

## **Building Sustainable Local Economies Preliminary Reading List 2007**

### **General Readings**

#### ***An Economics of Peace***

Essays by E. F. Schumacher, Wendell Berry and Susan Witt  
Three essays that sound a clear call for alternative economic systems as a means to a lasting peace the world over.

**Cities and the Wealth of Nations**, by Jane Jacobs  
Article published in *The Atlantic Monthly*, March 1984

**The Economy of Regions**, by Jane Jacobs  
1983 Annual E. F. Schumacher Lectures

**Going Local: Creating Self-Reliant Communities in a Global Age** (excerpts)  
by Michael Shuman (Routledge, 1998/2000)

### **Land: The Community Land Trust Model**

**Land: Challenge and Opportunity**, by Robert Swann and Susan Witt  
Describes various working applications of the community land trust approach to land tenure, including affordable housing, affordable access to land for farmers, ecologically based land use planning, and safe-guarding of traditionally used lands by and for indigenous peoples.

**A New Lease On Farmland: Assuring a Future for Farming in the Northeast**  
Published by the Schumacher Center for a New Economics  
A guide to using the Community Land Trust model to ensure that farmland is used productively and sustainably over the long-term.

**Capitalism, the Commons, and Divine Right**, by Peter Barnes  
2003 Annual E. F. Schumacher Lecture  
A look at the potential for expanding the role and the rights of the commons. Barnes suggests that commons should be held in trusts for the benefit of current and future generations, as a way of countering the power of the market and its search for short-term private profits.

**The Wisdom That Builds Community**, by Greg Watson  
1997 Annual E. F. Schumacher Lecture  
Greg Watson tells the story of the Dudley Street Community Land Trust, which reinvigorated neighborhood pride and now supports hundreds of units of renovated owner-occupied homes, a productive greenhouse, and locally-owned businesses.

**Community Partnership Saves Family Farm**, by Susan Witt

#### **Indian Line Farm Land Use Plan**

An example land use plan used to clarify the possible uses, and limits to use, on a piece of land held in a community land trust.

### **Capital: Creating Community Financing Systems**

**Printing Money, Making Change: The Future of Local Currencies**, by Susan Witt  
Published in *Orion Afield*, Autumn 1998

**Local Currencies: Catalysts for Sustainable Regional Economies**, by Robert Swann and Susan Witt, February 1995.

**Local Currencies in the 21st Century**, by Susan Witt and Christopher Lindstrom

Published in *In Business*, July/August 2004

***Building Sustainable Communities: Tools and Concepts for Self-Reliant Economic Change***, contributors C. George Benello, Robert Swann, Shann Turnbull; edited by Ward Morehouse. (Bootstrap Press, 1989/1997)  
*Chapter 25: "Building a Community Banking System"* by Robert Swann

**Congressional Testimony about SHARE before the House Select Committee on Hunger** by Susan Witt (1988)

**What's Your Money Doing Tonight?** by Fred Zahradnik  
Published in *New Farm*, January 1984

### **Labor: Self-management and Diversification of Wealth**

**A Direct Stake in Economic Life: Worker-Owned Firms**  
An excerpt from *America Beyond Capitalism*, by Gar Alperovitz (Wiley, 2005)

***Building Sustainable Communities: Tools and Concepts for Self-Reliant Economic Change***, contributors C. George Benello, Robert Swann, Shann Turnbull; edited by Ward Morehouse. (Bootstrap Press, 1989/1997)  
*Chapter 18: "Workplace Democratization"* and *Chapter 19: "Worker-Managed Enterprises: Legal Shells, Structures, and Financing"* by C. George Benello

### **Additional Readings for 2007 Seminar:**

**Small Is Beautiful: Economics As If People Mattered**, by E. F. Schumacher  
*Chapter 3: The Role of Economics* and *Chapter 5: A Question of Size* (Blond & Briggs, 1973).

**Home! A Bioregional Reader**, excerpts by Peter Berg, Gary Snyder, and Doug Aberley, (New Society Publishers, 1990).

**The Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Time**, by Karl Polanyi (Beacon Press, 1944/2001)  
*Chapter 6: The Self-Regulating Market and the Fictitious Commodities: Labor, Land, and Money*

**Modern Money Mechanics: A Workbook on Bank Reserves and Deposit Expansion**, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, (1992). Pgs. 1-11.

**From the Ground Up: Essays on Grassroots & Workplace Democracy**  
*Chapter 8: The Challenge of Mondragon*, by George Benello (South End Press, 1992).

**Co-ops and Post-Corporate Activism**, by Keith Wright, *Earth Island Journal*, Summer 2001.

**A Revolution in Every Cup!** by Elizabeth Schwartzapfel, *Rhode Island Monthly*, April 2006.

**Historic Foundations of Cooperative Philosophy**, by Greg Lawless, *Bulletin*, University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives, September 2003.

**Worker Cooperatives**, by Jody Padgham, *Bulletin*, University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives, November 2002.