

Nance Klehm has been an ecological systems designer, landscaper, horticultural consultant, and permacultural grower for more than two decades. Her approach is centered on instigating change by activating already existent communities, and her work demonstrates her lifelong commitment to redefining the way human populations coexist with plant and animal systems on this planet.

A consultant, speaker, and teacher, Nance is internationally respected for her work on land politics and soil health. Her work has received extensive national and international media coverage and mentioned in many books, including Leila Darwish's *Earth Repair* and Sandor Katz's *The Revolution Will Not Be Microwaved*.

Nance won the 2012 *Utne Reader's* Visionary Prize and has been a two-time finalist for the Curry-Stone Design Prize. In addition, she has lectured broadly in museum and university settings as well as for countless community groups worldwide. Most recently, she was the subject of the independent documentary *Weedeater*.

Nance currently splits her time between Little Village, a densely packed, diverse urban neighborhood in the heart of Chicago, and fifty acres of land in the Driftless Region of northwest Illinois, where she cultivates and forages medicinal and edible plants, keeps bees and a fruit orchard, raises chickens and quail, and grows for a seed bank. Her house and land offer daily practice in permaculture and urban living.

Nancy's *Social Ecologies* organization acts as an umbrella for a variety of ongoing ecological and system-regenerating projects. Her most recent undertaking, The Ground Rules, is a unique community- and earth-building initiative that gathers organic waste from Chicago businesses and processes it in partnership with neighborhood-based Soil Centers.

Nance earned a B.A. in Archaeology and Spanish Literature from the George Washington University in Washington, D.C., followed by graduate work in Education Philosophy at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She has continued her education in a variety of ways, from intensive cheesemaking training on a sheep farm outside of Brattleboro, Vermont, to studying with David Holmgren (the co-originator, with Bill Mollison, of the concept of Permaculture), to herbalist study and apprenticeships.