

# What is cohousing really?

*Patterns & practices of successful communities.*



CLASS 2 • Cohousing Institute Online Course  
Jumpstart Your Cohousing Community

STUDIO  
co+hab

# HOUSEKEEPING

## Class Directory

Community Name (if any)	Last Name	First Name	Email	Location	Phone Number	Status/ Comments
	Carson	Anesia				
	Farrell	Cary				
	Mager	Justin				
	Schack	Edna				
	Redpath-Kennedy	Max				
	Benavides	Holly				
	Kienapple	Mary Ann				
	Faris	Lorraine				
	Skojec	Lisa				
	Park	Patrick				
	Thomson	Mac				
	Marschall	Janet				
	Westmoreland	Sheila				
	Mooney	Tamra				
	Lise	Rubarth				
	Crossley	Vanda				

# THIS GROUP'S LEARNING GOALS

- **Affordability** (Session 4)
- **How to grow a group** (the whole class)
- **How to find a site** (Session 4)
- **Work with professionals, look credible to financial backers** (Session 4)
- **Work with a nonprofit** (Session 4)
- **Other forms of community living/ “student cohousing”** (Some 2)

# AGENDA

01

## DAY IN THE LIFE

Homework from last week

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02

## WHAT IS COHOUSING REALLY?

The ICs spectrum and ingredients to Cohousing

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03

## PHYSICAL & SOCIAL ANATOMY

What makes cohousing successful

---

04

## HOMEWORK INVITATIONS

Going further

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01

DAY IN THE LIFE

Homework from last week

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## ACTIVITY - SMALL GROUP

Share your “day in the life” story

*2-3 min per person. Set a timer.*

Add your story to the forum?



Private: Launching Your Community Training Forum

### Homework Invitation 1: Day in the Life (Async+)

Posted by Erik Bonnett on March 29, 2023 at 12:23 am

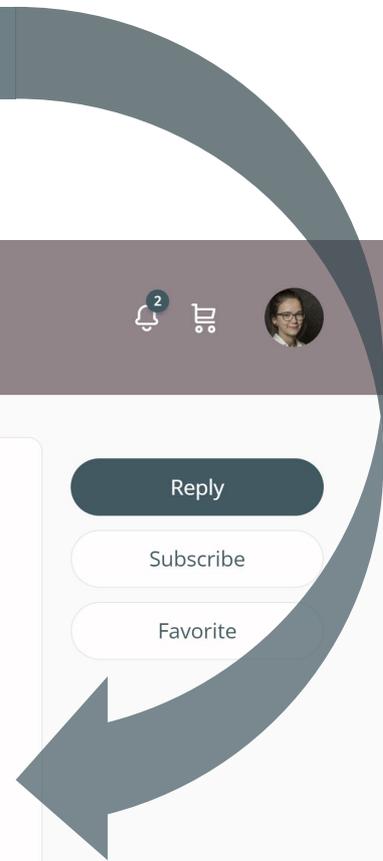
You'll have an opportunity to share and discuss these in breakouts if you attend live Session 2. You are welcome to share your "day in the life" here as well. We especially encourage asynchronous participants to do so.

*All Write a short story, describing how you envision your typical day living in cohousing.<br role="presentation">Consider how you will interact with your community: the people and the common spaces.<br role="presentation">Imagine what it will be and feel like to live in this neighborhood.<br role="presentation">*

*You are welcome to bring/post an object, photo, drawing, or other inspiration to support your story if you wish.*

1 Member · 0 Replies

- Reply
- Subscribe
- Favorite



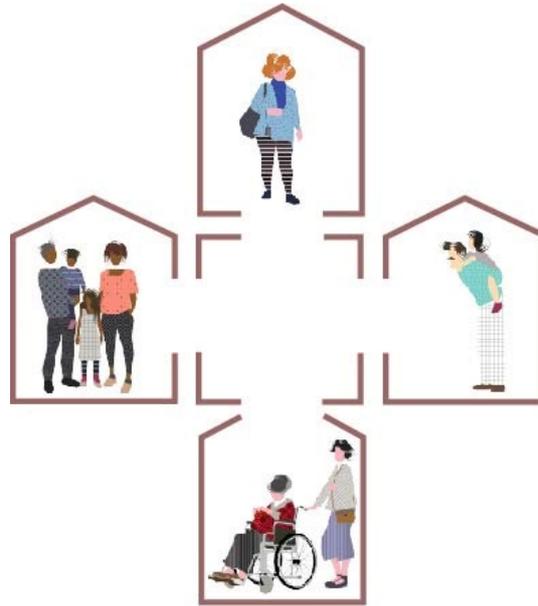
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02

