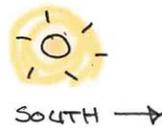
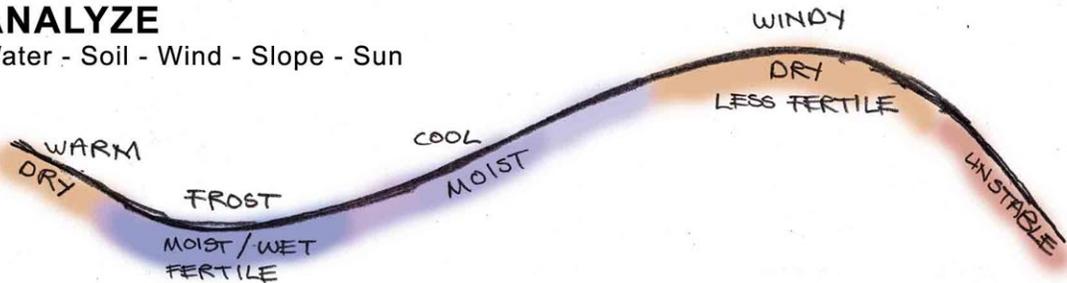


FOREST GARDEN DESIGN



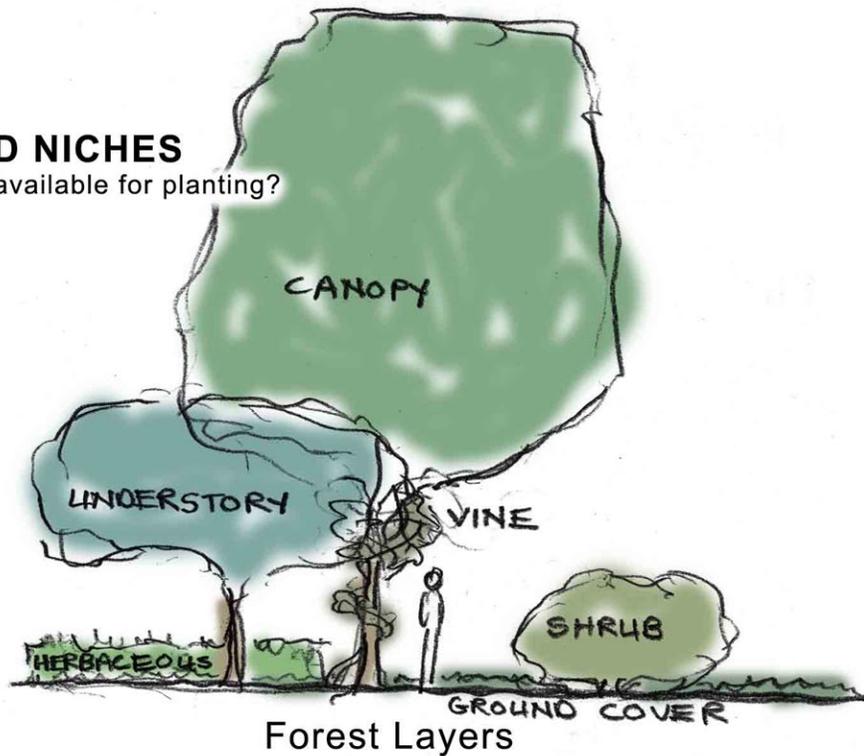
ANALYZE

Water - Soil - Wind - Slope - Sun



LAYERS AND NICHES

What spaces are available for planting?

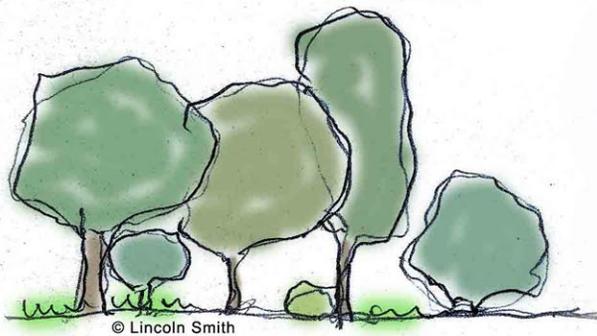


Forest Layers

FOREST GARDENS are multilayered agricultural plantings modeled on forest. They combine crops with plants that improve fertility & attract beneficial organisms. Forest gardens produce abundant food & supplies for people while improving water quality & wildlife habitat. Forest gardens can be large enough to support a community or small enough to fit in your back yard. Creating a forest garden is an important way to help people and the environment, and leave a legacy for future generations. There is no other truly sustainable agriculture for the forested ecosystems of the world.

