

Permaculture Purpose

The following statement was written by Michael Danforth for a local bioregional group. We feel it speaks equally well to permaculture.



We must learn to live in this land in a way that is sustainable, that maintains and enhances the life around us, if we are to have any hope of a full life here for generations beyond our own.

We intend to live according to what the environment already obviously requires, and to live lightly enough that we have time to learn more. There are limits to how many of us can live here, and limits to our use of resources. We must clarify them and abide by them.

The purpose of the group is to develop a vision of the whole, of how all the plants, animals, people and natural elements in this part of the world can grow together harmoniously. We want to educate ourselves and others; we are active in our stewardship and actively support others in good stewardship too. Acting to protect our world is one of our most important responsibilities; in the other groups and organizations of which we are a part, we will encourage it and if necessary, demand it.

Recognizing that choices made in other states and our neighboring country affect us as surely as do our own, we must temper our local actions with an awareness and willingness to cooperate that transcend purely political boundaries.