

November 27, 2006

## Ch-ch-changes for Good Earth Garden School!

I'm feeling like a kid who has outgrown her jacket. I am restless and bursting at the seams.

I have had fun teaching educational classes all these years. I've enjoyed providing products like compost tea, organic fertilizers, and compost. It is a privilege to help you with new understanding and tools to convert to Earth-friendly growing systems.

But now I'm ready to expand. I am trying on new jackets.

1. I have resigned as the supervisory gardener at the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS). I encourage you to apply for the job. I will train you next summer.
2. Will I sell compost tea at the Anchorage Farmers Market next summer? Not sure. Would you like to take over?

I've loved it all. But I am finishing a book for publication, and I see next summer being quite preoccupied with the Herb Conference and Jan Schofield courses. So I am emptying my cup so I can fill it with new challenges.

Am I done teaching courses and workshops? No, but I am stepping back and urge you to start teaching others. I would like to teach more advanced courses and seminars. I want to write more. My shelves burst with educational resources, research, and reading. I want to offer these to you in easily digestible nuggets and juicy essays. I want to stimulate discussions with you by written word and using the tool of email.

### ***I want to talk about:***

- ✓ Diet, nutrition, and soil connections
- ✓ Food Security issues
- ✓ Holistic health
- ✓ Eco-agriculture matters
- ✓ Bioneers perspectives

### ***I want to:***

- ✓ Keep nurturing your eco- and sustainable gardening consciousness,
- ✓ Connect you to others you can teach, learn from, and support,

- ✓ Connect you with great resources, and
- ✓ Offer a forum of thought-stimulating exchange, where you respond, comment, and share your own writings and reactions.

*I want to teach, but:*

- ✓ Rearrange the proportions to advanced courses,
- ✓ Hand over the basic workshop instruction to others of you,
- ✓ Devote more emphasis to working closer with ecosystems, nature, and the spirits of nature.

I am not sure what form this will take. I don't know yet if the forum will still be under the name Good Earth Garden School, or some other umbrella.

So hold on to your hats. Please stand by with helpful feedback!

Once I start producing samples, you'll know if you want to stay on the list or not.

From the bottom of my heart, I thank each of you for your support, enthusiasm, and camaraderie all these years! You are all very dear to me. I admire your giant steps to become sustainable growers. Let's keep growing together.

Appreciatively, Ellie