



## Preparing for a Design

Permaculture is a holistic approach to landscape design that seeks to create sustainable and self-sufficient ecosystems. By considering these factors, you can ensure that your permaculture landscape design consultation is tailored to your needs, and you receive the most value from the consultation.

- 1 Goals and Objectives:** Define what you want to achieve through the consultation. Do you want to create a food forest, a water harvesting system, or a composting area? How much of the property will be designed? How many people do you wish to feed? It's important to have a clear idea of your goals and objectives to ensure that the consultation is tailored to your needs.
- 2 Site Analysis:** The consultant will need to conduct a site analysis to assess the current conditions and potential of the site. This may involve analyzing soil samples, examining the topography, and assessing the microclimate. It's important to provide accurate information about the site to the consultant to ensure they can make the most informed recommendations.
- 3 Budget:** Determine a realistic budget for the project. Permaculture design can involve significant earthworks, plantings, and infrastructure development, and costs can vary significantly depending on the scale and complexity of the project. Upgrades such as pathways, fencing, trellises, arbors, ponds and other components will increase your costs. Being transparent about your budget will help the consultant make recommendations that are achievable within your means.
- 4 Desired outcomes:** Be prepared to share the outcomes you desire from your permaculture design. Do you want to create a wildlife habitat? Increase biodiversity? Increase food production? These outcomes will help guide the consultant in making recommendations that align with your values.
- 5 Timeline:** Consider the timeline for the project, including the design phase, installation, and ongoing maintenance. A consultant can help you create a realistic timeline based on your goals, budget, and desired outcomes.
- 6 Lifestyle:** Be prepared to discuss your current lifestyle, including your current diet and habits, as well as how much time you can realistically dedicate to maintaining the design. The consultant will consider this information to design a permaculture system that suits your lifestyle and needs.
- 7 Local Fauna:** You should have an understanding of the various wildlife that roams your area. The designer will need to know if you want to plan for inclusion or exclusion of these animals in your planning.
- 8 Local Ordinances:** Be sure to check with your HOA and town/village for any ordinances that can impact your design, such as types of plants, inclusion of animals like chickens and other fowl. Each set of rules can vary from town to town so be sure to know what is allowable.

**Contact Freedom FoodscaPES to Learn More!**

**For a consultation, call 630-360-6600 today**