

Future Goals:

- 1 . Build Shalen Opportunities community within Denton City limits in order to effect and help create code for environmentally friendly homes.
- 2 . Get community on bus route in order to minimize need for vehicles.
- 3 . Implement community car share program with vehicles running on BioDiesel and/or Greasel.
- 4 . Encourage barter within community.
- 5 . Spread Shalen learning communities across the nation.
- 6 . Help build sustainable communities of intentional living for those who choose to continue the lifestyle on a more permanent basis.

Subscribe to Shalen Community Journal, a monthly ezine for options, techniques and tips to help you live in harmony with nature and technology.

To subscribe or submit articles, please visit:



Shalen Opportunities

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Shalen Opportunities

...building communities from the heart up.



Shalen Opportunities is a not for profit organization dedicated to the ecological, economical and social uplifting of the human race.

Our mission is to create a stepping stone for families to take care of their own basic needs of food, housing, safety & community, while teaching them how to build their own homes, grow their own food, create and live in community & give back to the Earth and her inhabitants.

WHAT MAKES

SHALEN

OPPORTUNITIES

DIFFERENT

We believe people can live comfortably with less. Less income, less stuff, more quality time, more community.

Since housing and utilities are the largest expense in a family's budget, we are doing what we can to minimize these expenses and give people access to new options out of the "rat race".

We will build the community with grant money, classes and donations of time, money and sweat.

The homes will be rented in exchange for volunteer "SWEAT" hours.

The Shalen learning community will not be a permanent home. It will be an in between place for learning and growing, saving and deciding. Tenants will be involved in the community projects, have the opportunity to learn to live green, learn to create community and be self sustainable and decide if this is what they want for themselves.

The "leases" will be renewed yearly and limited to a five year stay in order to provide opportunity for more people to participate and to encourage the spread of sustainable living through those who have experienced and chosen to spread the knowledge.

WHAT WE ARE

1. Environmentally Friendly

- *water shed protection
- *preserve green space
- *natural buildings
 - local materials
- *renewable energy /passive solar

2. Pedestrian Friendly

- *cars kept at periphery
- *walking paths
- *courtyard and plazas



Example community borrowed from Village Habitat.

3. Educational

- *on site classes
- *library with info on
 - Permaculture
 - self employment
 - and varied literature supporting sustainable lifestyle.
- *learn through volunteering
- *info signs placed throughout community.

4. Self Sustainable

- *on site farm
- *rain water catchment

- *provide own green energy
- *rely on people power

DETAILS

+/- 30 acres

preserve >60% green space

1. homes built using (cob, strawbale, adobe, cast earth, earthbag, cob/strawbale combo:
 - a. 6 groups of 5 homes for families (family is defined as at least 1 child under the age of 18 and 1 parent or guardian),
 - b. 1 home with 12 single rooms, community living room, dining room, and kitchen and bathrooms
 - c. use meters to track energy efficiency comparisons
 - d. solar and wind powered
 - e. all homes handicap accessible
2. Community center
 - a. community kitchen/dining room
 - b. library
 - c. playroom
 - d. laundry facilities
 - e. offices
3. Chaos Hall
4. parks and walking paths

We would also use land for a community garden/ organic farm, food forest, and have at least one large greenhouse.