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Since completing my first PDC, my perspective on living a truly meaningful life has shifted profoundly. I've always been drawn to topics like frugality, STEM education, and entrepreneurship, but it wasn't until the PDC that I saw how seamlessly they could all come together. I vividly remember learning about harnessing passive solar energy through the precise design of a home's southern overhang and thinking, *"Woah, that's the coolest thing I've ever heard."*

Over the years, the principles of reducing waste, harvesting surplus, and giving back to my community have continued to evolve in my life. I'm grateful to be in a place where I can start designing my ideal site (though, of course, few things in life are ever **truly** ideal).

A core part of this journey is integrating my family into the development of the land. It's crucial to me that they gain the same deep sense of connection I'm building with the land. Working together to create this space is an opportunity to foster shared purpose and meaningful memories. This vision extends beyond my family as well. The work we do on this land will enrich the educational programs I offer to students across the region, further deepening their understanding of regenerative practices and sustainable living.

The concept of establishing multiple water retention ponds to catch water at higher elevations and allow it to percolate through the property before flowing into the creek fascinates me. I also have experience with goats and sheep, and I'd love to integrate them into the land. There's something deeply fulfilling about having animals work alongside us to create the largest positive ecological footprint possible. I picture ducks, chickens, guineas, and geese roaming freely along the waterways of the property.

I'm also interested in (light) mushroom production, integrating a couple of beehives at the back of the property, and building a tiny home from natural materials powered by off-grid solar arrays. The list of things I'd like to do is long but my [resources](#) are limited.

A key lesson I need to embrace is how to start small and incrementally build systems that are efficient, sustainable, and require minimal time, energy, and [resources](#) to maintain once established.

That's the vision: a space where my family and the students I work with can learn, grow, and connect with the land. And yes, a fruit orchard. And a hayfield that I can scythe in a day. That's it. Done.