



An afternoon with Sim Van der Ryn co-hosted by Biomimicry Puget Sound and Cascadia Green Building Council

Save the date for an afternoon of inspiration and reflection with one of this century's most exceptional visionaries in ecological design. Author, architect, educator, and public leader, Sim Van der Ryn is a true pioneer in rethinking the intersection of the built, natural and social environments. His latest book, out in October, **Design for an Empathic World: Reconnecting People, Nature, and Self** (Island Press), recounts his own journey of discovery and calls for architects and designers to think more holistically about the effects of their work on themselves, the space's inhabitants, and the earth.



Event opportunities include:

- **Sustainable Cities Roundtable:** Open to everyone, Van der Ryn will be our key presenter for this special event Roundtable. Van der Ryn offers a unique blend of theory and practice, reflection and call for action, and appreciation for strides made with a vision of what needs to change in order to truly reduce human impact on the environment and improve our quality of life. *No RSVP required. Brown bag lunches welcome.*
- **Tour of Technology Access Foundation:** Tour the host location, a LEED Silver certified project with some beautiful and innovative design elements, featuring reuse of King County Road signs as cladding, floor beams from a demolished housing development as the entry bridge, and more. *RSVP required, see details below.*
- **Solutions Workshop with Sim Van der Ryn:** See details below on how to submit a local project for an opportunity to collaborate directly with Van der Ryn and local experts in a 2-hour focused workshop. *Project Application Process Required, Participation limited to 30. See below for details.*

Call for Projects! Solutions-Oriented Workshop with Van der Ryn and Local Experts Jennifer Barnes and Alexandra Ramsden

King County GreenTools is soliciting project descriptions for an intimate, hands-on workshop following the October Roundtable. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to bring a current project you are working on to the table and get focused advice from Sim Van der Ryn and a local experts, Alexandra Ramsden and Jennifer Barnes Founders of Biomimicry Puget Sound, moderated by Patti Southard King County GreenTools.

Application details below:

- **Eligibility:** Representatives of any public or private, residential or commercial project being built within King County's jurisdiction. Project must be at a logical point where

advice is needed and can be incorporated, can participate in the 2-hour workshop, and have a commitment to share results back with the GreenTools team. officials

- **Project Synopsis: In 300-400 words, outline the following:**
 - Project overview (location, type of project, phase of project, etc.)
 - Problem statement/key challenges or barriers
 - Desired outcomes
 - How the expert panel could help
 - Data mining for sustainability and the physical building components
- **Selection Criteria and Process:** King County GreenTools will evaluate project submittals and select the best candidate based on ability to integrate outcomes from the workshop to the project. Projects that address the 2013 Sustainable Cities theme of **'Beyond Net Zero: Resilience, Regeneration and Social Equity'** will be given special consideration.

Please email your applications to Nathan Howard [King County GreenTools](#) with subject line: Workshop Application by 5:00 p.m. Friday October 4th. Project will be selected by COB Tuesday October 8th.

***Note that this workshop is open to a limited number of registrants beyond the selected project participants, with priority given to applicants not selected.**

Logistical Details

Date/Time: Thursday, October 10th, 2013

- **12:00 – 1:30 Sustainable Cities Roundtable:**
 - No RSVP required. Brown bag lunches welcome.
- **1:45 – 2:15 Tour of Technology Access Foundation:**
 - **RSVP to [Nathan Howard](#), subject line: TAF Tour RSVP**
- **2:15 – 4:15 Solutions Oriented Workshop:**
 - Email project applications to Nathan Howard King County [GreenTools](#) with subject line: **Workshop Application** by 5:00 p.m. Friday October 4th. See above for **application details**
 - **Workshop participation limited to up to 30 people, with preference to those who have submitted an application. RSVP a request to participate to [Nathan Howard](#), subject line: Workshop RSVP**

Location/Address:

- Hosted at [Technology Access Foundation](#) and King County Department of Parks and Recreations new headquarters, the beautiful Bethaday Community Learning Center in White Center.
- 605 SW 108th St, Seattle, WA 98146

Directions:

- **By Bus:** Routes – See [Metro's Trip Planner](#) to map out your transit options.
- **By Car:** From I-5, take exit 162 and turn right onto S Michigan Street. Take the ramp and follow the signs for WA-509 South. Keep straight onto WA -509 S and take the ramp toward White Center, Meyers Way, then bear right onto 1st Ave S. Bear right onto Olson PI SW, then left onto 4th Ave SW. Turn right onto SW 108th St. From other locations, please [click here](#).

Bios for panel and moderator

Sim Van der Ryn: Native to the Netherlands, at the age of 5 Sim's family fled war torn Europe in 1939 to the outskirts of New York City. There, in

nearby deserted marshes, vacant lots, and pocket parks, began Sim's innate fascination and respect for the natural world. He found an inner calm in the midst of unfamiliar orderly life forms. Looking back at this time, Sim writes in his latest book, *Design for Life*, "What I found in that haggard slice of nature was myself." The unspoken tragedy that he and his family left behind along with his experiences in nature imprinted him with a lifelong concern for social justice, equity and ecology. "When you escape one holocaust, you don't want to be part of creating another."



Jennifer Barnes: Jennifer is a deep green architect and sustainability consultant with over 20 years of project experience. She splits her professional life between her own design and consulting company, 55-5 Consulting, and her work on the Urban Greenprint, a project run through Biomimicry Puget Sound. She has led the design of several buildings, including a fire station, a police station, a church and a community center, and she has helped numerous project teams navigate LEED certification. Jennifer works with a vision that



successful projects must be inspired by an insightful understanding of place and must renew the human and ecological communities they touch. She is committed to helping regenerative design become the norm and creating opportunities for meaningful connection with our environment.

Alexandra Ramsden: Alexandra leads Rushing's sustainability consulting and training practice and is a cofounder of Biomimicry Puget Sound. At Rushing, she guides teams to identify project appropriate sustainability solutions for buildings and businesses and develops and teaches green building educational programs. Drawing from her 14 years of experience and her multidisciplinary background of both science and architecture, Alexandra approaches projects holistically and harnesses the expertise of all the team members at the table. Alexandra lectures internationally on Integrated Design, Biomimicry, Net-Zero Design, Living Building Challenge, and LEED.



Patti Southard: Patti Southard is program manager for "GreenTools" green building program in King County Washington. At King County Southard is creative director for the award winning EcoCool Remodel Tool and provides technical assistance for the County's Sustainable Cities Program, LEED and Built Green initiatives. Southard's program implementation has been focused on the creation of online interactive tools. In 2006 Southard received Built Green's first Pioneer Award for helping to raise awareness in pioneering residential green building in the Pacific Northwest Bioregion. In 2011 was named a Cascadia Fellow and in 2012 received Harvard Kennedy School's Bright Ideas Award for her work on the Sustainable Cities Program.

