



Revolutionary Times?

If ever conditions were ripe for revolution, that time is now—especially for anyone who cares about their health, and the health of planet earth. President-Elect Donald Trump's short lists for his environment and agriculture cabinet appointments are dominated by entrenched D.C. insiders, career politicians and industry lobbyists. Not one of these proposed "leaders" supports policies that would lead to healthier food, a cleaner environment or a cooler planet.

So much for "draining the swamp." And so much for an easy road to forward progress on food, ag and climate policy during the next four years under our future fast-food leader.

We've outlined six of the reasons we'll need to ramp up the #ConsumerRevolution under the Trump Administration.

A word of warning. The new crop of Monsanto's minions in the Trump administration have rebranded Monsanto's pesticide- and chemical-intensive degenerative agriculture "American" agriculture. Don't be surprised if they brand you "anti-American" for criticizing it.

Read 'Six Reasons We'll Need to Ramp Up the #ConsumerRevolution under Trumpism': orgcns.org/2ggEi7K

Wrong Direction

Are you a fan of pesticide-free food and clean water? Think your tax dollars should subsidize organic regenerative agriculture, not Monsanto's toxic degenerative agriculture? Then you won't like the direction things are headed under the Trump administration. Here's what we know so far about President-Elect Donald Trump's picks for leadership posts at the USDA and the EPA: Based on their track records, Trump's appointees will likely let companies like Monsanto dictate food, agriculture and environmental policy.

The only thing standing between Monsanto and near-total control of the USDA and EPA? The U.S. Senate, whose job it is to approve about 1,100 presidential nominees before Trump's cast of characters can step into their new posts. Discouraged or not, it's our job to pressure the Senate to reject any appointee who won't commit to doing his or her job—which is to protect public health, not Monsanto.

Take Action: orgcns.org/2gHgVaX

Still Standing

Last month, we told you why OCA was going all out to support the water protectors at Standing Rock, N.D.

This week, we're happy to report that we far exceeded our goal of raising \$4,000—which we then matched, for a total of \$8,000—for food and other supplies desperately needed for those occupying the camp. We will continue to raise money for this cause. Because the crimes against the people of Standing Rock are crimes against us all. In our video of the week, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. gives a crystal-clear explanation of why Energy Transfer Partners is so desperate to build this pipeline—the reason may surprise you. Kennedy also reiterates that while the "protestors" are being treated like criminals, it's the energy company that is actually breaking the law.

Watch the video: youtu.be/8VcadKRnvFM

Report on food drive for Standing Rock: orgcns.org/2fXMIzL

Read: Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.: 'I'll See You at Standing Rock': orgcns.org/2fQ4MAO

You can still help: orgcns.org/2fkhVhf



Winning!

Our movement needed a win. We're happy to report not one, but two recent wins in the battle to preserve organic standards. New GMO technologies such as cloning, nano-technology, synthetic biology—technologies sometimes referred to as GMO 2.0—won't be allowed in organics, thanks to a recent decision by the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB). (And thanks also to the thousands of you who signed our "say 'no' to GMOs in organics" petition to the NOSB).

The NOSB, which held its fall (November 16 – 18) meeting in St. Louis, Mo., home to Monsanto headquarters, also voted to get the controversial food additive carrageenan out of organics.

Keeping GMOs out of organic, and dropping carrageenan from the list of allowed substances in organic were two of the hot-button issues at the latest NOSB meeting. Both votes were big wins for consumers. The third and arguably hottest topic—whether hydroponic "container" production methods violate USDA organic standards—was kicked back to a subcommittee for further review. Read OCA's update from the NOSB meeting: orgcns.org/2glFLWn

Biodiversity Matters

At least 40 per cent of the world's economy and 80 per cent of the needs of the poor are derived from biological resources. In addition, the richer the diversity of life, the greater the opportunity for medical discoveries, economic development, and adaptive responses to such new challenges as climate change. - The Convention about Life on Earth. On December 5, Regeneration International (RI) and La Asociación de Consumidores Orgánicos (ACO), both projects of the Organic Consumers Association (OCA), will join governments, other NGOs, indigenous communities, academia and citizens from around the world in Cancun, Mexico, for the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), including the 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 13). To coincide with the COP13 meetings, the RI and ACO teams, along with eight local and international groups, have formed a coalition to defend biological and cultural diversity. The coalition, called #CaravanaCBD, is participating in the Biocultural Diversity Fair (Feria de la Diversidad BioCultural), where communities from Mexico and other countries are discussing what cultural biodiversity means to them and how to defend and preserve it. The discussion outcomes will be presented at the COP13.

More about OCA's and RI's plans for the COP13 Biodiversity Conference: orgcns.org/2h2px8y

Support OCA's Regeneration International Project (tax-deductible, helps support our work on behalf of organic, regenerative agriculture and climate change): orgcns.org/1PIoNM4