



The Gaia Ashram Internship 2014

The Pioneer of dry season 1st Feb- 2nd March

Gaia Ashram provides the "*Pioneer of Dry Season*" internship where the interns will experience being part of a community – The Gaia Ashram- at its very early stage. For many people, the pioneering time is the most exciting and inspiring time of a community journey. This internship program will include theory and hands – on work. The theoretical sessions will be participatory and interactive and it will cover the 4 keys of Ecovillage Design Education (Social, Ecological, Economical and Worldview inspired by Gaia Education), Permaculture Ethics and design principles.

Experiencing living in a community, grounding deep ecology and deep connection with nature in daily life, putting an Ecovillage design into practice, being the pioneer people of the Gaia Ashram!

It will also include sessions on Deep Ecology, "*The works that reconnects*" inspired by Joanna Macy and local wisdom from the village elders. Hands – on work will include natural building – joining hands to build the Gaia Hall and other structures (the main hall for training and educational purpose), garden design, water harvesting, grey water system, compost making and maintaining of food forest.

Location and contact:

Gaia Ashram,
Suai Lhong Village, 53 M4, Phonsawang,
Mueng, 43000 Nongkhai.

Google Maps:

[+17° 42' 31.87", +102° 50' 14.54"](#)
(17.708852, 102.837371)

Contact : gaiaschoolasia@gmail.com

Gaia Ashram

"A community of all beings"

'Where we learn to go beyond the anthropocentric worldview by living and learning to see ourselves as part of the community of all beings'

"Gaia Ashram does not belong to us. It belongs to the earth. We put ourselves here with realization that others have been living here long before us. We are not building a community because a community of all beings is already and has been there for a long time. We become part of this community and try to find our role, as human beings, to play in the community of all being"

Tom & Om, Gaia Ashram's inhabitants

Read the design of Gaia Ashram here:
<http://gaiaschoolasia.com/gaia-school-asia-ashram/>



Facilities & course fee

Since this is an internship program for pioneers, interns should not expect much comfort. Basic facilities and needs will be provided for.

Accommodation: Dormitory, second floor of the Gaia Hall. Tents will be provided for those who prefer to stay in tents.

Common Space for sessions: indoor sessions will be held at the first floor of Gaia Hall, other sessions will be held underneath big trees and practical session will be happening on the land.

Toilet and Shower: shared compost toilets and roofless shower for men and women.

Internet: Internet Shop in the next village is usually available everyday. We will provide trip to internet every 3 to 4 days.

Food: Healthy local food will be served by local cook in the first week. The interns will learn how to make Isaan and Thai food in the first week. Week 2,3,4 we will team up amongst each other to take turns to cook with support from the cook.

Course fee : 30,000 BTH/person



Key content of Gaia Ashram internship

The pioneer of dry season 1st feb-2nd March, 2014

1: Social : Community building, social aspect of Ecovillage design, social aspect of Gaia Ashram, building relationships with the local villagers and learning from the locals. Building relationship with non-human beings/nature.

2: Worldview : What is a holistic worldview? Why holistic worldview? Nature connection, Interconnectedness, Deep Ecology, *"The work that re-connects"* (inspired by Joanna Macy)

3: Ecology : Natural building, Earthen house, waste management, gray water management, Introduction to Permaculture, observing and connecting to the land, soil building & compost making.

4: Economic : Local economy, local food, local market, local products. Permaculture design for economical viability in context of local farmers.

Marks : * the theoretical learning in class will be only 2-3 hours maximum, each day. The rest of the time will be hands-on works and outdoor learning.

Facilitators :

OmSunisa Jamwiset : experienced teaching in Ecovillage Design Education since 2009, youth empowerment trainer, teacher training trainer and shamanic dancer . Founder of Gaia Ashram/Gaia School Asia

Tom Deiters: gardener, documentary film maker, tree and forest lover, a nomad teacher to spread awareness about nature among children and youth. Founder of Gaia Ashram/Gaia School Asia.

Ben Murray : a permaculture designer, consultant and teacher, organic and biodynamic gardener and teacher, natural building builder. Pioneer member of Rak Thamachart community and Permaculture project.

More info, go to: <http://gaiaschoolasia.com/gaia-school-asia-ashram/internships/>

