

PERMACULTURE DESIGNERS CLIENT QUESTIONNAIRE

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Client Profile

Name: _____

Address: _____ **Phone:** () _____

Property Size:

Occupation:

Amount of time available for maintaining property

Financial situation: Budget for implementation

Lifestyle

Number of people living on site, ages and cultural background, skills:

Vehicle preference and needs: car/truck: farm equipment, recreational equip

Special requirements:

Hobbies:

Allergies:

How long do you plan to live at this site?

Client Needs

Prioritize goals, primary concern: Functional objectives, phase planning (list)

The wish list:

Water: source, drinking, irrigation, storage

Lighting: paths, buildings

Structures: house (type of heat), greenhouse, shop, barns, chicken house, other out buildings

Utility areas: clothes line, recycle and trash, wood, service equipment

Children's special areas:

Level of food self-reliance (present and future): diet and taste preferences

vegetables, herbs, berries, orchards, nuts

Income production from property: market gardens, animals, woodlot, crafts, education center

Compost and recycling

Livestock

Pets

Wildlife enhancement

Woodlot

Earth moving equipment

Site overview:

1. Plans and drawing:

- a. Existing site drawings, aerial photos, contour maps, legal description, land survey

2. Existing:

- a. Eco-systems, structures, fences, pathways, sacred sites
- b. History: logged, cropped, pastured, sprayed
- c. Talk with neighbors, research county records, soil conservation service

3. Known challenges on-site:

- a. Water
- b. Topography
- c. Erosion
- d. Noise: rail, aircraft, highway, neighbors
- e. Visual pollution
- f. Unpleasant odors or other off-site nuisance, dust, privacy concerns
- g. Time and money

4. Location for:

- a. Plants, animals
- b. Structures: ease of access and for excavation, foundation strength, depth of bedrock, depth to water table
- c. Wells: depth to water, rock porosity and permeability, pollution potential
- d. Septic: depth of bedrock, depth to water table, drainage characteristics of soil
- e. Food storage

5. Energy

- a. Wind direction and velocity (monthly)
- b. Number of sunny and cloudy days
- c. Solar access - obstructions
- d. Stream gradient: from top to bottom
- e. Other potential energy sources - biomass, geothermal, methane

6. Resources: on/off site

- a. Natural features: springs, sunken areas, woodland, minerals, timber, sand deposits
in creek, stones for building
- b. Edibles: native fruits and berries, fish
- c. Sources of biomass: on and off the property
- d. Views: good and not so good
- e. Sawmill, factories, dump, plant and seed sources

7. Zoning

8. Legal Constraints

- a. Restrictions on use - covenants
- b. Property lines
- c. Easements: buildings, roads, access
- d. Water rights

9. Access

- a. Existing roads
- b. New roads required and potential cost: to structure(s), fields, other

10. Utilities

- a. Electricity, gas, water (well or district), telephone, sewage
- b. Locate existing utility lines, water lines, sewer and septic

11. Community Land Use

- a. What is going on upstream and over the fence (toxic sprays, cattle in creeks, etc.)
- b. Economic and emotional health of community
- c. Schools, public transit, hospitals, fire department, landfill/dump, shops

Environmental Analysis

12. Aspect

- a. Solar access: South/ Southwest preferred
- b. Hot/warm summer slopes
- c. Cool summer slopes

13. Climate

- a. Light availability: sun, rain, clouds, fog
- b. Temperature: average high and low temps. (hardiness zone)
- c. Average rainfall: yearly and monthly
- d. Frost: average dates, extreme first and last dates, pockets
- e. Hail: timing, frequency, direction
- f. Storms: timing, frequency, direction
- g. Micro climate(s)
- h. Air drainage
- i. Altitude and latitude

14. Wind

- a. Wind access, drains, thermal's, chills
- b. Damaging or desirable winter winds

15 Hydrology

- a. Water quality
- b. Existing water rights and resources -note potential water rights
- c. Surface water and level of water table - year round and seasonal
- d. Drainage patterns
- e. Springs creeks, streams, ponds (permanence)
- f. Catchment - size – type- depth of well
- g. Flood levels--100 year flood

16. Soils and Geology

- a. Geology and conservation maps (government maps)
- b. Soil type: clay, loam, sand
- c. Soil tests - pH, nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and other
major and minor elements and minerals
- d. Drainage and absorption
- e. Soil depth, organic content
- f. Stability of site
- g. Maximum depth of frost
- h. History of use

17. Topography

- a. Contour maps or field survey
- b. Identify keylines, valleys and ridges
- c. Determine slope gradient (degree of slope) either severe, moderate, minor, or percent grade

18. Natural disasters:

- a. Fire, flood, frost, lava flows, cyclones (timing and direction)

Plants and Animals

19. Vegetation

- a. Identification of existing plants and their vigor
Note location, guilds, species, height, and width, noxious, and/or poisonous
- b. Forests - type, age, condition, value
- c. Density
- d. Exotic species present
- e. Plants to be cultivated: vegetables, fruits, berries, nuts, natives, exotic's, woodlot

20. Animals

- a. Domestic: primary use, food, manure, grazing
- b. Water fowl and native birds - nests and dropping's
- c. Aquaculture
- d. Native animals of concern (cougar, bear, snakes)