ADAPT...

...the forest to your needs ...and your needs to the forest.

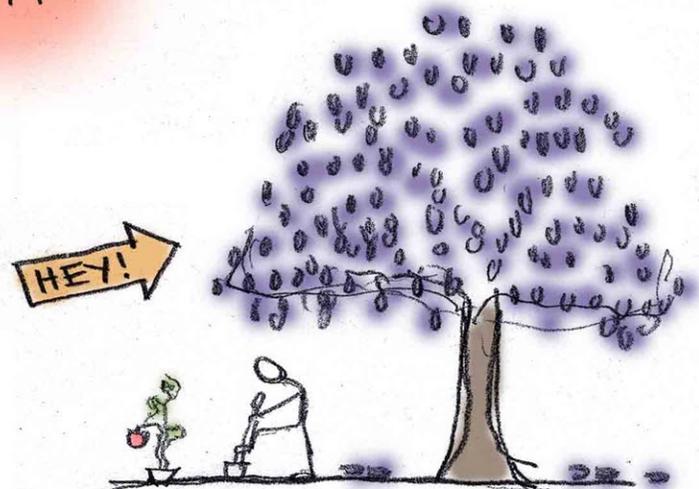


© Lincoln Smith



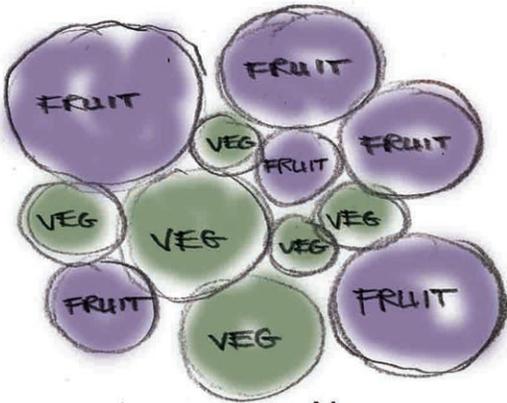
NOTICE AND USE EXISTING PLANTS

They're the best ones for your area

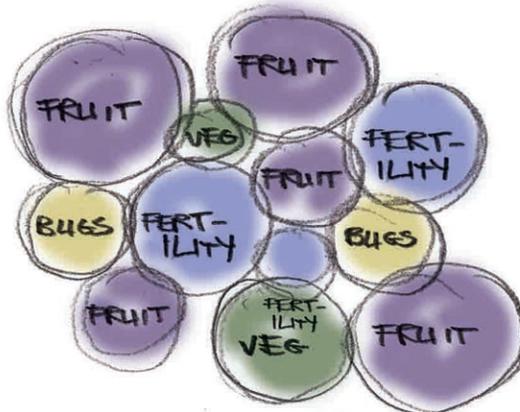


SYSTEM PLANTS

Include fertility plants and bug plants to support producers



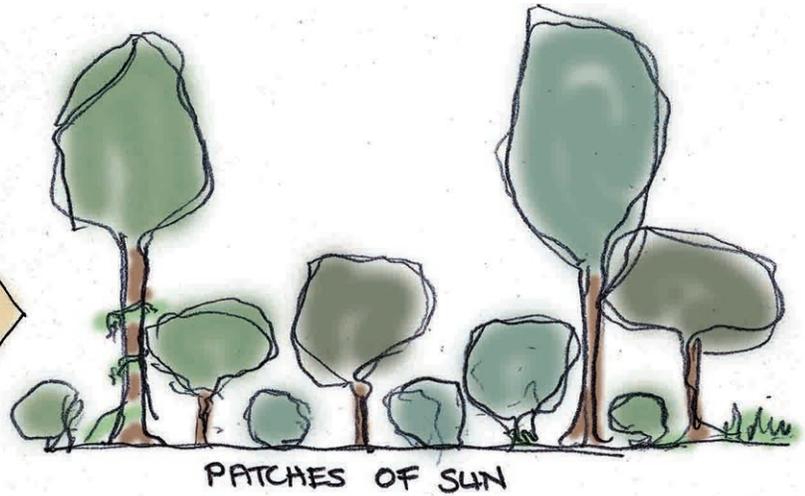
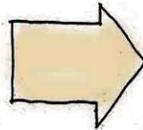
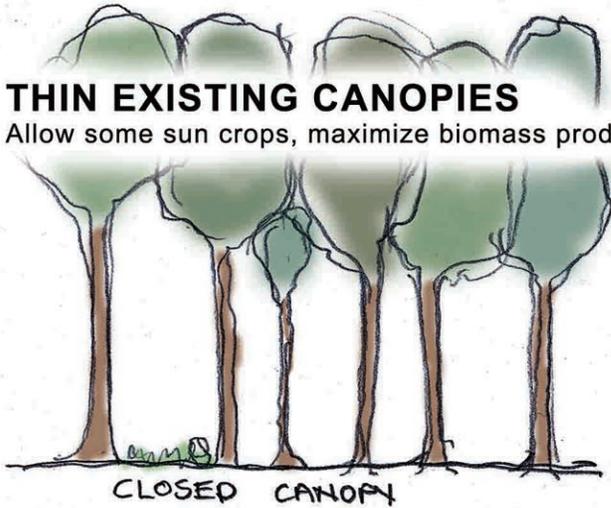
No



