



PTEV News

for the New Year

January 2008 Volume 1, Issue 1

Dedicated to Living in Harmony *

This is our first newsletter to share with you our success and our challenges.

Since we started meeting in December 2003, our accomplishments are significant, especially in terms of community life. With 8 adults and 2 children living on site, and a delightful and hardworking core of offsite ecovillage members, we get first hand experience in testing our application of the values we share. We routinely examine the principles that underlie our ecovillage endeavor: permaculture, consensus, nonviolent communication, social justice, sustainability and deep ecology. They are the glue that hold us together, help us resolve conflicts, and guide our decision-making.

Accomplishments of 2007

- Launched our juicy and informative website (www.ptecovillage.org). Check it out!
- Continued our CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) experiment with bountiful results
- Broke ground for the construction of our first dwelling (a cottage with 425 sq. ft. footprint!)
- Reviewed and improved the member joining process



These guideposts help us make the decisions that are bringing our dream to reality. Some of the most important decisions include policies on:

Drugs & Alcohol, Dwelling Development, Dwelling Equity, Economic Access, Extended Leave, Membership Expectations, Nudity, Participation Guidelines for Parents and Others with Special Needs, Pet Policy, Protocol on Proposals, Residential Guidelines, Site Plan.

* "The Port Townsend EcoVillage is a community of people dedicated to living in harmony with each other and with the earth, exploring together ways to live more sustainably"

- Excerpt from Vision Statement 2004

- Sponsored three fun community events (open mike around the campfire, garlic-tasting party, haybox-making playshop)
- Purchased the roof beams for our common house, which will be a dodechedron (12-sided creation)
- Offered several mini-trainings in NVC, consensus, diversity, permaculture,...
- Finalized our Site Plan and submitted a PUD pre-application
- Bought a cute electric car shared by numerous members for trips in town



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More Accomplishments of 2007

- Included songs games, and laughter at all of our meetings
- Enjoyed meeting regularly as a group – nearly every week of the year! - and deepening our understanding of the consensus process
- Participated in the Earth Day event in PT
- Successfully filed the certificate of formation of our LLC

Challenges of 2007, Looking forward in 2008

Some of the main challenges we faced in 2007 were finding affordable insurance coverage for our innovative and unusual LLC, balancing process with action, and living our values. We hope to solve the insurance one this year, but imagine the last two will be with us for a while.

Other major milestones we look forward to in 2008 are:

- Submit and obtain city approval of our PUD – Planned Unit Development – the general plan for the dwellings and common buildings on the south parcel
- Finish construction of our first new cottage dwelling
- Begin construction of a residence for several families and individuals, including satellite bedrooms, on the north parcel
- Draw up Operating Agreements for the LLC
- Welcome new LLC members - maybe you'll be one of them!

Come Get Involved!

There are a variety of membership opportunities. If you haven't done so yet, come for a tour – usually the first Sunday of each month at 1:15 p.m. – stay for the meeting and/or work party, join us for dinner!

If you're a supporting member, you can participate in one of our eight teams: Finance, Legal, Site, Dwelling Development, Process, Membership/ Outreach, Economic Access, Land Stewardship, and Steering.

Come to an ecovillage playshop, social gathering or public event - you'll find announcements on our website, and we'll also let you know by email if you're a supporting member or on our Events list (subscribe by sending us a note at info@ptecovillage.org).