

**TRACK NAME**

Guide to Southwestern Green Living – Natural Awakenings

SESSION NAME

Systemic Community Sustainability Policies

DATE + TIME + ROOM NUMBER

Saturday Sept 6th – 1:00pm – 101B

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Healthy and vibrant ecosystems provide the models and metaphors for both resiliency and sustainability, two necessary concepts to embrace in these rapidly changing times that appear to be leading us toward catastrophic collapse. However, there is an exciting, viable alternative to the status quo of infinite growth.

A legally defensible systemic framework for policy change will be presented that starts with the adoption of a definition of what sustainability actually means and continues with a community process to support relocalization efforts for vibrant local economies and sustainable development based on measurable quality of life indicators.

In order to create a sustainable future based on ecological wisdom and social justice, we must first inventory what we have to work with, assess what's missing, and uncover barriers to change. As a systemic foundation for sustainable change in the policy arena, this process also takes an honest accounting of the likely local impacts of Peak Oil and global warming. However, this is not a doom and gloom message, but a message of hope based on a viable and realistic alternative that contains concrete steps for action that emerge from broad-based community consensus congruent with natural systems principles.

PRESENTER(s)

Dave Ewoldt – Natural Systems Solutions

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHY(s)

Dave Ewoldt is a practitioner and researcher in the field of ecopsychology, and co-founder and Executive Director of Natural Systems Solutions, a non-profit using natural systems principles to create sustainable lifestyles, organizations, and communities. He is a member of the Greenhouse Network's national speakers bureau on global warming, a member of the Global Warming Crisis Council, and a faculty member in the graduate department of applied ecopsychology for the Institute of Global Education, a special NGO consultant to UNESCO. His essays and columns have appeared in regional publications and local weekly newspapers, and his academic papers in the proceedings of the International Society for Chaos Theory in Psychology (1992), the International Society for the Systems Sciences (2005), and the Arizona Hydrological Society (2007). Dave was presented the Mayor's Earth Day Proclamation on San Juan Island, WA in 2002.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT (CEU)

N/A

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