



**Design Ecologist**  
**Consultant to the Compost Industry**  
**Home Design - Site Design**  
**Educator**  
**Engineer**  
**Builder**  
**Naturalist**  
**Horticulturist**  
**Farmer**

### **Curriculum Vitae**

**January 2006-Present , Perfect Circle Farm and Nursery ([www.perfectcirclefarm.net](http://www.perfectcirclefarm.net))**

Our family farm and nursery. We specialize in edible and permaculture plants. I grow from seed or otherwise propagate the vast majority of what we sell. We intend to make this our full time retirement business in the next couple of years. Nuts trees are my speciality.

**May 2007-2010- Marketing and Business Development Consultant- Filtrexx International, Grafton, Ohio ([www.filtrexx.com](http://www.filtrexx.com) )**

Filtrexx is the industry leader in Stormwater Best Management Practices for Clean Water Act NPDES Phase II compliance. Using a patented process of mesh containment tubes and engineered compost as a filtration and treatment media. Currently expanding in to growing systems. A very cool company, and great place for me to be consulting. Worked with the management to develop market and product expansion planning. Worked with the regional installers to expand local markets. Presented to various stakeholders including state regulators, industry professionals, environmental groups, etc.

**February 2005 – May 2007– Project Manager/Consultant- The Intervale Center, Burlington, VT. ([www.intervale.org](http://www.intervale.org) )**

Intervale Compost- Products, Site and Operations Improvement, Worked with the General Manager to improve overall site and operations. Managed grants for Historic Renovations to Farmstead Buildings and Offices. Managed a VTrans Enhancement Grant for Wayfinding and Public Amenities for the Intervale. First composting toilet in Burlington being installed as part of this grant. Worked with Intervale's Success on Farms Program to write a feasibility study and compost pad design for a Misty Knoll Farm's new composting operations. Worked with NRCS cost share program to redesign the farms Composting Pad to better meet farm needs.

**September 1990 – Present – Partner – Buzz Shop/Overbrook Design, Worcester VT & East Fallowfield, PA**

Residential and commercial contracting. Design, Building and Renovations. Major responsibilities include sales, design, permitting, systems integration, materials procurement and scheduling, management, general contracting and administration of all projects. I am personally proficient in all the trades from masonry to cabinetry. Specializing in adaptive reuse, microclimate and regenerative green design. Currently building and remodeling houses in Central VT

**January 2001 – 2004 – Sales and Marketing and Facilities Development Consultant– Laurel Valley Farms, Avondale, PA ([www.laurelvalleysoils.com](http://www.laurelvalleysoils.com) )**

Laurel Valley Farms is a mushroom composting cooperative of 15 major mushroom growers. Output is 6000 tons per week of mushroom compost. Historically, each grower/member was responsible for disposing of their own “spent” compost. Due to major changes in local land use and politics, they are now collectively required to reprocess the material in an environmentally sound fashion. This meant the design and construction of a multi-million dollar facility to manage the re-composting and processing of mushroom compost into value added horticultural products. Designed and developed the marketing and sales program. Grew sales from \$0.00 to over 1.5 million. Pioneered the development of green-roof media utilizing mushroom compost. Now a major revenue source. ([www.skylandusa.us](http://www.skylandusa.us) ).

**September 1996 – 2006 – Principal Partner/Product Manager – Planetgreen, Virtual**

I had been working to develop and market a pelletized compost product made from compost for over 10 years. Designed and built pilot plant in 1999. Small scale production plant was completed in 2003. In 2005 plant was operating at two-three tons per hour. Market and position had been determined and the sales efforts had overreached production. Bagged product was available for sale to the professional lawn and turf market in Eastern USA. Production shut down in 2006 due to rising fuel costs, looking for a new opportunity to develop this product using residual heat from energy production, or other source.

