

*For Village Design website page
Anthony, 03/15/19*

Relevant Principles and Intentions

Our practice at Hart's Mill is to keep our basic values front and center when making major decisions and when explaining them to others. Here are key principles guiding the design process. (For the full set of P&Is, go [here](#).)

11. Buildings and infrastructure will be designed to integrate harmoniously with each other and with the land. While recognizing that members' ideas of what in fact is harmonious or beautiful may be quite varied, we nonetheless commit to community attentiveness to overall aesthetics and establishing a process for decision-making on aesthetic matters.

12. Buildings and infrastructure will be designed for minimal or positive impact and maximal livability. We prioritize clean and healthy water and air (indoor and out), water catchment and recycling on-site (including full-scale "waste" composting), soil restoration and enrichment, and careful preservation and enhancement of viewscape. Any toxic substances/chemicals proposed for use in the community will be evaluated by a best-practices committee for impact on the community and the environment. We seek to absolutely minimize unsustainable impacts and, where they may be necessary, to more than compensate them with positive impacts as well.

13. Buildings and infrastructure will be designed to allow for variety and both accessibility and privacy. We will keep as much land as possible open both for farming and for wild area. In the built areas, intelligent and cooperative design layout will accommodate varying needs for privacy, quiet, security and clustering, and carefully balance and enable both regular outside visitation for educational purposes and the privacy and other needs of members.

21. We affirm a variety of family needs. We recognize that a community of people of the full range of ages, with family connections both within and beyond Hart's Mill, will have a variety of needs and potential dependencies and dependents. We affirm that meeting these needs is a demanding and laudable task. We will design systems that support the needs of children, parents, the elderly, and their care-givers.

27. We aim for socially and economically just relations within the community. We commit to considering the full economic and social impact of our actions upon each other; to reducing or eliminating economic barriers to community membership and other economic and social inequalities; to valuing the full range of talents, time, and treasure that members bring to the community and to working out fair tradeoffs between them (agreement #7) as circumstances may require. We affirm again, however, that community self-preservation must come first (agreement #26).

34. We commit ourselves to rethinking the contemporary culture of consumerism and convenience. We are willing to accept certain inconveniences to make greater self-

sufficiency possible, and commit ourselves to transmuting them into positive opportunities: the joys of skill and craft, for example.

35. We recognize that our aspirations must be tempered by practicality. These principles are not absolutes: we recognize the possible need for compromise both with each other and with the unwelcome demands of zoning laws, health requirements, and the like. Change is an ongoing process.