Yes

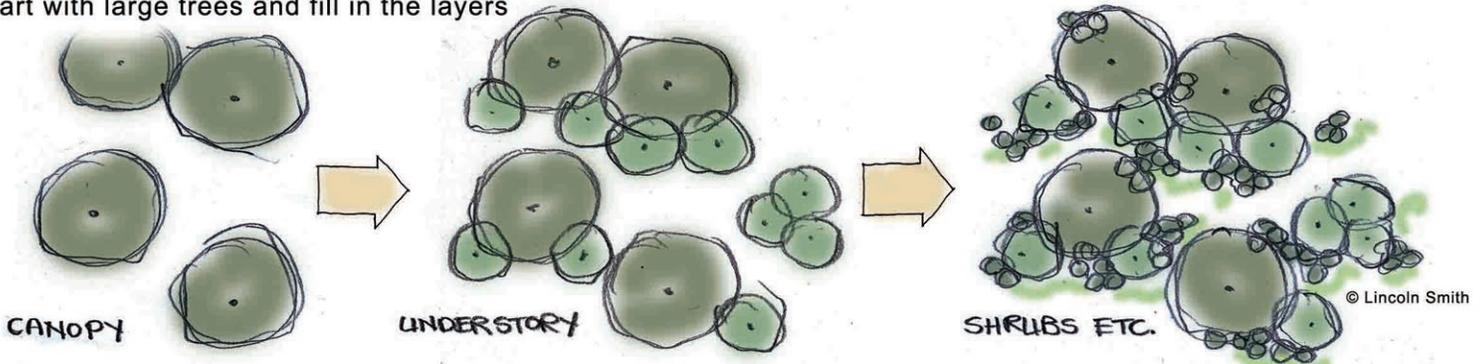
THIN EXISTING CANOPIES

Allow some sun crops, maximize biomass production



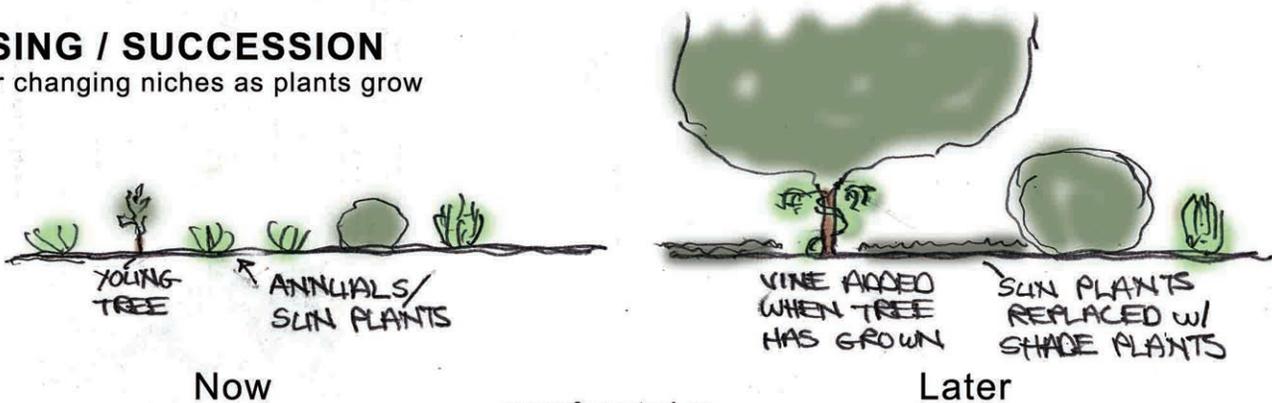
PLAN AND PLANT BIG TO SMALL

Start with large trees and fill in the layers



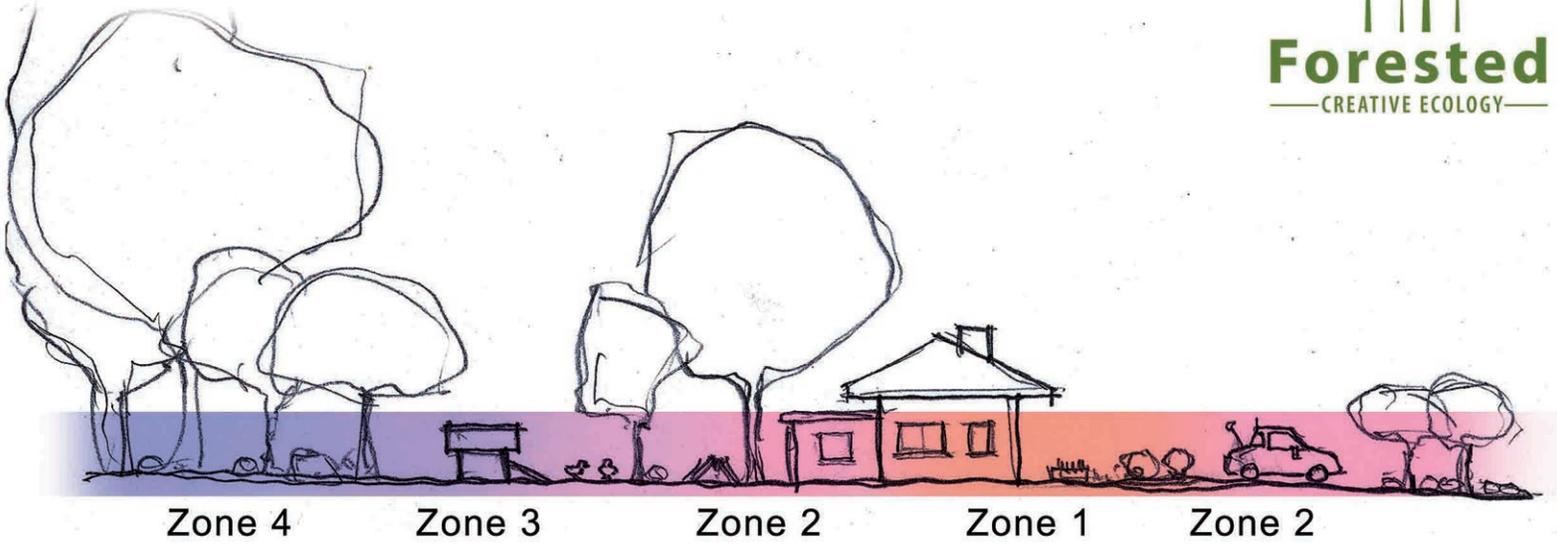
