

WHATS BEEN HAPPENING

Sunday 12th April COMMUNITY GARDEN Propagating Plants

Lots of fun was had by all who helped out at the community garden on Sunday. All the plants potted on the day will be sold at the Eco Fiesta.



Taking cuttings from the plot



Max demonstrating how to prepare the milk bottles



Propagating the plants



Everyone pitching in to prepare the milk bottles



Adding some water



Filling the milk bottles with garden mixture



All ready for sale at the Eco Fiesta

WHATS COMING UP

May 2nd – Saturday **PERMABLITZ - VIVIENNE SALU**

Where - Office Garden - 55 Fulham Road

When - 10am to 2pm

Equipment - if possible bring mattock, wheelbarrows, shovels and small digging spades

Lunch - bring something to share

We will be clearing lemongrass plants to create a leafy greens garden. The lemongrass can be taken home by volunteers on the day. Bamboo is being dried to construct a star dome trellis. Children are welcome and there will be stepping stones for them to paint and decorate.

Vivienne will do a talk at the beginning to explain how she started and developed her garden and her philosophy. She believes in spending \$0.

Toilet, Fridge and Microwave will be available.

May 3rd - Sunday **INTERNATIONAL** **PERMACULTURE DAY**

HOME BIOWICKED WORKSHOP

When - 9.30am to 3.30am

Where - 1 Eura Court, Mt Louisa

Want to learn how to build a biowicked garden bed easily and cheaply in your own backyard? Due to requests from a number of members I will run a workshop on how to build a cheap biowicked garden system at

home using readily accessible materials. Over the past couple of years I have installed biowicked garden beds at about a dozen public and community areas around Townsville, and am currently working on a fifteen bed layout for the new Upper Ross Community Garden. The biowicked beds are a permaculture designed low maintenance system to grow food utilising food waste while also locking up carbon. To help show people how to build their own biowicked beds cheaply and easily I will be assisting a member of PcT to build one in their own yard using timber garden bed kits from Bunnings. As Education Officer for Permaculture Townsville Inc. I am running the workshop for free for members. If you haven't paid your dues don't worry as it is just \$40 on the day and, as a special deal for International Permaculture Day, that includes a one year membership in PcT. This is an opportunity to financially support your local permaculture group while also learning how to move towards a healthier and more resilient lifestyle.

See Facebook Page under events for more details

Brett Pritchard - Education Officer

May 9th - Saturday **HERB GARDEN**

When - 9.30am to 12.30am

Where - 81 Ingham Road

As a joint workshop for both Permaculture Townsville and the Herb Society members I will demonstrate how to turn two readily available timber garden kits from Bunnings into a 1.2x1.2m Biowicked 'herb cube'. These \$39 kits are probably the cheapest and easiest way for most people to get treated pine that is both termite proofed

and safe for garden beds. The herb cube has been designed to replace the traditional permaculture herb spiral in urban areas, especially those areas with long hot dry seasons where rock spirals dry out without constant irrigation. The top area is suitable for dry loving herbs such as rosemary or lavender or even a kaffir lime or small fruit tree or papaya. The workshop is free for paid up members of both The Herb Society and Permaculture Townsville Inc. The public are welcome to attend for a minimal cost of \$40, which includes 1 years membership in Permaculture Townsville Inc.

See Facebook Page under events for more details

Brett Pritchard - Education Officer

May 31st - 9am to 4pm ECO FIESTA

We are asking for volunteers who are interested in volunteering in two hour blocks to man the plant store and discuss all things Permaculture. This event is our only fundraiser for the year so if people can help out, the club would love to have you there.



Townsville Eco Fiesta

31 May, 9am-4pm
QUEENS GARDENS

Please email
info@permaculturetownsville.org
if you can help out.

July 4th and 5th

GROWING HEALTHY FOOD WITH LESS HARD YAKKA

Price - \$300

Members receive a \$40 discount

**Early Bird Discount Pay before 31st May
\$40 discount**

**So if you are a member and
pay before 31st May the
course will only be \$220**

Growing food doesn't need to be such hard work. Dr Wendy Seabrook will take you through the simple and practical steps outlined in "The No Mower Food Grower's Guide". Helping you build ecological functioning in your food growing landscape. Whatever your landscape - a private or community garden market garden or commercial orchard, by working with nature we create more self-maintaining, sustainable food gardens. Food Gardens that save you time, money and "Hard Yakka"!

The course is practical, hands-on and creative. Dr Wendy Seabrook, works with people with all levels of experience, with new food garden creations or retrofitting exiting gardens and farms.

What you will gain

- *Skills in designing food gardens where growing food doesn't need to be such hard work or so expensive.*

- *Food gardens that can be integrated attractively with the other things we do in our garden; the children's play area, our BBQ or veranda.*
- *Skills in producing food with no more nasty chemicals. It's important that we improve our environment and our backyards are a great place to start.*
- *An intimate understanding of your site's environment, its challenges but also unforeseen opportunities.*
- *Resources and contacts to take your journey further creating more self-maintaining lower cost, resilient and nurturing food growing landscapes*

For more information go to -

<http://hilltopfarm.wix.com/beyondsustainability#!edible-landscaping/ci7j>

POSITION VACANT

Permaculture Townsville is looking for someone to fill the Secretary position. Duties include compiling meeting agenda, taking minutes, collecting mail and reading and responding to correspondence. Please email info@permaculture.org if you are interested.

Did you know that this year is -

International year of Soils

<http://www.fao.org/soils-2015/en/>



2015
International
Year of Soils

HELP WANTED - PCYC

The PCYC is looking for volunteers to assist with our Community Garden and Aquaponics demonstration. The idea of the garden is for member of the community to come and visit and see how the practices that we use can be implemented in the home environment. The projects aim is to encourage people to grow there own organic produce themselves.

The club is situated in Belgian Gardens and we would require someone to assist ideally on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings for about 2 hours.

If you would like to help please email davegoode@pcyc.org.au