**September 1994 – August, 1996 - Sales and Marketing Manager – Select Soils, Avondale, PA \*([www.selectsoils.com/index.html](http://www.selectsoils.com/index.html) )**

Engaged with the specific goal to analyze and streamline operations, and to increase sales of wholesale compost and soil sales. Oversaw the reorganization of the company to focus on wholesale bulk operations. Recommended the organization close retail operations and cease bagging operations. Identified tenant to take over retail location. Implemented wholesale marketing program that resulted in 100% increase of wholesale sales to 2.5 million in 18 months

**January, 1990 – July, 1994 – Partner\Vice President\Product Manager – Waekon Industries, Inc., Kirkwood, PA ([www.waekon.com](http://www.waekon.com) )**

Waekon was a startup company in 1990, manufacturing automotive test equipment. Customers include Snap-On Tools, MAC Tools, Matco Tools and all other major tool companies in this market. Sales for 1994 were 4+ million. During the company's first two years, I was involved in all aspects of starting and operating a manufacturing company. As the company grew, I hired and trained the production managers, buyers, materials manager and research associates. Company was sold to one of our competitors in 1995.

Responsibilities included: new product design, development and engineering; production technique development; value engineering, vendor selection and negotiation; managing intellectual property; advertising, including national trade magazines, national and international trade show coordination and attendance, catalogue and sales literature production; produced and starred in application videos; sales coordination of key accounts; capital equipment purchases; MRP computer system implementation and management; and managed physical plant renovations and improvements associated with relocating to new facilities.

**March, 1981-January, 1990 – Owner- Buzz Ferver Contracting, Oxford, PA**

See Overbrook Design above

**July, 1975-March, 1981 – Manager/Sales – Ferver Landscaping, Chatham, PA**

Family owned business. My major responsibilities included landscape design and sales, scheduling and managing operations, inventory purchasing and management, nursery management, and equipment purchases and maintenance. Expanded the company's repertoire to include decks, sunrooms, etc. Sales of 1.5 million.

**Special Achievements:**

Yestermorrow Design Build School - Board of Directors for 9 years, Curriculum Committee Chair and Faculty. Warren, Vermont ([www.yestermorrow.org](http://www.yestermorrow.org)). See Class list below

Faculty member of The Nature Lyceum for Organic Horticulture, Long Island, NY and Sunfire Institute , School for Organic Horticulture, Philadelphia PA

Leader of Nature Education Programs for the Delaware Nature Society and the Brandywine Valley Association. See Class list below

Research Associate for Critical Natural Areas of Delaware, published by the Delaware Nature Society.

Board of Directors, Brandywine Valley Association.

**Classes Taught:**

*Farm Design*, For aspiring farmers interested in learning design process for development, planning and problem solving around farms and farming -2 weeks.

*Raising the Bar in Sustainable Design*, a two week class integrating design process, computer aided design, site analysis, materials selection and building technique.

*Home Design, Home Design Build*, Yestermorrow Design/Build School's signature class. Envisioned to unite the roles of client, builder and architect to create far better buildings. 2 weeks.

*Natural Building Intensive*, a 10 week program that constructs a natural building from start to finish for a client. Currently in its 4<sup>th</sup> year.

*Modern Plaster Techniques, on beyond drywall*, A craft class for builders and homeowners teaching a lost skill. 2-3 days

*Certificate in Sustainable Design, Core Class* -3 weeks

*Ecological Design in the Tropics*, two week class in Costa Rica using a very different climate and materials to illustrate the principles of ecological design.

*Design For Climate Change*, one week class using peak oil and climate change as the organizing principal in community redesign.

*The Rumford Fireplace*, Building a far more effective fireplace. One week

*Nature and Technology*, a look at water, wastes and food production illustrating the dependence upon and the deviation from natural process associated with each of these needs. 4 days.

*Compost, 101 and 201*, for beginners and intermediate users and manufacturers of compost.

*Engineered Composts for Stormwater Treatment*, One day

*Engineered Compost for Agricultural Growing Systems*, One day

*Compost Toilets, Greywater and Living Machines*, One day

**Personal:**

60 years old. Married, in great health. Two thirty-something children with 3 grandchildren, and a 15 and 12 year old. Avid gardener. Snowboarder, poet and photographer. Regenerative living enthusiast. Compost consultant to Bonnaroo! Lived off the grid in Worcester VT for 11 years. So much more...

**References upon request**