

**Ecological Enhancement:  
A Process  
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ChicoryLane Farm  
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**Overview**

- **Select a site**
- **Record it**
- **Identify Features of Interest**
- **Map the site**
- **Consider changes**
- **Plan changes**
- **Implement**
- **Assess**

**Select a site**

- Scale is important
  - Not too big: large enough to have impact
  - E.g.:100 yard segment of stream in a 10-100 acre property
- You are drawn to it

**Record it**

- Images of the whole, in some logical order
  - Starting state
  - Evolving state
  - End or transition state
- Other forms?
  - Audio
  - Records in some form of other perceptions

**Identify Features of Interest**

- Plant species
  - Present / missing
  - Gather them into two palettes
    - Desirable / undesirable
- Natural elements
  - Rocks, streams, vistas, etc.

## Map the site

- Rough, hand drawn
- Place species and elements
  - Indicate desirable/undesirable

## Consider changes

- Desirable species that might be increased
  - Why
  - Where
    - Existing location
    - New locations
      - Conditions appropriate?
- Undesirable species that might be reduced or removed
  - Why
  - Where
- Same for Natural elements

## Plan changes

- Make tentative decisions
  - Why and in what way would changes enhance ecology of the site?
    - Better balance?
    - benefits wildlife?
    - New element?
    - Reduces problem?
  - Asses personal preferences vs. ecological benefits
    - Consider resulting motivation a plus
    - Beware personal idiosyncrasies not matched by benefit
  - Draft working plan/notes

## Implement

- Work from plan
  - Revise plan as things work/don't work
- Get help
- Monitor ecological pros and cons as site evolves
  - Work on personal honesty
  - Work on listening to others but trusting your own judgement
- Strive to be aware as to when to pause, when to start up again, when to transition to stop or maintenance

## Assess

- Document the site
- Identify ecological factors that have changed or are changing
  - Quantify, if possible/practical
  - Qualitative, as well
- Tell the story of the site
  - What drew you to the site?
  - Motivation and/or need?
  - Brief narrative of the process
  - Identify elements of the palettes
  - Hard look at decision that were made and their reasons
  - How did it work out?
    - Ecological improvement?
    - Ecological problems reduced?
    - New problems created?
    - Document
  - What would you do differently?