** approach to sustainability. Permaculture is the harmonious integration of landscape and people, providing food, energy, shelter, and other needs in a sustainable way for all species.

Permaculture is working with nature rather than against it; of protracted and thoughtful observation rather than thoughtless action; of looking at systems to evolve beneficially towards a state of maximum natural productivity and abundance.

The 28th Annual Indigenous Sustainable Communities Design Course is a thirteen-day intensive training in ecological design, natural farming and earth restoration, natural healing both human and Mother Earth, These strategies and objectives compliment the Permaculture methodology, which is: the conscious, holistic design and maintenance of biologically productive ecosystems that have the diversity, stability, balance and resilience of natural ecosystems.

Who Should Take the Course:

Environmental students, agricultural department staff, agricultural students, landscapers, land owners, people thinking of purchasing land, people concerned for a healthy environment, farmers, ranchers, parks personal, range management personal, wildlife personal, environmentalist, health

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department personnel, indigenous peoples concerned for the future. This course has been taught to young (13 yrs.), elders (plus 70's) both men and women. Participants under 18 years of age MUST have a parent ,or adult supervisor , with parental permission .

Indigenous Peoples, Registration Fees, Scholarships : Registration cost is \$400.00 We have a very limited number partial of scholarships available; selection is based on need and interest. All students are encouraged to seek additional funding support to attend this course. **See partial scholarship application**

What to Bring if attending in-person :

This course will consist of classroom presentation, field trips and hands on work experience. Head covering of some sort, gardening hat, cap, broad brim hat, water, canteen, bottled water, work clothes, gloves, good shoes or boots, sunscreen, pens, pencils, note paper, etc. Some days we will be working out side at 7,000-ft elevation, or higher, the sun is intense .

We are providing lunch, but you must bring your own dishes, bowls, cups, and utensils ! !

What to Expect if attending in-person :

This course will start each day promptly at 9:00 AM. If you wish to receive a certificate, you must attend the entire course.

Lunch each class day and will be served at approximately 12:00 noon - 1:00 PM. Lunchtime is one hour.

Each day will adjourn at approximately at 5:00-6:00 pm, some days are a little longer, depending on weather and travel time during field trips. Classroom presentations will consist of presentation from TNAFA staff and invited presenters. Depending on the weather , some classes are held outdoors, under shade. Field trips, we will visit several on going traditional agriculture, permaculture, and alternative agriculture sites that will give you a first hand look and work at sustainable designs.

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Participants responsibilities:

TNAFA and Camino de Paz , require participants to obey all rules of both organizations , read and sign “**participants agreement form**”. All participants are required to assist with camp, kitchen , campus cleaning, assisting with preparing and contributing (funds or groceries) to group meals , breakfast and dinner. A sign up sheet will be provided, everyone must contribute labor and time. (**A**)footnote

Most evenings organizing “pot lucks”. We will provide a list of local grocery stores and farmers markets; CdPSF also sells produce , Four Sisters Farm donates some traditional foods . TNAFA will provide the lunches .

Recording of this years Design Course :

This year TNAFA has contracted with a Native video producer to record and produce a program out of this years activities . TNAFA is requesting all participants to sign a release form allowing to record and to be used in the final production . (B) footnote

Hands on Experience:

Learning by doing. Some presenters will require hands on activities. Such as making seed balls, seed cleaning, planting gardens, building compost piles, digging, cooking, exercising , hiking , mud plastering, and more.

Evaluation:

At the completion of each day we are requesting a written evaluation of the day’s activities.

Location:

Camino de Paz , School / Farm ; Northern New Mexico, Near Espanola NM

Camping students:

Camino de Paz School /Farm (CdPSF) allows student camping. (we/ they also require students to sign a letter of responsibility) Students that are camping must provide their own tent and camping equipment, sleeping bag, lamps, sleeping pads, etc. CdPSF permits the student to access to their school kitchen , two showers and laundry room. Previous students have scheduled themselves for shower and kitchen use. (**C**) foot note

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Local transportation :

Dependent on funding and size of class, we maybe able to provide a passenger van. If you have your own transportation this will be helpful. Some field trips are 20 miles from home base; others are only a few miles.

Certificate :

After completion of the course and design presentation of certificates. Participants can receive a certificate of completion issued by TNAFA .

For Information call or write:

Traditional Native American Farmers Association

PO Box 31267

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87594

E-mail: tnafa_org@yahoo.com

Website : www.tnafa.org

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Please sign acknowledging I have read and understand , expectations and responsibilities :

Signature : _____

Print Name : _____

Date : _____

TNAFA an affiliate program of the SEVENTH GENERATION FUND (501)
(c) (3)

*** **Permaculture** , The very first few design courses we hosted , were titled Traditional Agriculture / Permaculture Design Course , we utilized the Permaculture syllabus provided by the International Permaculture Institute . Since

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the we have modified this course the better reflex our indigenous communities ,culture and ethics . We have dropped the “Permaculture” wording in the title but still use some of its foundation.

(A) foot note ; ISCDC program provides the lunch meals . Breakfast and dinner meals are “on your own”. TNAFA wishes this also to be a learning experience . Since the school campus has only one kitchen we can use . The best approach is to organize as a community , organizing a planed menu , pooling resources (money) . Who’s going to get the food , who’s going to prepare the meal and who’s assigned to clean up after . Each day can be planned in this manner so the duties ,task , responsibilities are shared . We will provide time and direction for this critical piece .

(B) Attached video , picture release form

(C) foot note ; We have limited number of participants , and limited bath/showers on campus . Scheduling shower usage will be necessary for everyones safety and comfort . TNAFA will be providing an additional portable shower and bathrooms on campus.