

A NATURAL COMPASS FOR LIFE



© Susan Mahon (2004/2005). This poster illustrates the principles of The Natural Step (TNS)™.

COMPASS POINTS FOR LIFE

The four “points of the compass” or guiding principles of life have been adapted from the “System Conditions” of, “The Natural Step” TNS™. If you would like to learn more about the TNS framework please check <http://www.naturalstep.ca/system-conditions.html> or <http://www.ortns.org/framework.htm>.

The four “points of the compass for life” as expressed in popular language are:

1. Return, re-use or recycle resources derived from the earth’s crust. eg. metals, minerals, and petroleum products.
2. Create no build-up of poisons eg. Synthetic chemicals or even toxic amounts of natural substances.
3. Care for the natural features upon which our lives depend eg. water, air, soil, plants and animals.
4. Strive towards harmony and fair access to resources for all people of the world.

The four “system conditions” are expressed in more technical language as part of the trademarked approach to business and life that is called, “The Natural Step” (TNS)™. The four system conditions are expressed on the TNS website as follows:

“In the sustainable society, nature is not subject to systematically increasing:

1. Concentrations of substances extracted from the earth’s crust
2. Concentrations of substances produced by society
3. Degradation by physical means and in that society...
4. People are not subject to conditions that systematically undermine their capacity to meet their needs.”

Reference: <http://www.naturalstep.ca/system-conditions.html>