PHASING / SUCCESSION

Plan for changing niches as plants grow



PERMACULTURE ZONES

Place things needing more attention where you go more often



DIVERSE YIELDS

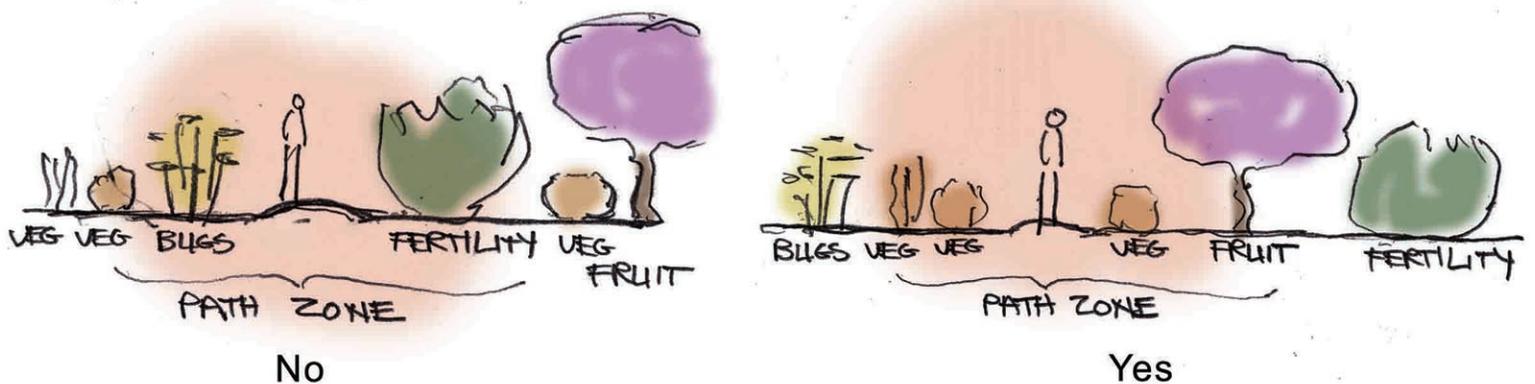
Supply many needs from the forest garden