## WHAT IS COHOUSING REALLY?

The ICs spectrum and ingredients to Cohousing

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Cohousing



Individual housing

Condominium

Commune/  
Kibbutz/  
Compound

# COHOUSING ON THE I.C. SPECTRUM

Tiny House Village

Shared housing

Co-op (Legal)

Co-op (Community)

Ecovillage

Cohousing

Traditional/ Indigenous

Commune

Spiritual/Religious

PRIVACY



COMMUNITY



THE SIX INGREDIENTS OF  
**COHOUSING**

(infography by Studio Co+hab)



**PARTICIPATORY**



© Studio Co+hab 2022

**PROCESS**

DESIGN FOR



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COMMUNITY





NON-HIERARCHAL



STRUCTURE

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SEPARATE INCOME



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SOURCES



# TYPES OF COHOUSING GROUPS



INTERGENERATIONAL

Photo credit: Woodard Lane cohousing



SENIOR

Photo credit: Quimper Village



SOLIDARITY

Photo credit: Village Hearth



# Movement Break

See you in 10min

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# 03

## PHYSICAL & SOCIAL ANATOMY

What makes cohousing successful

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# PHYSICAL TYPOLOGIES



## Nyland Cohousing

Location: Nyland, CO

CH: 6,000 SF

Dwelling Units : 42

Site size: 26 acres

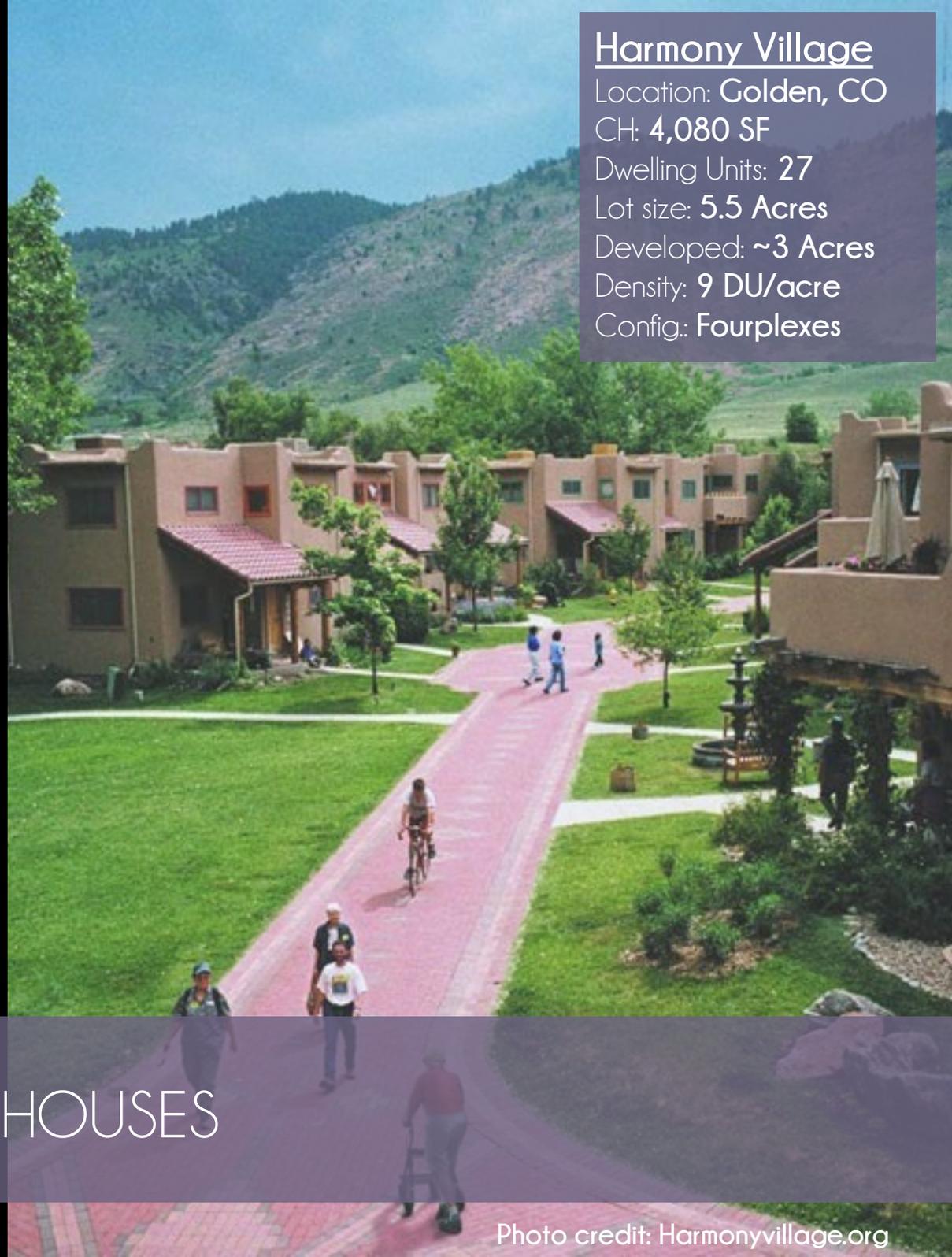
Developed: 6 acres

Density: 7 DU/acre

Configuration: Detached  
and Duplexes

LOW DENSITY - DETACHED HOUSING

Photo credit: Nyland Cohousing



**Harmony Village**  
Location: Golden, CO  
CH: 4,080 SF  
Dwelling Units: 27  
Lot size: 5.5 Acres  
Developed: ~3 Acres  
Density: 9 DU/acre  
Config.: Fourplexes

MEDIUM DENSITY - TOWNHOUSES

Photo credit: Harmonyvillage.org



**Wild Sage**  
Location: Boulder, CO  
CH: 3,500 SF  
Dwelling Units: 34  
Lot size: 1.48 Acres  
Density: 22 DU/Acre  
