23rd Annual, Indigenous Sustainable Communities Design

"Indigenous solutions for a sustainable future"

Dear Participant,

Welcome to the 23rd annual "Indigenous Sustainable Communities Design Course 2019 ("Indigenous Solutions for a Sustainable Future"), with a focus on Indigenous Women's roles in sustainable community design.

What is ISCDC:

ISCDC 2018 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 improving air quality, water quality, community health, ecosystems understanding and management, traditional farming, traditional diets and nutrition, pattern understanding, Indigenous Women in agriculture, herbal processing, Earth Building, 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 23rd 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, landowners, people thinking of purchasing land, people concerned for a healthy environment, farmers, ranchers, parks personal, range management personal, wildlife personal, environmentalist, health 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 an adult supervisor.

Indigenous Peoples, Registration Fees, Scholarships:

Registration cost is \$250.00 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. We can offer (3) types of scholarships. Please read the partial scholarship form. **What to Bring:**

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. We will be working outside 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:

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 to 1:00. 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 weather some classes are held outdoors, under shade. Field trips, we will visit several ongoing traditional agriculture, Permaculture, and alternative agriculture sites that will give you a firsthand look and work at sustainable designs. 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 signup sheet will be provided, everyone must contribute labor and time. TNAFA will provide the lunches.

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. Most evenings organizing "potlucks". We will provide a list of local grocery stores and farmers markets; CdPSF also sells produce, Four Sisters Farm donates some traditional foods.

Local transportation:

Dependent on funding and size of class, we may be 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. Selected student's evaluations from previous courses:

"EXCELLENT EXPERIENCE"

"I LEARNED DURING THIS WEEK, MORE THEN I HAVE LEARNED ALL MY LIFETIME. THANK YOU TO ALL MY TEACHER"

"DOING HANDS-ON REALLY WORKS FOR EVERYONE" "IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN BETTER"

"IT WAS GREAT TO HAVE EVERYONE TOGETHER AND APPLYING THE LESSONS OF THE COURSE TO THE PARTICULAR SITUATION AT HOME"

"THE EXTRA TOUCHES, LIKE THE WONDERFUL MUSIC WITH LUNCH KEPT

THE WHOLE THING SPECIAL"

"NOW I CAN CLEAN AND GERMINATE MY OWN SEEDS"

"YESTERDAY WAS VERY INTERESTING. THE REASON BECAUSE I LEARNED A LOT ABOUT DROUGHTS. I FIGURED OUT HOW TO PREPARE TO DROUGHT"

"IT WAS A GOOD THING TO HAVE PUSHED THE PHYSICAL LIMITS OF THE CREW A BIT"

"[THE COURSE] GAVE ME A PERSPECTIVE ON THE LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF SWALES"

"THERE ARE A LOT OF GOOD IDEAS, BUT SOME MORE, TOO – WHICH IS ABOUT CONNECTING THEM ALL TOGETHER. THANKS FOR MAKING THIS POSSIBLE" [TO ORGANIZERS AND FUNDERS]

"THANKS FOR AN EXCELLENT LUNCH, IT WAS GREATLY APPRECIATED CORN, SQUASH, BEANS, GOOD BREAD AND FRUIT, VERY HEARTILY"

"[THE COURSE] GAVE ME IDEAS THAT I HOPE TO USE WHEN I RETURN TO MY JOB AND ON MY LAND AT HOME"

"ELDERS SPOKE, PEOPLE WITH EXPERIENCE WITH WORKING WITH THE LAND, AND SPIRITUAL CONNECTION AND THE 'DISCONNECTION' OF PEOPLE"

"A FRAME FOR CONTOUR SWALES GREAT -- SO EASY, FUN. AMAZING HOW MUCH WE ACCOMPLISHED IN SUCH A SHORT TIME"

"VERY SENSITIVE AND RESPECTFUL -- LINKING PERMACULTURE TO NATIVE WISDOM AND TRADITIONS"

"I CONTINUE TO BE IMPRESSED AND INSPIRED BY THE SPIRITUAL ORIENTATION OF THE COURSE"

"IT SHOWED PEOPLE HOW TO PUT THEIR ENERGY INTO THE LAND"

"IT IS OBVIOUS THAT A LOT OF PREP WORK INTO SCHEDULING THE COURSE, VALUABLE KNOWLEDGE IS BEING SHARED -- THE GENEROSITY OF THE PRESENTERS IN THIS PROCESS DESERVES RECOGNITION.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND PRAISE"

(NOTE: THE ABOVE STATEMENTS ARE DIRECTLY FROM A COMPILATION OF EVALUATIONS, WHICH ARE HANDED IN ON A DAILY BASIS DURING THE COURSE)

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

Signature:	
Print Name:	
Date:	

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