© Lincoln Smith

PLACE FOR HARVEST

Insectary and soil-building plants need not be accessible



SHORT RUNNERS, TALL CLUMPERS

Group species that will not overwhelm each other



Forested
— CREATIVE ECOLOGY —



No

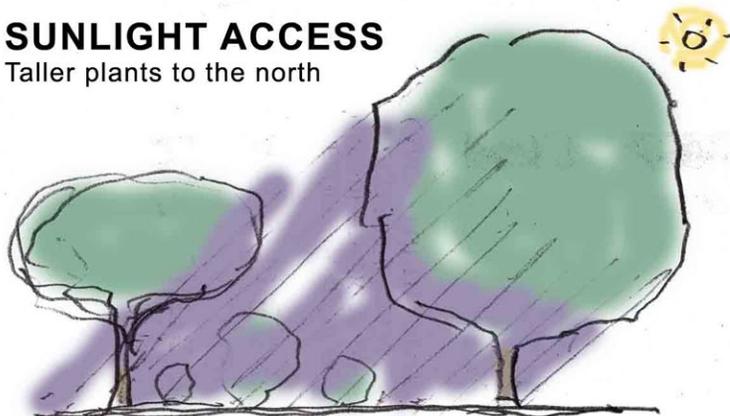


Yes

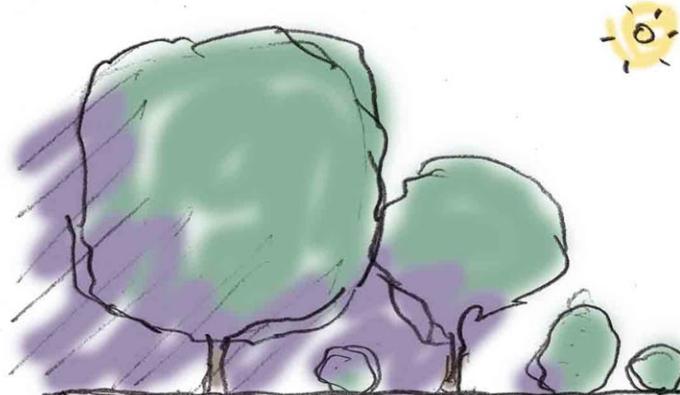
© Lincoln Smith

SUNLIGHT ACCESS

Taller plants to the north



No

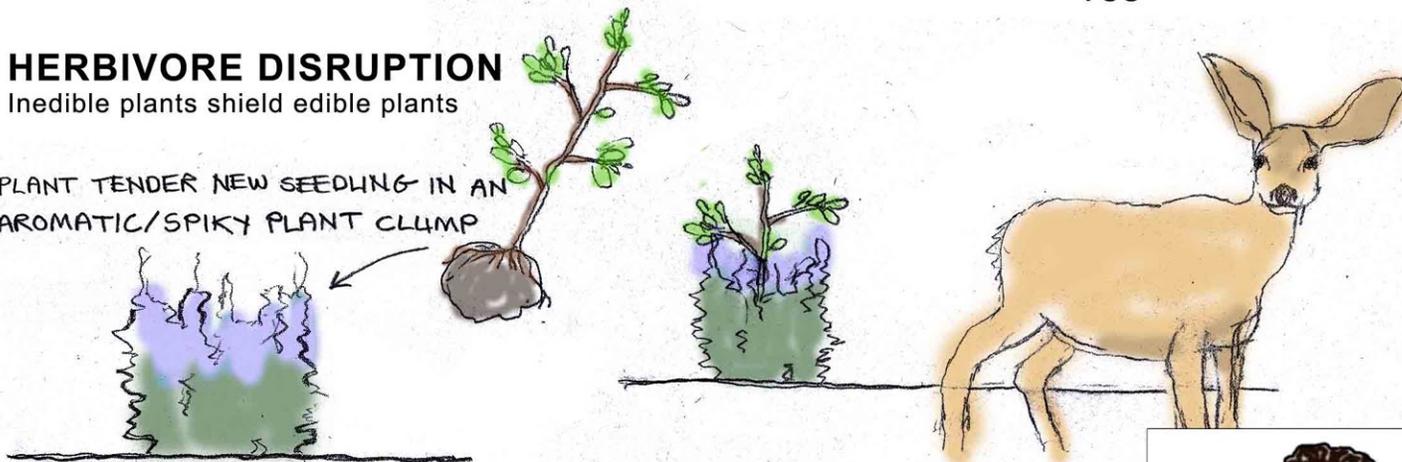


Yes

HERBIVORE DISRUPTION

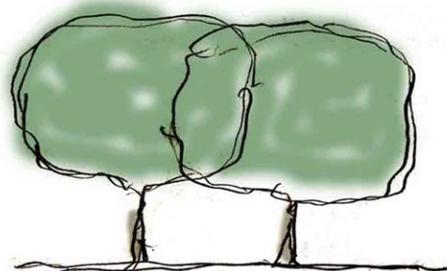
Inedible plants shield edible plants

PLANT TENDER NEW SEEDLING IN AN AROMATIC/SPIKY PLANT CLUMP

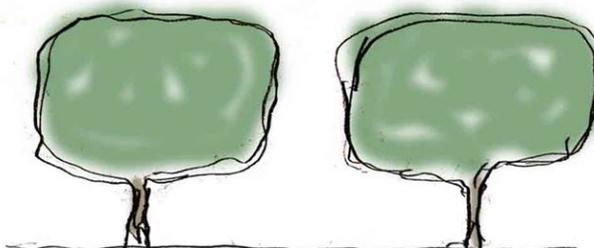


ROOM TO GROW

Leave room for mature plants



No



Yes



LINCOLN SMITH runs Forested, a 10-acre research forest garden just outside Washington DC. He designs public & private food forests, consults and gives lectures, and teaches forest garden skills & permaculture. He created this guide to help people understand and succeed with forest gardening. Contact lincoln@forested.us