



Greetings!

FOR THE LOVE OF EARTH

[For the Love of Earth](#) is a heartfelt, blunt and informative article by David Korten. I find the title compelling in its poignant simplicity, but beyond that, deeper than that, I hear it as I have heard one person pleading with another person to do, or not do, something harmful by passionately exclaiming *For the love of God!*



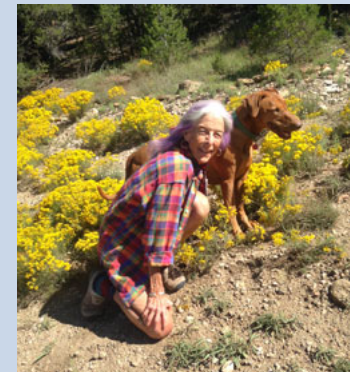
It is an article expressing heartbreak and hope so many of us feel who engage in work to restore and create new ways of living that bring care and respect for all people and Earth.

I find it impossible to acknowledge Earth's distinctive beauty and wonder without being overwhelmed by unbearable grief and despair at what humans, in our anthropocentric arrogance, have done to her. Our actions represent a breach of cosmic proportion in our human responsibility to creation and Earth.

Can we humans rise to the occasion at this time of deep change? That is the question that Korten puts before us.

Might our love for her (Earth) hold the key both to her salvation and to ours? Might we, by willful choice, transition from Earth exploiters to Earth healers? If we recognize Earth's uniqueness, her need for our help, and our responsibility to respond, might we unite in common cause? Might we muster sufficient commitment to serve as loving healers to two of creation's most extraordinary miracles, a living planet of spectacular beauty and a species with a unique capacity for conscious choice?

While we continue to see the devastating affects of exploitation and greed on people and the Earth, we also see, and participate in, countless projects and actions that



Good news, insights and action for positive change

~ ~ ~

- PERSIST
- INSIST
- PROTECT
- DEFEND
- DEMAND
- DEFY
- DISRUPT
- GUIDE
- CREATE

~ ~ ~

"Imagine"
John Lennon

Justice is what love looks like in public.
Cornel West

We are determined to work and fight until justice runs down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream.
Martin Luther King Jr, 1955

~ ~ ~

Because I always have

heal and create a more compassionate, nonviolent and just world. As Korten says, "most humans regularly demonstrate an extraordinary capacity for love and caring." Read the stories below to see how people are coming together and creating ways for all of us to express our love of Earth.

FOR THE LOVE OF TREES

Trees are poems that the earth writes upon the sky.
--Kahlil Gibran



Paolo Lugari has planted 9 million trees on 20,000 acres in a reborn rainforest in Columbia. According to [this article](#), a 2015 Yale study estimates that there are 3 trillion trees in our world. Forests cover about 31 percent of the world's land surface. The total number of trees has plummeted by roughly 46 percent since the start of human civilization and we continue to lose some 15 billion trees (0.5 percent of the total forests' cover) each year. That's the trend we need to stop.

"Electric cars, solar panels and other clean tech bring progress, but in Lugari's vision, nothing beats planting trees because only trees restore ecosystems and the chemical composition of the atmosphere that human life depends upon." [Read Lugari's story](#) and these other inspiring articles.



India plants 66 million trees in 12 hours to fulfill Paris Agreement commitment

About 1.5 million people were involved in the huge plantation campaign, in which saplings were placed along the Narmada River in the state of Madhya Pradesh in central India. [Read more.](#)

a choice, I choose love.
Deepak Chopra

*Come, Come, whoever you are.
Ours is not a caravan of despair. --Rumi*

*Like a Planet
To survive
our minds must taste
redwood and agate
octopi, bat, and in
the bat's mouth,
insect. It's hard
to think like a planet.
We've got to try.
Jim Bertolino*

*Every single person
on this earth has
the power to
change the world.
Emma Thompson
Actress and Activist*

*When the people
lead, the leaders
follow.
Gandhi*

~ ~ ~

FOR THE LOVE OF EARTH

*A LIVING EARTH
ECONOMY*

CLIMATE CHANGE

Drones in service to climate change solutions

According to this article and the UN, deforestation and forest degradation make up 17 per cent of the world's carbon emissions, more than the entire world's transportation sector. Read how an Australian engineer is hoping to use drones to plant 1 billion trees every year to fight an unfolding global catastrophe. [Read more.](#)



What we are doing to the forests of the world is but a mirror reflection of what we are doing to ourselves and to one another.
-- Mahatma Gandhi

But I'll tell you what hermits realize. If you go off into a far, far forest and get very quiet, you'll come to understand that you're connected with everything. -- Alan Watts

Measuring, Minimizing and Offsetting Our Carbon Footprint



Sometimes we can't avoid burning a large amount of fossil fuels such as on an airplane flight. There are now many ways to buy carbon credits to offset such emissions. Here are a number of things to explore.

