



## **Resetting Our Food, Health, & Environment**

### **Urban/Suburban Food & Forest Reset**

In my book, *Grassroots Rising* I point out that that, extrapolating from recent scientific research on the potential for global reforestation (1.2 trillion trees, added to our current global stock of three trillion trees would be able to sequester a full 10 years of current emissions), we could and should be planting 500 million new trees in U.S. urban and greater urban areas over the next decade, in addition to reforesting the 254 million acres of rural (non-crop) lands that are degraded or treeless. Many of our new urban and suburban trees could and should be fruit or nut trees, providing not just shade and greenery, and habitat for birds and pollinators, but food as well.

But we need backyard (and front yard) vegetable, herb, and pollinator gardens on our 40 million acres of lawn as well, replacing our pesticide, fertilizer, and water-intensive monocultures of lawn grass.

Read more: <https://orgcns.org/3pQtYj>

### **PFAS “Forever Chemicals” (from Toxic Sewage Sludge and Military Waste), Immunotoxicity, and COVID-19**

Toxic sewage sludge applied as a “fertilizer” on agricultural lands is banned on any farm or ranch that is certified as Organic or Biodynamic, and for good reason. If an organic farm is contaminated with PFAS, this is almost always because it was contaminated before it became certified as organic. Read more about this on OCA’s Stop Toxic Sludge campaign page.

OCA’s ally, Alliance for Natural Health, warns that there is a “startling connection between PFAS exposure and COVID-19 severity. A study published December 2020 in the journal *PLoS*, indicates that a specific perfluorinate may increase risk for more severe cases of Covid-19 pneumonia.”

Read more: <https://orgcns.org/3AtiAI>

### **Regenerating Ecosystems and Sequestering Carbon**

In this 30-minute video interview with Ben Dobson Steering Committee member of Regeneration International and co-founder of the Hudson Carbon Project (Hudson, NY), American Grassfed Association regenerative rancher Will Harris, and OCA’s Ronnie Cummins, hosted by Alexis Baden-Mayer, we discuss how, on the one hand, most “carbon credits” nowadays have become little more than a greenwashing tool for corporate agribusiness and Wall Street, while on the other hand, Regeneration International, Hudson Carbon, Via Orgánica (OCA’s sister organization in Mexico) and other groups are building a genuine climate and environmentally regenerative grassroots-based alternative to greenwashing that we call “Ecosystem Service Investments.”

Read more: <https://orgcns.org/3TpoOS1>

### **How We Defeat the Agricultural Great Reset**

Russell Brand interviews environmental activist and author, Vandana Shiva. Dr. Shiva explains how the mainstream media have distorted the Dutch Farmer protests, claiming that shutting down small farms utilizing chemical fertilizers is the solution to the environmental and climate crisis. But the global elite, using the rhetoric of a Great Reset, and the strategy of “divide and rule,” are actually carrying out a 21st Century colonial land grab, driving small farmers and ranchers off the land, promising that pesticides, GMOs, lab food, and big data will make us healthy, happy and prosperous. The same elite (anti-nature, anti-people) who have forced a degenerative chemical-intensive factory farm model on farmers (through legislation, subsidies, and manipulating research and markets) are now blaming farmers for the problem. Conventional farmers are a victim of the system, not the cause, while organic and regenerative farmers, conscious consumers, and non-violent resistance are the solution.

Read more: <https://orgcns.org/3pTMPDm>

### **Retailers and Organic Advocates Whey In: Are “Animal Free” Dairy Products Really Natural?**

Steve Hoffman from Compass Natural reports:

“Which term do you like better – animal-free dairy, next-gen dairy, cultivated dairy, bio-identical dairy, or parallel dairy? If you preferred “animal-free dairy,” you’re not alone.

Knowing consumer acceptance is key to the success of precision fermentation – a rapidly growing biotechnology that genetically engineers microorganisms such as bacteria and yeast to produce complex molecules, including proteins that mimic those found in meat and dairy products – earlier this year German biotechnology company Formo, along with Fordham University and Mercy for Animals, surveyed consumers in the U.K., Germany, Singapore and the U.S. to ask that very question.

Read more: <https://orgcns.org/3PmoSPh>

### **Turning to Gardening in Hard Times**

Jennifer Atkinson writes:

“The coronavirus pandemic has set off a global gardening boom. In the early days of lockdown, seed suppliers were depleted of inventory and reported “unprecedented” demand. Within the U.S., the trend has been compared to World War II victory gardening, when Americans grew food at home to support the war effort and feed their families.

The analogy is surely convenient. But it reveals only one piece in a much bigger story about why people garden in hard times. Americans have long turned to the soil in moments of upheaval to manage anxieties and imagine alternatives. My research has even led me to see gardening as a hidden landscape of desire for belonging and connection; for contact with nature; and for creative expression and improved health.”

Read more: <https://orgcns.org/3qc8vuB>

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