OMNI UN WORLD FOOD DAY/WORLD HUNGER DAY
NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 16, 2013. Compiled by Dick Bennett
for a Culture of Peace.

OMNI’s National and International DAYS Project.

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http://www.omnicenter.org/newsletter-archive/
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http://www.omnicenter.org/omni-newsletter-general-index/
See: World Food Day May 28 (The Hunger Project, UK)
Peace, Justice, Ecology Birthdays
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PROBLEMS

“Ten Ways Corporate Food Is Threatening Our Food Supplies” by Juan Cole, Informed Comment, September 23, 2012
Excerpt: "We are increasingly exposed to thousands of chemicals that haven't really been tested (plastics are full of them)."

SOLUTIONS

UNITED NATIONS WORLD FOOD DAY

1. World Food Day - FAO
www.fao.org/getinvolved/worldfoodday/
World Food Day 2013 is an opportunity to explore these and other questions, ... is co-organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations ...

2. News for UN World Food Day 2013

1. Didn't Know Today Is World Food Day? Here's Why You Should Care
TakePart - by Steve Holt - 44 minutes ago
All this makes today's World Food Day, with its “Sustainable Food... Iowa, the 2013 Food Day theme fits perfectly with the UN's designation of ...

2. World Food Day: Ending hunger is possible. UN says
Inside Costa Rica - 10 hours ago

3. World food day 2013: We must stop Angola and Namibia becoming the next Sahel
3. **World Food Day 2013:** "Sustainable Food Systems for Food Security...

**United Nations** Organizations · Non-governmental and Business ... *World Food Day 2013* is an opportunity to explore these and other questions, and help bring ...

1. **World Food Day:** October 16, 2013 - Join Oxfam and Host a Meal


   This *World Food Day*, Oxfam America is teaming up with a host of allies across ... We have a simple yet compelling idea—to host a *World Food Day* Dinner on ...

2. **World Food Day** *(For The Media) | WFP | United Nations* World Food ...

   [www.wfp.org/videos/world-food-day-1](http://www.wfp.org/videos/world-food-day-1)

   Oct 14, 2011

   *World Food Day* *(For The Media)* ... “Feed a Child, Feed a Dream,” initiative has been launched ahead of *World* ...

3. **World Food Day** - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia


   **World Food Day** 2009. Observed by, *All UN Member States* ... The *World Food Day* theme for 2013 is "Sustainable Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition" ...

4. **World Food Day 2013** - Barilla CFN

   [www.barillacfn.com › Schedule](http://www.barillacfn.com/schedule)

   On October 16, through an initiative of the *United Nations*, in remembrance of the founding of the FAO (1948), *World Food Day* seeks to gather food and agric.

5. **Event: World Food Day:** Sustainable Food Systems for Food Security ...

   [biodiversity-l.iisd.org › Events](http://biodiversity-l.iisd.org/events)

   The official *World Food Day* theme – announced at the start of every year by the ... of the *United Nations* (FAO) – gives focus to *World Food Day* observances and ... for Food Security and Nutrition” will be the focus of *World Food Day* in 2013.

6. **World Food Day** - 16 October 2013 - Resources - Education Scotland

   [www.educationscotland.gov.uk/resources/w/worldfoodday.asp](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/resources/w/worldfoodday.asp)

   Resources to support the *UN World Food Day* to heighten public awareness of the ...Logo of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the *United Nations*. 
UN World Food Day

16 Oct 2013

16 October every year: Raising awareness of food security and strengthening solidarity in the struggle against hunger.

This day, declared by the UN General Assembly, aims to heighten public awareness of world food problems and strengthen solidarity in the struggle against hunger, malnutrition and poverty. You can find out more about it from the World Food Day web pages produced by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN.

The theme for World Food Day 2013 is 'Sustainable Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition'. Each of us has the power to help change our food systems. By eating nutritious food and reducing the amount of waste we create, we can help make our food systems more sustainable.

Did you know that about a third of all food produced globally is wasted? And that most of that waste goes into...
landfill? This 'infographic' shows ways that food waste can be converted into energy: Food waste to fuel: An infographic - your class could discuss other ways to deal with the issue of food waste.

This year there is also a World Food Day poster competition open to young people, around the theme of sustainable food systems, and with a deadline of 30 September 2013: find out more on the World Food Day website.

To find teaching resources on the Global Dimension database to help your school mark World Food Day browse through the listings under the topics of Food, Farming or Famine.

