

Natuculture: Making the unnatural natural

Enhancing Urban Sustainability through the Application of Permaculture Principles

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Winner

AGGIE PRIDE



North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

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Why Natuculture?

Traditional modern development carries on with little, or short-sighted, consideration as to how the environment will maintain its ecological balance. Natural systems can easily maintain that balance but development tends to diminish their ability to perform their duties properly. These natural functions, which are usually carried out by several elements within the ecosystem, are impeded by manmade structures and practices. The idea of natuculture came about as a way to restore some of these natural functions within the built environment.

So What is Natuculture?

Natuculture (pronounced 'nāychew' culture) is any human made system that mimics nature in human disturbed landscapes

The term is derived from 'nature culture.' Nature means natural world as it exists without civilization. The word culture had roots which meant: "the tilling of land" or "tend, guard, cultivate, till." A rain garden is for example a natuculture. It is constructed in a human disturbed landscape. It mimics some natural functions of a forest which is to increase infiltration and filter water. It does not need artificial fertilizer and has drought and flood resistant vegetations. Conservation agriculture is another example of natuculture. It is production of food in a human disturbed landscape which also mimics a forest since its three attributes are characteristics of most forests and they are minimum soil disturbance, continuous mulch, and diverse species. Furthermore, it promotes nutrient recycling through planting of deep rooted cover crops.

Natuculture in Action! *Using a combination of nature-mimicking ideas, natural functions is being restored*



Sockwell Hall

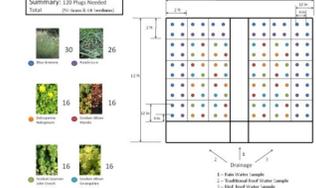
Land covered by lawn, a drug addicted carpet, is



rehabilitated and radiates with biological diversity



Rain harvester & garden



Green Roof

NCA&T students



Natuculture scholars



Engineering Design



Natuculture Outreach



Eagle's Nest Pre-K



Greene Elementary



Southern High School



CAARE



Inspired System: Natuculture

Natuculture a step to permaculture