



INVESTING IN THE FOUNDATION OF SUSTAINABLE LIVING (FOSL)

Investing in FOSL is investing in education, localization, and advancing the abilities to meet the need to live sustainability. By making the sustainability transition we as individuals earn our freedom.

There are 4 ways, and their variations, people can help FOSL in our drive to preserve the environment, our humanity and heritage, and our security.

1. **AFFILIATE WITH FOSL:** Even if you do not share the total vision with FOSL about tomorrow and the way to greet the coming new dawn wherever you do intend to spend the next decade or so the social and technical skills FOSL is working on will benefit you and yours. Network your sphere with our sphere, share your knowledge and receive knowledge from an association with FOSL.
2. **MEMBERSHIP FOR TIME & WORK:** Become a member FOSL and do work/research toward the overall, yet common, efforts of building locally self-sufficient, democratic, communities designed to fight ignorance and minor or major tyrannies. .
3. **MEMBERSHIP FOR DUES AND TIME AND WORK:**

As a FOSL member pay dues to help with administration and out-reach via the internet, hard copy production and distribution, and promotion via events such as public presentations, seminars, attending fairs, speaker's bureau, etc.

- A. Associate Members for \$30-\$49 per month will be kept informed and receive updates on all activities and events and full access to educative, informative and participatory databases and web site.
- B. Members for \$50-\$99 per month will be kept informed and receive updates on all activities and events and full access to educative, informative and participatory databases and web site. Members will be given space available priority on a FOSL property(s) in a given bioregion(s) for visiting or working, education, recreation, and training.
- C. Working Members for \$100-\$499 per month will be kept informed and receive updates on all activities and events and full access educative, informative and participatory databases and web site. Working Members will be given priority on a FOSL property(s) in a given bioregion(s) for visiting or working, education, recreation, and training.
- D. Sponsor FOSL for \$500 or more per month will be kept informed and receive updates on all activities and events and full access educative, informative and participatory databases and web site. For Sponsors space will be provided on a FOSL property(s) in a given bioregion(s) for visiting or working, education, recreation, and training.

Members who both pay dues and invest time in FOSL projects, leadership, and administration shall be considered Sponsors with regard to access to FOSL knowledge, events, properties, and all other FOSL benefits.

It is important to note that at all levels of participation or contribution in FOSL any differentiation in the utility of any such contribution, and as a consequence, accrual of "status" or any other real or perceived class delineation is not an intention of the FOSL structure, and is expressly condemned. "From all, one", the motto on the US currency is an appropriate sentiment for members of FOSL in regard to each person's ability to contribute. A person's merit in building our mutual vision should be the only acknowledgement granted to one another and only in the form of respect. Consensually validated merit should also be given more responsibility along with our respect.

4. INVESTING MONEY FOR LAND PURCHASE OR INFRASTRUCTURE: Those individuals or entities who contribute money beyond membership dues or contribute material goods or land to FOSL are Sponsors with all FOSL benefits attendant.

A. Those who contribute money beyond dues must regard any such contribution as a long term commitment. Any such money contribution will be directed toward property(s) acquisition or used to build permanent infrastructure on the land(s).

Because of the use FOSL will make of larger contributions FOSL must perceive any such contributions in the spirit of a mutual commitment to a vision of the future and, in a normal course of events such contributions will be considered as permanent by the individual to FOSL.

Because lives and circumstance change however, FOSL will maintain liquidity for Fifteen percent (10%) of any such money contribution for a period of three years (3). The reason for such liquidity is that during the 3 year period, in the event of a major personal or family emergency FOSL wants contributors to be able, and feel free, to ask for a percentage of their contribution in money beyond dues to be returned.

The FOSL policy for returning portions of a contribution will be based on length of time after the contribution and before such a request, level of participation in FOSL, reason for a contributor making such a request, and over-all liquidity in the FOSL land purchase/development account(s).

Contributors must be aware that if they have made a contribution and taken the tax benefit FOSL provides as a non-profit, they will need to reconcile any return of a portion of their contribution with the taxing authority.

Those who would like to contribute to FOSL on the basis of helping FOSL buy land but do not want their contribution used until such time as FOSL finds an appropriate property can accomplish such an end by:

- i. Signing a "Subscription Agreement" with FOSL to not make their contribution until such time as an appropriate property is located and then an offer made; or,
- ii. Make a loan to FOSL for a given period of time with the understanding that if in such period of time FOSL locates an appropriate property the loan will be converted to a contribution or will be converted to a long term loan secured by deed of trust for the property being purchased.

If this option for assisting FOSL with the purchase of land is elected the contributor needs to be aware that FOSL will keep any accrued interest as defrayment of administration expenses, and that loans converted to deeds of trust on a given property will bear interest to the holder of such note(s) but that such interest will be dealt with as a contribution to a non-profit organization (FOSL).

- B. Those who contribute real or personal property to FOSL will be given a statement for tax purposes based on legal valuation as defined in IRS regulations. By its tax exempt status FOSL will abide by the tax purpose value established for valuation of real property contributions.

If after a permaculture and sustainability survey FOSL determines that real property contributions are not viable as a sustainable property, FOSL may sell said property and use the proceeds as if they were a money contribution.

- C. Those who contribute personal property to FOSL will be given a statement for tax purposes based on legal valuation as defined in IRS regulations. By its tax exempt status FOSL will abide by the tax purpose value established for valuation of personal property contributions.

FOSL encourages personal property contributions in the form of tools, tooling, machines, equipment, implements, animals, goods, craft sets and anything else which could assist the property, bio-region, or community become or enhance sustainable living and the Permaculture model.

FOSL particularly encourages people who wish to make a personal property contribution if they can help in the set up, use, or training or other FOSL members, affiliates of FOSL, or the public to use the assets represented by the contribution for the furtherance of FOSL goals.