These case studies may also provide inspiration:
» A nursery class learn about Indian food
» A trip to Nicaragua via the Botanic Garden
» World food in depth
» Pupils learn about food production around the world
» What are the food miles in my Christmas Dinner?
<< Back to Global Calendar


Published on Wednesday, October 16, 2013 by Common Dreams

UN World Food Day: Cook Organic, Not the Planet by Ronnie Cummins

"Here's the single most important thing you need to know about the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) report: It's not too late. We still have time to do something about climate disruption. The best estimate from the best science is that we can limit warming from human-caused carbon pollution to less than 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit - if we act now. Bottom line: Our house is on fire. Rather than argue about how fast it's burning, we need to start throwing buckets of water."—Michael Brune, Director, Sierra Club, Sept. 27, 2013

Michael Brune is right. Our house is on fire. We'd better start throwing buckets of water.

Today, UN World Food Day, I urge everyone who wants to help put out the fire to take a close look at the food you eat. Where did it come from? How was it grown or raised? What did it take to get it from the farm to your table?

These questions are rarely part of the climate-change debate. Yet they should be.
Transportation, manufacturing and energy corporations are considered major greenhouse gas (GHG) polluters. Climate scientists agree that if we want to cool the earth, we have to build solar arrays and wind generators, instead of fracking wells and coal plants. We have to retrofit homes, homes, commercial buildings, factories, transportation and electrical grids. We need to walk, carpool, ride bikes, trains and buses, instead of mindlessly cruising the highways in gas-guzzling cars, trucks and SUVs.

But few people understand that the worst U.S. and global greenhouse gas emitter is "Food Incorporated." The global food and farming system of today, with its intense dependence on biotechnology, chemicals and fossil fuels, is destroying the natural capacity of plants, trees and soils to sequester the excess greenhouse gases that are cooking the planet.

The fastest route to averting a climate disaster is to drastically reduce emissions from industrial agriculture and forestry, and start sequestering billions of tons of greenhouse gases in our plants, forests and soil.

This “Great Transition” must be driven by a mass consumer rejection of factory-farmed and industrial/genetically engineered food, coupled with mass demand for products that are organic, sustainable and climate-friendly.

**Most serious threat ever faced by humans**

As the most recent scientific report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) bluntly warns us, global warming and climate change now pose the most serious existential threat that humans have ever faced in our 200,000-year evolution.

At 395 parts-per-million (ppm) of CO2 (and 434 ppm of all GHG), and an additional 10 billion tons of carbon per year (36.7 billion tons CO2) in annual emissions from burning fossil fuels, non-sustainable agricultural practices and deforestation, we now have the most CO2, methane and nitrous oxide polluting the atmosphere that the Earth has experienced in the past three million years.
This excess of GHG pollution has already caused a significant increase in average global temperature, a rapidly warming and acidic ocean, a great extinction of countless living species, and an increasingly menacing disruption of “normal” weather patterns.

As Dr. James Hansen and other prominent climatologists warn us, global society must drastically conserve energy, reduce fossil fuel use, and naturally sequester as much GHG pollution in our soils and forests as possible, in order to bring atmospheric concentrations of CO2 back down to a safe level of 350 ppm. According to Hansen, “If humanity wishes to preserve a planet similar to that on which civilization developed and to which life on Earth is adapted, paleoclimate evidence and ongoing climate change suggest that CO2 will need to be reduced from its current [level] to at most 350 ppm.”

The Arithmetic of Human Survival

Industrial farming and food production account for at least 35 percent of U.S. and global GHG emissions. (The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s ridiculously low estimates range from 7 percent to 12 percent, while some climate scientists believe the figure could be as high as 50 percent or more). Agriculture- and biofuels-driven deforestation and draining of wetlands accounts for another 20 percent.

That makes non-sustainable agriculture and forestry practices the number one cause (55 percent) of global warming and climate disruption.

We now have 800 billion tons of carbon (the equivalent of 3200 billion tons of CO2) supersaturating the atmosphere and disrupting the climate. If we’re going to survive, we have to reduce that number.

We can start by conserving energy, reducing fossil fuel use and increasing biochar. But that’s just one side of the equation. We also need to suck 100 billion tons of carbon (through plant and tree photosynthesis) from the atmosphere and store this excess carbon in its natural sink or repository—in the plants, trees, perennial grasses, and soil.

Though it rarely comes up in the climate debate, soil has tremendous potential to store CO2. And the way to get the CO2 out of the atmosphere, and into the soil, is through organic and sustainable land management (farming, ranching, and forestry) practices.

The heretofore unpublicized “good news” on climate change, according to soil scientists, is that transitioning from chemical-, water-, and energy-intensive industrial agriculture practices to organic farming and ranching, on a critical mass of the world’s 3.5 billion acres of farmland and 8.2 billion acres of pasture or rangeland, could sequester thousands of pounds-per-acre of climate-destabilizing CO2 every year, while nurturing healthy soils, plants, grasses, trees and animals that are resistant to drought, heavy rain, pests, and disease.

