

# Intro to Permaculture What is Permaculture? Video Transcript

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## *Music*

Permaculture, coined by co-founder Bill Mollison, is a combination of the words “Permanent” and “Agriculture.” Permaculture is an ethically based design system for human habitation that is in harmony with the natural world. As Mollison put it, “It is the harmonious integration of landscape and people providing for their food, energy, shelter and other material and non-material needs in a sustainable way.” Of course you can’t have a permanent agriculture without a culture to support it, and so Permaculture is also “Permanent Culture.”

Let’s talk about the word “Permanent” for a minute. Permanent means something stable and enduring. When something is permanent, it can continue indefinitely without change. So when we are talking about our food, water, energy, and shelter, we are talking about systems and structures that are designed to last and not degrade. Permanent Agriculture is sustainable; it has the ability to sustain indefinitely. And if food, water, energy and shelter systems are to sustain, then they also need to create more energy than they took to make, to regenerate. And that is the type of designs and structures we create with Permaculture, those that are regenerative of soils, clean water, healthy food, building materials, and natural biodiversity.