

BUILDING THE NEW

Thanks to your generous donations and a grant from an anonymous family foundation, we have finished permitting and engineering work, and have begun site preparation for the erection of our 10 kilowatt wind generator next spring. It is the first phase of the installation of the Sirius Sustainable Resource Center (SSRC) that will bring together our wind, solar and alternative fuel systems. The SSRC will provide a model and an educational tool for teaching others wanting to develop their own community alternative energy systems.



Organic orchards

For us, sustainability means more than just a commitment to alternative renewable energy; we choose sustainability in every aspect of our lives:

Permaculture – Understanding the interconnectedness of all life, we incorporate permaculture principles into everything we do, from our organic gardens, orchards, greenhouse, buildings, composting toilets to our social systems. Guests from around the world who visit in person or on-line are introduced to permaculture principles in action. Through Living Routes (livingroutes.org) a sister organization, Sirius hosts a three-week long permaculture course.

Renewable energy systems – Wind, passive and active solar, solar hot water, wood heat, hot water and cook stoves, energy efficient appliances, and large organic gardens, orchards and greenhouse reduce our ecologic and carbon footprint and inspire others to do likewise.

Education & demonstration – One of several ecovillages around the world, Sirius is a demonstration center for ecological living and sustainability. We offer tours for school and college classes, church and social groups, and hold Open Houses twice a month. In addition to our resident program, our apprentice program and the permaculture course, our educational programs include workshops, classes and conferences on sustainability, spirituality, community building and group work. We also host like-minded groups whose programs promote the changes we wish to see in the world.



Building with cob (cob oven)

Green Building – Sirius uses ecological building practices in all its construction. Our buildings are both passive and active solar, built with locally harvested wood, non-toxic materials and finishes. We teach Timber frame, Cob and Straw bale construction.



Cob House at Sirius

Resource sharing – Sirius' land and buildings are held in common and are available for use by community members and guests. These include a

community center, library, clay space, sauna and sanctuary. We share meals, tools, equipment and skills. We carpool, buy food together in bulk, and support local organic food production. We are currently expanding and upgrading our local economic trading system (LETS) for use by the wider community.



Kirtan, sacred singing

Community building & social systems – Community for us is about building loving respectful relationships through living, working, sharing and celebrating together. We

build community through shared meals, Coffee Houses, Kirtan, Drumming Circles, Sacred Circle Dance, sauna, community workdays, and cob oven pizza parties. Consensus decision making and conflict resolution are integral to creating and modeling the peaceful harmonious society that we envision for the world.



Standing Stone Circle

Spirituality – Sirius is based on the understanding that all life is sacred and that there is an indwelling presence in us and in all life that is perceivable through spiritual practice and compassionate relationship. We honor the highest values common to all spiritual paths. Attunement, daily and weekly meditations center us, guide us, and bless the world as we send out healing energy to humanity and the planet.



Placing a standing stone