[This big picture article](#) gives an overview of some programs such as [Cool Effects](#) that neutralizes our greenhouse gas emissions with carbon credits.

See [Project Drawdown](#) which shows that In terms of avoiding or sequestering greenhouse gasses, forest protection, management, restoration and afforestation projects are some of the top solutions to reversing global warming. (See the Land Use section of [drawdown.org](#)).

[Stand for Trees](#), one of our personal favorites, supports a number of community projects that nurture and plant forests. At this site you can contribute as little as \$10 to offset 1 metric tonne of CO2 emissions.

Want to know what your carbon footprint is?

There are different (and not always consistent) ways to calculate our carbon emissions but you can get a pretty close idea of what you use. (Note: mT = metric tonnes)
For example:

A hybrid, 41+ mpg is offset by \$27.21 (2.72 mT/year)

A mid-size car with 29-40 mpg is offset by \$36.26 (3.63



[For the Love of Earth](#)

David Korten

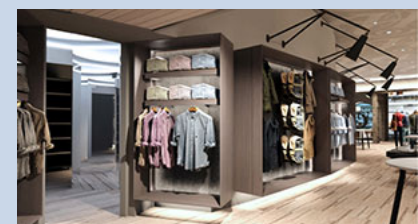
A new way to look at how we might heal and regenerate our Earth
NEW

[Our Global Ecological Footprint and Earth Overshoot Day 2017](#)

David Korten

[Climate Change or System Change?](#)
by Local Futures

UPLIFTING STORIES & INNOVATIONS



[Saving Trees in Fashion](#)

Did you know that some fabrics, like rayon and viscose, are wood-based? Abercrombie & Fitch and other apparel companies have committed to addressing deforestation and human rights issues when sourcing their

mT/year)

An SUV or truck, 10=18 mpg is offset by \$60.70 (9.07

mT/year)

Flights up to 20,000 miles is offset by \$37.88 (3.70 mT/year)

Calculate your personal carbon footprint and see how to buy offset carbon credits. As one site says, "You can't manage what you don't measure; every action adds up." The Union of Concerned Scientists estimates the average carbon emissions per person per year is 17.62 mT.

[The Carbon Fund](#)

[Terra Pass](#)



Offset climate science ignorance by planting 12 billion trees

The organisers of Trump Forest are asking people to donate trees to make up for the 650 metric tonnes of CO2 that will be released into the atmosphere by 2025 if the president's plans to backtrack on US

climate commitments go ahead. [Read this article](#) and follow links which describes how to help.

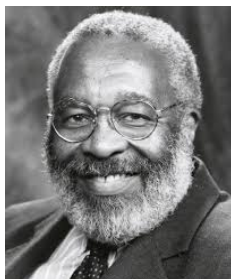
Ageless Wisdom



*But we have only begun to love the earth.
We have only begun to imagine the fullness of life. How could we tire of hope? -- so much is in the bud.* --Denise Levertov



If the success or failure of this planet and of human beings depended on how I am and what I do, how would I be? What would I do? --Buckminster Fuller



We are yet capable of being amazed by unexpected revelations of the great, still largely untapped human potential for resistance and hope, for compassion and grandeur, for courage and visionary self transcendence, even when pressed against all the walls that oppression has created. --Vincent Harding

Resilience and Balance in a Time of Change

A sense of being overwhelmed, a feeling of being stuck, depressed and despairing is common and normal given our critical social and environmental crises. Here are two articles that can guide us

fabrics.



FAVORITE RESOURCES

[350.Org](#)

[Climate Reality Project](#)

[The Small Planet Institute](#)

[Local Futures](#)

[Network of Spiritual Progressives](#)

[Project Heaven on Earth](#)

[Yes! magazine](#)

[The Optimist Daily](#)

[The Shift Network, Catalyst e-zine](#)



[VirginiaMudd.com](#)
[Desert Rose Press](#)
[Raventalk](#)



Good reads to nurture positive spirits

[15 principles of hope](#)

[How to Resist from a Place of Love: Self-Care for the Long Haul](#) YES!



[My Column For the Love of Earth](#)

to a sense of balance.

The Art of Resilience

Resilience grows when we become intentional about bringing our best to difficult life situations. --Tara Brach

Brach

How Not to Freak Out

What about when you feel that the intensity of this world is just too much? When you're caught between freaking out and shutting down? This is the moment when you need to step back and get some perspective. --Judy Lief



What inspires us to love the Earth?

What keeps us from loving the Earth?



Earth's crammed with heaven, and every common bush afire with God. - Elizabeth Browning

And forget not that the earth delights to feel your bare feet and the winds long to play with your hair. - Kahlil Gibran



FOR THE LOVE OF FALL

These outrageously colorful and exuberant sunflowers cover our New Mexico landscape and shout,

FALL IS HERE!

May the season inspire your dreams and action for the love of Earth.

Virginia / Gibi