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Hügelkultur rebuilds healthy soil structure, by providing organic matter, slow-nutrient release, and micro-organism habitat.



Hügelkultur mound in 3 – 4 hours after your site has been prepped.



STEP

1:

Dig a Trench



STEP 2:

Stack
Wood



STEP

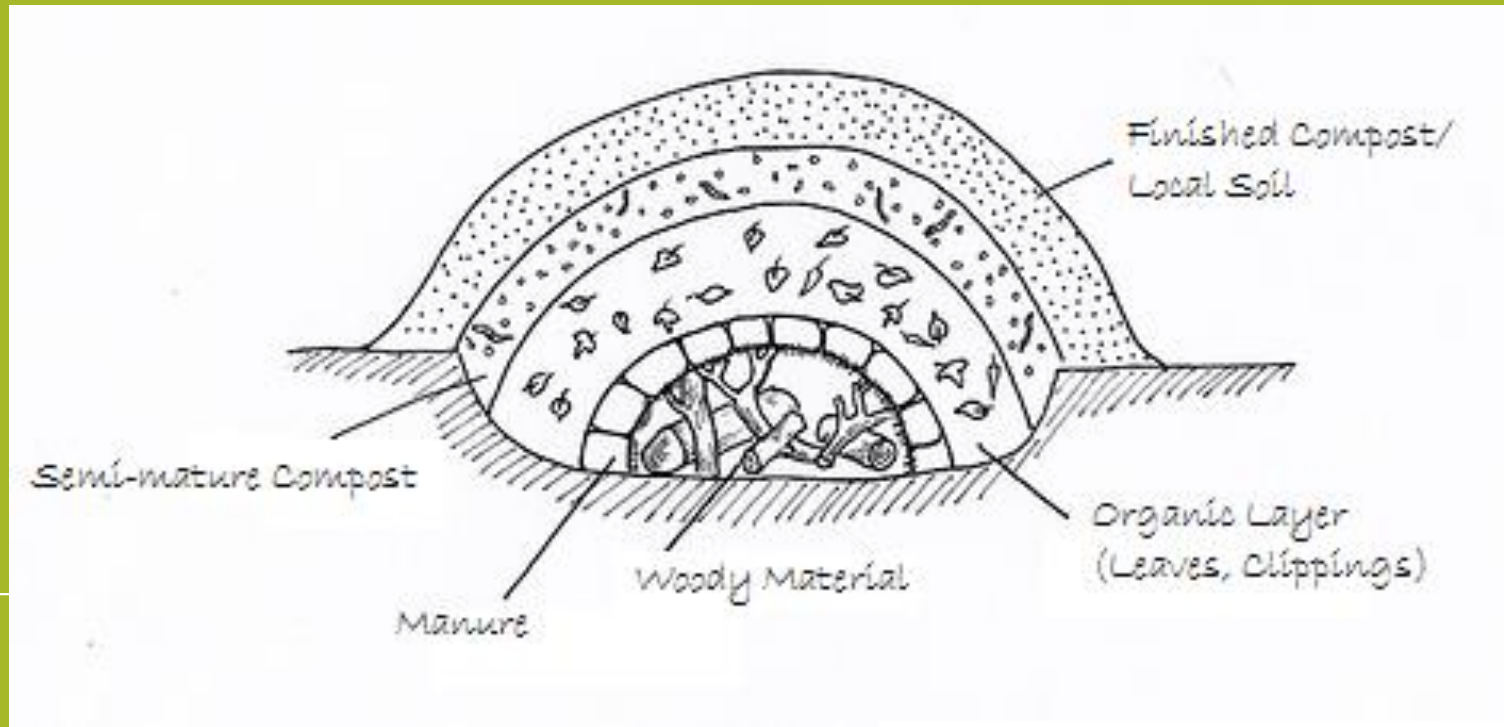
3:

Cover with
Organic
Material



STEP 4:

Finish with
Layer of
Top Soil



The Layers of a Hügelkultur Mound



Carbon Inputs:

