



Greetings!

The future of food is the future of us



Food, Urban Agriculture & The Economics of Happiness

The United Nations predicts that by 2030 almost 70% of the world's population will be living in cities.

[David Suzuki](#) writes, "Urban agriculture won't resolve all food production and distribution problems, but it would help take pressure off rural land while providing other advantages."

A solution multiplier

Advantages of urban farming include: addressing climate change by reducing unnecessary carbon emissions from transporting food long distances, creating jobs, reducing food waste by using it as compost for urban farms, making vacant lots productive, feeding local communities with diverse, healthy food.



[Watch this 10 min. video](#) and read the story in which Ken Dunn, Founder of the City Farm in Chicago explains how urban farming is changing Chicago neighborhoods and demonstrating the



**Good news, insights
and action
for positive change**

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

~ ~ ~

*["Imagine"](#)
John Lennon*

***Justice is what love
looks like in public.**
Cornel West*

*Because I always have a
choice, I choose love.
Deepak Chopra*

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

solution multiplier.

Here's another good article: ["How Urban Agriculture Can Improve Food Security in Cities."](#)

The Economics of Happiness: This all ties in with the vital importance of "bringing it all home." That is, "localization;" growing food locally, creating and supporting local businesses and communities. This solution multiplier is described in the short video, ["The Economics of Happiness."](#)

Cultivating Change



This 4320 square foot edible garden is found in AT&T Park in San Francisco, home to the Giants. The program includes classes, especially for kids, and fans can enjoy the fresh produce while dining at outdoor cafes in the stadium. [Here's the story.](#)

"Having an edible garden in a ballpark demonstrates that it's possible to grow food anywhere," says Hannah Schmunk, Manager of Food Education for Children at Bon Appetit. "We hope that when visitors see our garden flourishing in such a unique and unexpected space, they might feel inspired to start one of their own."

THE GREAT GREEN WALL OF AFRICA

Restoring Land: Another Solution Multiplier

Can you imagine this project?

Reforestation of a 9 mile wide swath across 6,000 miles along the southern edge of the Sahara Desert.

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

~ ~ ~

FOR THE LOVE OF EARTH



Print by Mayumi Oda

[Why I have hope in the Face of Human Extinction](#)

David Korten

When I ask an audience, "Who believes we are on a path to human extinction?" nearly every hand goes up. It's a sign of a growing awareness that humanity is on a path to self-imposed environmental and social collapse. For me, that awareness is a source of hope.

[Climate Change or System Change?](#)

by Local Futures

[For the Love of Earth](#)

David Korten

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UPLIFTING STORIES

An international project begun in 2007 is now 15% complete. 80 million acres restored so far.

Senegal has already planted 11 million acacia trees.. The trees increase humidity in the environment so roots hold water in the soil. More water reverses desertification, fills empty wells, promotes agriculture, creates jobs and slows migration. This has already had a huge impact on Nigeria, Senegal and Ethiopia. [Read here.](#)



How are we doing?



These two articles caught my attention. It's as though we Americans, as a collective, took ourselves to our doctor for a health check up. These are the reports.

["The People's State of the Nation"](#)
[What This Year's World Happiness Report Reveals About Our Nation's Well-Being"](#)

PLASTIC ACTION AROUND THE WORLD

Kids Take on Plastic Pollution and Change Policy in the Bahamas. Youth movements are happening all over the world and succeeding in making change. [Read the story here.](#)



The EU to ban single-use plastic by 2021 ([read here](#)) and **Costa Rica** is aiming to be the world's first carbon and single-use plastic-free country by 2021. ([The story here.](#))

WISDOM FOR OUR TIMES



We are all indigenous to Mother Earth, but we have forgotten. Humanity must shift from living on the Earth to living with her.
Tiokasin Ghosthorse

Where there's hope there's life.



[Zuzana Capítová](#), an environmental and anti-corruption activist elected first woman president of Slovakia



"Cyclovía"
[Bogotá, Columbia's car-free Sundays](#) attract more than 1.5 million people every Sunday to the streets.



[The New York Yankees sign on to the Paris Climate Agreement](#)

FAVORITE RESOURCES

[350.org](#)
[Climate Reality Project](#)
[Next System Project](#)
[The Small Planet Institute](#)
[Local Futures](#)



*It fills us with fresh courage
and makes us strong again.*
Ann Frank



*Things are too serious to lose
our sense of humor.
Things are too serious to lose
our*

capacity for lightheartedness.
Terry Patten

Need a really good laugh?

Sit back and enjoy these [hilarious photos](#)
of dogs catching treats in mid-air.



Virginia / Gibi

[Network of Spiritual
Progressives](#)

[Project Heaven on Earth](#)

[Yes! magazine](#)

[The Optimist Daily](#)

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[VirginiaMudd.com](#)

[Desert Rose Press](#)

In [My Column](#)

this month I have
reprinted a powerful
essay about why, in
this time of chaos and
fear, we need to have

H O P E

[Read "Here's Why You
Should Stay Hopeful
Right Now"](#)

PASS IT ON

If this newsletter has
contributed to your
life in some way,
please send it along.
We all need to play our
part in creating the
world that works for
all of us and the Earth.
