



# 16/06/04+0 5 Seminar Weekend “Humisme”

by Kerstin Mengewein | 9. Jun 2016 | Education | 0 comments



## In Love With

the opportunity of a new seminar



## Inspired By

getting to know Marc Siepmann and how he finances his family life through donations!



## Benefit

of having access to his power point presentation online for free

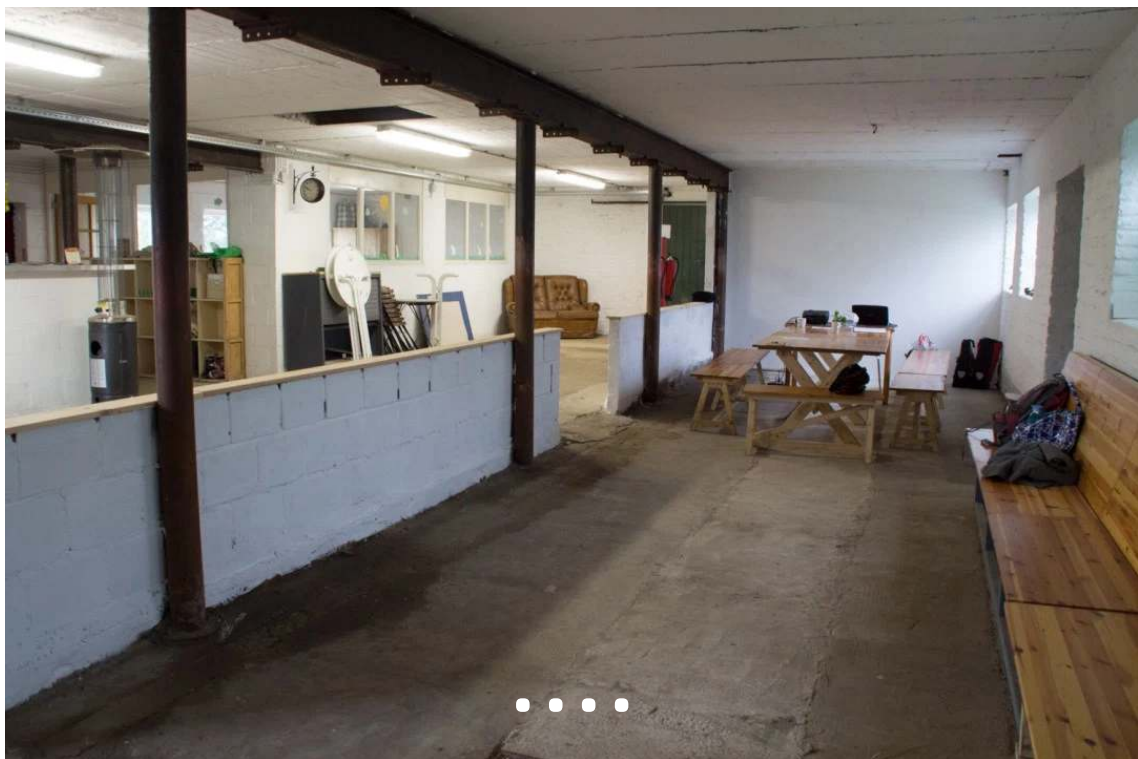


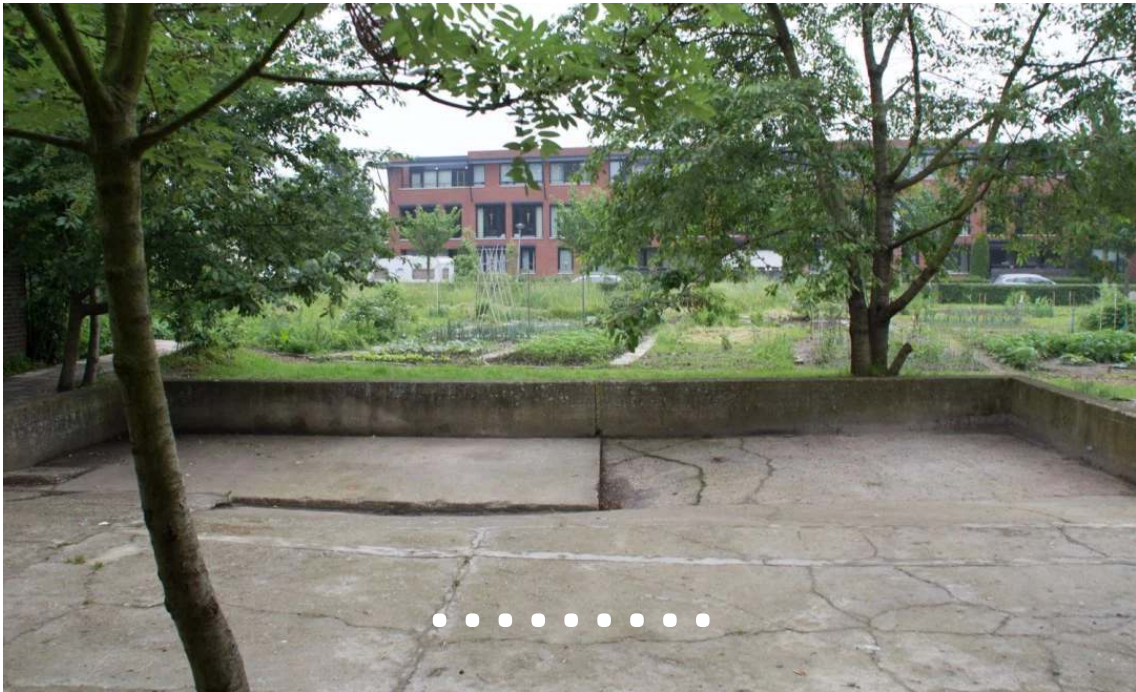
## Challenge

of learning about soil chemics

By chance I got the offer to join the Humisme seminar weekend in Maastricht. It was completely for free! Two days, 6h each, we listened to Marc Siepman, one of the few permaculturists in the Netherlands who specialized in soils. He held a power point presentation about soil structure, soil life, how to test and analyse garden soils and how water and air behave in different soils. It's one of the most important lessons in permaculture, to learn about soils, the chemistry and the life in it. So I was very happy that I could join the weekend.

For lunch break, everybody brought some vegetarian preparation and we sat outside and shared our food as well as our insights, got to know each other and had a pretty good time.





The old and typical Dutch barn where the seminar was held, was part of a community garden. They had painted an plan of the garden on the wall, pretty cool. So after the first seminar day I walked a bit around and took some photo's for inspiration. The garden beds looked all different. Some people seemed to be mulching, others didn't, some grew annuals only, some grew perennial veggies and even berry bushes, too. It was very nice to walk around and collect some ideas and thoughts for maybe any future projects in my neighborhood...

The second day started with the composting topic we couldn't finish the first day. Many people asked so many interesting questions, and Marc also encouraged us to actively discuss anything, that of course we didn't get through the 1st day program. After composting Marc told us about all kinds of living creature in the soils, some very strange and fascinating insights into the almost unknown "soil food web". We learned about nematodes, fungus, rhizosphere, bacteria and all kinds of little insects and worms of all shapes.

After the seminar I took Marc to the station. He told me that he doesn't earn any money, his wife and kids are living all from donations he receives giving those seminars. That's astonishing. He also prepares a concept for a money-free community farm that I might be interviewing him about later this year.

Great seminar, thank you Marc =)





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