

COURSE SYLLABUS

Sustainable Herb Gardening as a Business – Session One

The Steward program is a comprehensive program covering not just the care of the Earth but also how to ethically profit from an herbal based plant business.

This course is divided into (2) 10-week online interactive sessions that go into depth on how to build a natural greenhouse operation, from seed to CSA.

Session one will equip you with growing setups and techniques. Go from small scale front porch container gardening to greenhouse operations. You will learn how to build your own Grower's Materia Medica and build a personal business plan for your own herbal-centric plant based business. Numerous growing concepts will be discussed ranging from Hydroponics/Aquaponics to integrating mushrooms into your plan and many other subjects.

Business topics covered in session 1 will include:

- Cash crops – trends and how to identify them
- Seeds and Seedlings
- Working with rooted cuttings
- Ready to plant (liners)
- Herbal grow kits
- How to start a CSA
- Hand tools to tractors
- Basic needs
- Home/Farmers Markets/Online

Growing concept topics in session 1 will include:

- Compost – benefits, types and applications
- Crop rotations
- Forest layers
- Hugelculture/wood based beds
- Integration of animals into growing cycles – benefits and concerns
- Worms and bees in your sustainable garden business
- Local medicinal ecosystems/economies
- Medicinal Forest gardening and mulching
- Polyculture/Companion planting/Plant Guilds
- Plant Propagation Basics
- Seed Sharing – an interactive project
- Small growing beds and small scale setups
- Structures and water
- Wildcrafting Ethics and Legal Considerations