Configuration: Sixplexes  
& Triplexes

HIGH DENSITY (facilitated by street parking) – TOWNHOUSE + FLATS

Photo credit: Caddis Pc



## Silver Sage

Location: Boulder, CO

CH: 5,000 SF

Dwelling Units: 16

Lot size: 1 Acre

Density: 16 DU/Acre

Configuration: Flats &  
Duplexes



HIGH DENSITY – MULTIPLEX BUILDINGS

Photo credit: silversagevillage.com



**Mascobado**  
Location: Montpellier, FR  
CH: 1,080 SF  
Dwelling Units: 23  
Lot size: 0.6 acre  
Density: 38 DU/Acre  
Configuration: Flats

VERY HIGH DENSITY – SINGLE BUILDING

# ANATOMY: PHYSICAL



Common  
Facilities

Separated  
Parking

Clustered  
Houses

Pedestrian  
Environment

Preserved  
Open space

A single curb-cut for 4B units is a major attribute to the street.

The common terrace is a key central gathering place for the community.

In keeping with typical mining cabins, these homes are closer to the street, unlike the sparse quality of typical suburban developments.

effort with local move-in to way with parking path. ing experience.

Front porches present a friendly face -- and not a garage door.

The rear of the single family homes is an alley with garages, carriage homes, and trees giving texture and interest.

The no "enout house" approach: Carriage house/garage at the back of the house allows the front of the house to be much more friendly with front porches and windows and curtains showing.

A beautiful termination to the driveway

Front porches in combination with a pedestrian environment at the front of every home encourages positive relationships between neighbors

Besides the desire to hold the buildings to the north side of the site, the houses benefit from east-west orientation for better solar access throughout. The arrangement sits invitingly within the gently sloping site, much like a village within a village.