Wood
Clippings

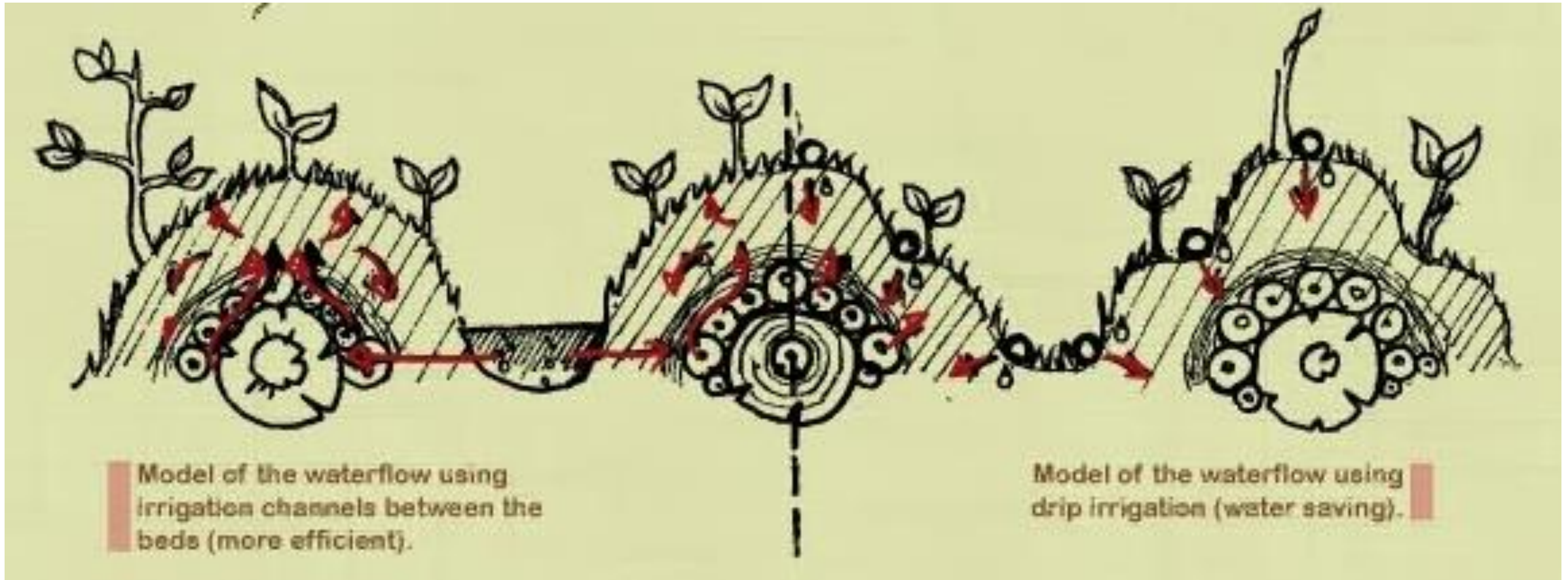
Organic Inputs:

Manure
Compost
Wood & Clippings
Worms & Insects

Nitrogen Inputs:

Manure
Compost

Wood acts like a Sponge and Wicks up Water = Less Need to Water





Rotting wood,
Moisture & Deep,
Dark Structure....

Means more Robust
Root Systems

Mycorrhizae Fungi networks

A photograph of a forest floor featuring a large, horizontal, weathered log. The log is covered in a thick layer of green moss and is surrounded by various ferns, including some with reddish-brown fronds. Sunlight filters through the dense canopy of trees in the background, creating a dappled light effect on the forest floor.

A Nurse Log as an Example

OUTREACH: RAISING AWARENESS

Demonstration Projects

Workshops

Tours

Swag

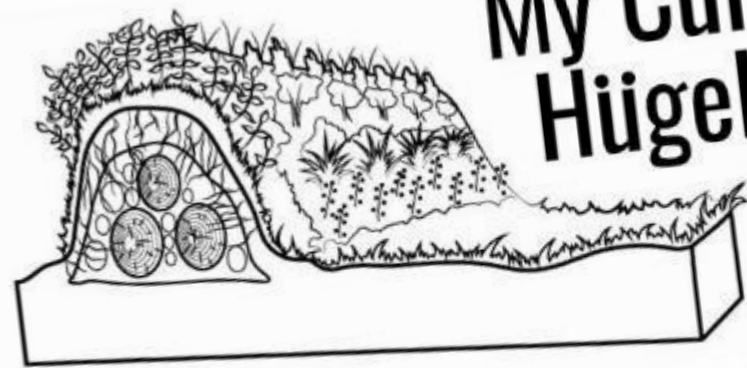


BUILT A HÜGELKULTUR MODEL



TOOK IT ON THE ROAD

NW FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW
FARMERS MARKETS
KING COUNTY FAIR



My Culture is Hügelkultur

King Conservation District
www.kingcd.org

Balance of Swag & Information



Hügelkultur A Sustainable Soil Regeneration & Gardening Technique

History

For centuries, European gardeners had been experimenting with techniques to produce food in challenging environments. High altitude, short-growing seasons, lack of water, degraded soils, amongst other challenges, forced farmers to reshape their approach to gardening. Over a long span of time, people learned to bury wood and build planting mounds to change topography, retain water, and inevitably rebuild healthy soils. Successful techniques were passed from farmer to farmer, rarely documented until recent years. Printed texts and internet resources collectively coined the term 'Hügelkultur,' and various interpretations ensued.

