

# **Horticulture: Spiralizing Dirt!**

## **Session 4: 2024-2025**

### **Syllabus**

In the permaculture world one of the most common installations is the “customary herb spiral”. In permaculture design, patterns in nature and ecosystems are closely mimicked. The herb spiral encompasses much of what permaculture teaches, such as restoring or assisting the water cycle, building soil fertility and cultivating productive plant communities. This 8 week course will take us through the process of planning and executing a permaculture herb spiral at the center of One Spark’s Orchard. Along the way we will learn about how best to position the spiral, how to make and keep the soil in optimum nutritional shape through a worm tower, setting up its water needs, adding a pond at the edge of the spiral if time allows and how plant diversity will not only benefit the herb garden but the surrounding orchard as well. We are so excited to embark on this fun journey with you!

#### **Week 1: Introduction to Herb Spirals**

- What is an herb spiral?
- Benefits of growing herbs in a spiral
- Choosing the right location for your herb spiral. How it relates to the orchard.

#### **Week 2: Design and Construction**

- Designing your herb spiral
- Materials needed for construction
- Building your herb spiral

#### **Week 3: Planting Your Herbs**

- Choosing the right herbs for your spiral
- Planting your herbs in the spiral
- Watering and fertilizing your herbs

#### **Week 4: Maintenance and Care**

- Mulching your herb spiral
- Weeding and pest control
- Pruning your herbs

#### **Week 5: Harvesting and Preserving Herbs**

- Harvesting your herbs at the right time

- Drying, freezing, and storing your herbs

### **Week 6: Culinary Uses of Herbs**

- Using herbs in cooking
- Creating herb-infused oils and vinegars
- Making herbal teas

### **Week 7: Medicinal Uses of Herbs**

- Common medicinal herbs and their uses
- Making herbal tinctures and salves
- Using herbs for aromatherapy

### **Week 8: Herb Spiral Design Workshop**

- Design and build your own herb spiral in class
- Learn how to choose the right herbs for your spiral
- Get tips on planting, maintenance, and harvesting your herbs