SEPARATED PARKING / PEDESTRIAN ENVIRONMENT



Photo credit: cohousing Solutions



Photo credit: Nevada City Cohousing



Photo credit: Shepherd Village Cohousing

# COMMON FACILITIES



Credit : NC Cohousing Harvest Fest 2015, Photo by Tony Finnerty

*An optimum common house kitchen.*

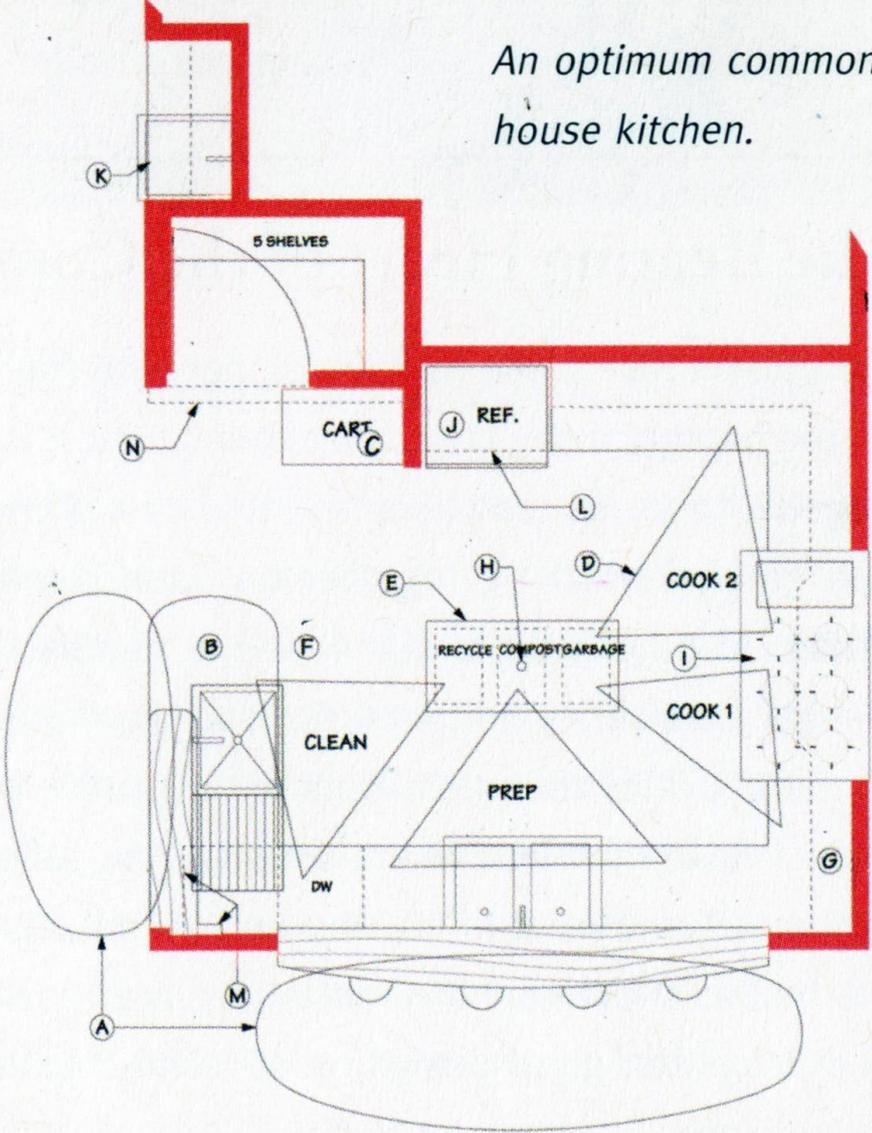




Photo credit: Caddis





**JET**  
EQUIPMENT & TOOLS  
AIR FILTRATION  
SYSTEM

Photo credit: Caddis



# CLUSTERED HOUSES

Photo credit: Cohousing Solutions



Credit : Photo by Tony Finnerty



PRESERVED OPEN SPACE



# ANATOMY: SOCIAL



# COMMON MEALS



# SPONTANEOUS ACTIVITIES



## WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS



# WORK PARTIES

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04

## HOMEWORK INVITATIONS

Going further

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# Homework

## PRIMARY INVITATION

- Send us one image that represent your “dream” community or that inspire you with a caption explaining it at: [mathilde@studiocohab.com](mailto:mathilde@studiocohab.com)
- Write your personal vision statement or a draft of your group’s vision statement
- Sign up for a [Miro](#) account

## GOING DEEPER

### Explore

- The [Coho US website](#)
- Find out if there is an [Open House](#) happening near you.
- Check out the [Community Directory Map](#)

### Reading

- Creating a Life Together, Diana Leaf Christian (p. 35-38 PDF)
- [Urban Cohousing Case Studies](#), from Caddis PC



Thank you !