And as millions now understand, organic farms and ranches provide us with food that is more nutritious, richer in vitamins, anti-oxidants and essential trace minerals, and free from Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs), pesticides, antibiotics and sewage sludge, than the food supplied by industrial farms and ranches.

Facilitating the Great Transition

How do we mobilize the global grassroots to force the thousand or so multi-billion-dollar corporations and 200 national governments who control the world to reduce, much less reverse, global warming?

To facilitate a mass transition to organic we must force the U.S. Congress, local and state governments, and major corporations to move away from business as usual, while we simultaneously build an organic and sustainable economy in our local communities and regions. We must also start planting and nurturing of several trillion trees on the 10 billion acres of forestland that remain.
Thousands of U.S. farmers and ranchers have already made this transition. Over five million backyard, market, community gardeners are now utilizing organic practices. Millions more need to do the same.

If we’re going to cool the earth, we must:

- Phase out factory farms, junk food and industrial-scale, genetically engineered agriculture, and replace them with non-chemical organic farming, and non-factory-farm carbon ranching, where free-range animals are rotationally grazed on deep-rooted, carbon-sequestering perennial grasses. Not caged or intensively confined and fed genetically engineered grains.
- Prepare more organic whole foods at home, and reject fast-food outlets.
- Replace our lawns with urban gardens.
- Reduce excess consumption and recycle our wastes—all our wastes, rural and urban, including food, crop, and yard wastes - to make compost and eliminate the hazardous use of sewage sludge and nitrous oxide-polluting chemical fertilizers.
- Halt the deforestation and slash-and-burn agriculture, especially in tropical and sub-tropical areas, and rapidly scale up the production of biochar, a special type of charcoal that sequesters carbon and increases soil fertility and moisture retention.
- Educate ourselves and mobilize a grassroots army to transform marketplace practices and public policy.
- Create a globally coordinated Works Project Administration to train and employ a massive “Johnny Appleseed” green corps of students and the unemployed to plant a trillion trees on public and private land, restore desertified areas, and create the green infrastructure of a post-carbon economy.
- Start incorporating the science of biochar into our agriculture and climate-stabilizing practices.

On World Food Day let’s pledge to do all of the above. Let’s commit to the Great Transition. Let’s organize at the local level and coordinate our efforts with North American networks such as the Organic Consumers Association and 350.org.

The fate of human civilization and the living Earth lies in our hands. The hour is late.

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Ronnie Cummins is a veteran activist, author, and organizer. He is the International Director of the Organic Consumers Association and its Mexico affiliate, Via Organica. http://www.organicconsumers.org;http://www.viaorganica.org
Yoko Ono Launching Campaign To Fight Childhood Hunger, Poverty

NEW YORK -- Yoko Ono is launching a global campaign to raise money and awareness to help fight childhood hunger and poverty.

The 78-year-old widow of John Lennon is asking that on Nov. 1, at 1 p.m. EDT, people "take a moment to imagine a nourished and abundant world, where `the world will live as one.'"

Hard Rock International and WhyHunger are partners with Ono for the campaign called "Imagine There's No Hunger." Various Hard Rock locations will host events on that day aimed at raising awareness.

Sunday would have been Lennon's 71st birthday, and Tuesday is the 40th anniversary of his song "Imagine," which Ono co-produced.

A limited-edition bracelet will go on sale to support the campaign's efforts and people can also text the word "Imagine" to 50555 to donate.
World Hunger Day 28 May

*Empowering People, Ending Hunger*

Millions of women, children & men are taking steps to end their own hunger year we’re singing. Get the Song | Teacher Pack

World Hunger Day is an annual event which celebrates sustainable solutions to ending extreme hunger and poverty. With a key focus on genuine partnership, it seeks to highlight the positive actions taken by those existing on less than £1 ($1.25) per day, to end their own hunger.

Invest Monthly | How to Support | Signup Enough Food IF | Subscribe

One World One Song

The Hunger Project announces the global launch of a new one-of-a-kind single performed by five-time Grammy award winner, Dionne Warwick together with X-Factor winner Joe McElderry.

Get Song | YouTube Channel | About OWOS | Twitter

World Hunger Day ‘Unplugged’

Support World Hunger Day

We have teamed up with the Global Poverty Project and Action Challenge throughout 2013 in support of World Hunger Day. Live Below the Line Hunger Thames Path Challenge.

Wherever you are Do Something Great to end hunger
World Hunger Day 2012

On 28 May, 2012 Legendary Singer and UN FAO Goodwill Ambassador, friends for an incredible night of celebration at the Royal Albert Hall Project’s work to end hunger permanently and sustainably. Read Hunger Day.

World Hunger Day was created by the team at The Hunger Project’s registered charity 326688

END UN WORLD FOOD/HUNGER DAY 2013

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Dick Bennett

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