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Interviews can be arranged with Gretchen Mead, Director of Victory Garden Initiative

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For Immediate Release

Victory Garden Initiative Presents Permaculture Certification Course in Milwaukee.

Registration is now open for Victory Garden Initiative's Permaculture Design Certification (PDC) Course! This course will be held from August 17th - 26th, 2012, 9AM to 4PM at the Washington Park Urban Ecology Center.

This course is the complete Bill Mollison Certification Course, with a focus on urban permaculture, and is a professional certification program. Course faculty will include the Victory Garden Initiative Urban Permaculture Guild (Gretchen Mead, Taryn Mead, Ryan Dale, Jessy Servi, Tom Knoll, Barbara Richards, Erik Lindberg, and Myles Saigh. Topics will include: communities, economies, patterns, design methods, trees, water, soils, earthworks, gardening, farming, built environment, aquaponics, and urban applications.

Registration required Sliding scale fee \$600-\$900. *All 10 days includes over 70 hours of live instruction, materials, and pre-course online learning payable via pay pal at VictoryGardenInitiative.org

Learn how to do something positive and REAL to change the world. One way to do this is to plant trees that produce food, medicines, fuels, and fibers. And not just trees, but shrubs, vines, canes as entire ecosystems!

Participants that attend all sessions of this class and complete the final design project will receive Certificate of Permaculture Design. By intentionally designing and planting perennial ecosystems, we remove carbon dioxide from the air, provide habitat for wildlife, produce food, prevent soil erosion, and begin the creation of ecologically sustainable human habitats.

WHAT IS PERMACULTURE? Permaculture is defined as:

- an approach to designing human settlements and agricultural systems that mimic the relationships found in natural ecologies;
- any system of sustainable agriculture that renews natural resources and enriches local ecosystems;
- the design, installation and maintenance of indefinitely sustainable human communities set in balanced ecologies, both urban and rural.

COURSE SYLLABUS: Intentional design of perennial ecosystems that reduce carbon dioxide, produce food, protect from soil erosion; **principles of natural systems and**

sustainable design methodologies; patterns in nature, culture and society; reading land and understanding natural processes; large scale land restoration techniques; water harvesting techniques; design principles of sustainable human settlements; gray water recycling; natural building strategies; cultivated & productive ecologies; food forests, plant guilds, gardens - self sufficiency; energy conservation technologies; appropriate technologies and renewable energies; permacultural principals applied in urban environments; wildlife management and biological pest control; **strategies for an alternative nation**: land arts and community activism, ecovillages, credit unions, community supported agriculture.

Three to four webinars will be required as a pre-requisite to the course and included in course fee.

Permaculture training is based on the original certification course developed by Bill Mollison and David Holmgren. The course meets all requirements for certification. If you must miss one or more sessions please contact us to discuss arrangements. Depending on the situation, you may be asked to pay a little extra and arrange a special meeting with the instructor to make up for the missed portion of the class. You will receive detailed communications about what to bring and what to expect for logistics.

Victory Garden Initiative Director Gretchen Mead: “You can change the ecology of your entire community by learning how to plant your own land and that of community gardens utilizing permaculture principals. This is a grassroots movement to grow more food for a nutritious, sustainable food system.”

Victory Garden Initiative empowers communities to grow food, reawakening our intimate relationship to human and food ecology; advancing a resilient food culture: from soil, to seed, to plate, to soil. When everyone is a farmer, we will have a socially and environmentally just food system.

Find out more at www.VictoryGardenInitiative.org

This is a grassroots movement.
Move grass. Grow food.