Applications

- 1 Soil Regeneration
Systems of microorganisms break down wood and organic material in layers to form the complex molecules needed in healthy soils.
- 2 Food Production
Roots from edible plants can tap down into a battery of resources over many years as wood and organic material breaks down. Mounds provide more surface area for food production.
- 3 Habitat Diversity
The structure provides excellent habitat for soil decomposing organisms as well as insects and other animals that may find home amongst the plants.

Benefits

- ◆ Long-term Source of Plant Nutrients
- ◆ Water Retention in Wood
- ◆ Creation of Healthy Soil
- ◆ More Surface Area for Plants
- ◆ Modified Topography
- ◆ Extended Growing Season (warmth from composting process)
- ◆ Use of Recycled Waste Materials
- ◆ Sustainable Food Production
- ◆ Reduce the Need to Burn Woody Debris
- ◆ Provide Healthy Habitat for Plants & Animals



FEBRUARY 2017

K&D
King Conservation District

CITY SOIL URBAN FARM

Hügelkultur Work Party

Renton, WA
Thursday, September 8th
9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Show up anytime to help & learn

Free Hands-on Workshop

Learn how to build a true raised-bed garden using a permaculture technique called Hügelkultur. This process uses wood and other organic material used to build a planting mound. Hügelkultur has been used in Europe for centuries and is now being implemented locally. We will be building from the 'ground-up' and working all day. Hands dirty. Arms tired. Brains filled with knowledge. Stop by when you can!



Learn How To...

- Build a Hügel mound from scratch
- Design a planting terrace to stabilize a slope.
- Lay out mulch and plant designs.
- Build mini-Hügel mounds.
- Integrate permaculture techniques such as plant guilds.



INSIDE AN UNDERGROUND HÜGEL KULTUR TERRACE
(Side View)

To RSVP for the FREE workshop, contact:
Jarret Griesemer, Project Coordinator
425-282-1953 jarret.griesemer@kingcd.org
<http://hugelkultur-work-party.eventbrite.com>

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Hügelkultur
Builds in
2017





Hügelkultur

Noun [*hoo-gul-culture*]

1. an agricultural process employing raised planting beds constructed on top of decaying wood debris and other plant compostable biomass plant materials.

2. a permaculture practice that increases soil health and reduces need for watering.



Both rural
and urban
application



Plants
require less
watering

Reduces
need for
burning
debris



Creates
raised
planting
beds



www.kingcd.org

425.282.1900

Created Interpretive Signage



Every
Hügelkultur
Build Site
Received a
Sign



What's Inside a Hügelkultur Mound?



1st Layer: Wood

Large logs stacked to allow for oxygen gaps, will break down and become soil



2nd Layer: Brown

Decaying leaves, cardboard, burlap, sticks to encase the wood below



3rd Layer: Green

Grasses, weeds, brush, pruning kitchen waste




4th Layer: Compost

Provides nutrients until bottom layers decompose



5th Layer: Soil

Planting layer


My Culture is Hugelkultur

AN EVENING WITH THE HUGELMEISTERS

WHO'S WHO in Hugelkultur
 King County South Treatment Plant, Renton, WA
 Tuesday, June 6, 2017
 6:30-8:00pm

KCD is hosting a Who's Who in Hugelkultur where working landscape and permaculture professionals will offer homeowners insight on how to incorporate hugelkultur into landscape design.

Interested individuals are welcome to come learn about Hugelkultur, the European art of mound building, that provides:

- long term source of plant nutrients
- creation of healthy soil
- more surface area for plants
- water retention in the soil
- use of recyclable material from your property

Speaker panel will include:

- Aaron Armstrong
Oasts Edible Landscapes
- Giovanni Anichini
Ground Up
- Jamet Gieseemer
King Conservation District
- Peter Donahue
Alleycat Acres Urban Farming Collective



The forum will be held in the Administration Building, Black River Conference Room at the King County South Treatment Plant located in Renton, WA. Registration is required.

To Register for this FREE event, contact:
 Melissa Tatro, 425-282-1921, melissa.tatro@kingcd.org
<http://whoswhoinhugelkultur.eventbrite.com>

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WORKSHOPS

Bringing Together Working
Landscape & Permaculture
Professionals to Discuss
Hugelkultur Techniques





Schreiber Cycle @SchreiberCycle · Sep 8

Been on a super cool #KCDHugelHunt from @King_CD_WA, found one at the Cascade Center@seattle_neighborhoods #ppatch



SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

Conservation Benefits of Hügelkultur:

- Builds Soil
- Increases Planting Area
- Utilize On-Site Materials
- Avoid Burn Piles
- Urban & Rural Application
- Reduces need for watering



Lessons Learned





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