

## ECOLOGICAL THOUGHTS

From <http://architecture.mit.edu/~carlo/ecoliteracy.htm>

Quoting from Fritjof Capra's [The Web of Life](http://www.ecoliteracy.org) <http://www.ecoliteracy.org>

### **Interdependence**

All ecosystems, all organisms, all life on this planet... shows interconnectedness.

### **Flexibility**

"The flexibility of an ecosystem is a consequence of its multiple feedback loops, which tend to bring the system back into balance whenever there is a deviation from the norm, due to changing environmental conditions."

### **Diversity**

"The more complex the network is, the more complex its pattern of interconnections, the more resilient it will be. In ecosystems, the complexity of the network is a consequence of its bio-diversity, and thus a diverse ecological community is a resilient community. In human communities, ethnic and cultural diversity may play the same role. Diversity means many different relationships, many different approaches to the same problem. A diverse community is a resilient community, capable of adapting to changing situations".

### **Recycling**

"A major clash between economics and ecology derives from the fact that nature is cyclical, whereas our industrial systems are linear. In nature, waste = food."

### **Partnership**

"...is important and is related to interdependence: every element has a precise role and this creates a sustainable democracy.

### **Sustainability**

"We do not need to invent sustainable human communities. We can learn from societies that have lived sustainably for centuries. We can also model communities after nature's ecosystems, which are sustainable communities of plants, animals, and microorganisms. Since the outstanding characteristic of the biosphere is its inherent ability to sustain life, a sustainable human community must be designed in such a manner that its technologies and social institutions honor, support, and cooperate with nature's inherent ability to sustain life."