



Introduction to Biodynamic Gardening and Farming

This learning program enables participants to apply biodynamic concepts and fundamental principles to their gardening and farming practices.

What is Biodynamics?

Biodynamics is a practical approach to connecting with the Earth and its living elements through observation and revitalization techniques. Becoming aware of cosmic and earthly forces and working with natural rhythms and cycles, one can optimize basic growing practices and work in harmony with one's environment.

These basic principles and practices have evolved from a set of eight lectures on agriculture given in 1924 by Rudolf Steiner in Germany. The lectures were intended as a "Spiritual Foundation for the Renewal of Agriculture," and since then, their interpretation and application have been developed and refined by biodynamic farmers around the world, in particular in England, Germany, France, Italy, Netherlands, India, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States.

Biodynamic practices restore soil nutrients and bio-diversity such that the land becomes sustainable for future generations. By working with the natural rhythms and seasonal cycles, farmers and gardeners become better caretakers and stewards.

Program

This course focuses on understanding and applying biodynamic principles using hands-on experience, including artistic and creative exercises, to develop one's sense of being in and working with the natural world.

Teachers

Rosemary Tayler has a background in education, pure science (MSc) and alternative medicine, in particular, homeopathy. From 2000 to 2015 she devoted time and energy to community gardening, large-scale composting and organizing local food markets. Since then, she has co-taught this biodynamic course with her colleague, Kathryn Aunger.

Kathryn Aunger has collaborated with her son, Aric, at Earth Haven Farm since 2006 where they grow market garden produce and supply a local CSA program. This biodynamic farm has Demeter certification.

Course Curriculum	537 Wagg Road Uxbridge, ON L9P 1R4	1619 Vanderwater Rd. Thomasburg, ON K0K 3H0	7275 County Rd.25 St. Eugene, ON K0B 1P0
Seeing Nature as a Whole and the Garden as a Living Organism. Through Goethean observation and Rudolf Steiner's approach to science and agriculture, you will learn to sense nature and discover the heart of your own garden.	Saturday May 4, 2019	Sunday May 5, 2019	Sunday May 19, 2019
Exploring Soil Science and the Value of Compost. An in-depth look at the microbial world and how minute organisms make soil and feed plants. You will learn how to evaluate different soils and make your own compost.	Saturday June 15, 2019	Sunday June 16, 2019	Sunday June 2, 2019
Timing is Everything. By paying attention to solar, lunar and planetary rhythms, you will understand the right times for planting, pruning, weeding and harvesting.	Saturday July 27, 2019	Sunday July 28, 2019	Sunday July 14, 2019
Nature Spirits and the Four Elements. You will learn to perceive elemental beings and work with the elements of fire, earth, air and water. A gardener's meditation.	Saturday September 14, 2019	Sunday September 15, 2019	Sunday September 8, 2019
Biodynamic Preparations. You will learn how Steiner's herbal, animal and mineral preparations are made and used to enliven compost, plants, trees and soil.	Saturday October 19, 2019	Sunday October 20, 2019	Sunday September 22, 2019
Putting It All Together. Experience the quality of biodynamic food through a potluck meal and the group's discussion of lessons learned from this course.	Saturday November 2, 2019	Sunday November 3, 2019	Sunday October 6, 2019

Course Fee: \$275 for all sessions if paid in advance or \$50 per person per session, HST additional.

Recommended reading: Biodynamic Gardening by Monty Walden and the 2019 Celestial Planting Calendar.

Lunches: Potluck by participants. Beverages provided by Earth Haven Learning Centre.

Registration

Contact: Rosemary Tayler or Kathryn Aunger at Earth Haven Learning Centre

Email: earthhavenlearning@gmail.com

Phone: 613-233-3263 or 613-478-3876

www.earthhavenlearning.ca