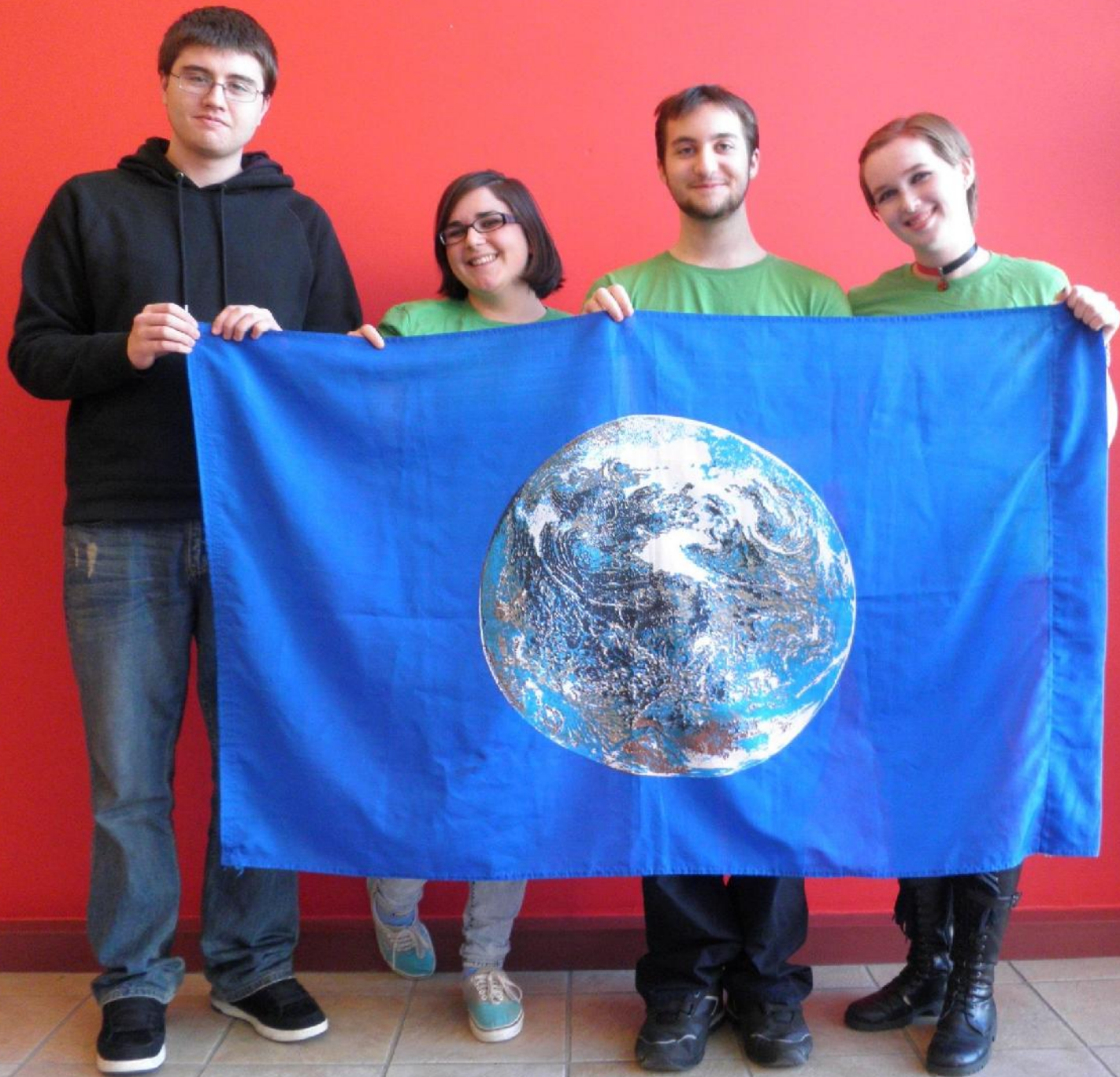


PLANETARY BOUNDARIES, ECOLOGICAL FRAMEWORKS, THRIVING FUTURES:

*Reconnecting to Earth and Ourselves
by composting and more*

*Compiled by Terri Eddy
Compost Forum 4.2016*





**LET'S BEGIN WITH THE WORLD THEY'RE
INHERITING,
THE WORLD WE LIVE IN**

**A WIDER VIEW:
THE CURRENT STATE OF THE EARTH
HUMANKIND'S PLACE IN EARTH HISTORY**







Stockholm Resilience Centre

Sustainability Science for Biosphere Stewardship



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About Stockholm Resilience Centre

Stockholm Resilience Centre advances research on the governance of social-ecological systems with a special emphasis on resilience - the ability to deal with change and continue to develop.

The Stockholm Resilience Centre was established on 1 January 2007.

The vision of the Stockholm Resilience Centre is a world where social-ecological systems are understood, governed and managed, to enhance human well-being and the capacity to deal with complexity and change, for the sustainable co-evolution of human civilizations with the biosphere.

"Our societies are an integrated part of the biosphere and dependent upon functioning ecosystems. That is why we need to manage ecosystems so that we can handle the future's challenges and maintain our capacity to evolve in a positive way," says scientific director Carl Folke.

The mission of Stockholm Resilience Centre is to advance research for governance and management of social-ecological systems to secure ecosystem services for human wellbeing and resilience for long-term sustainability. The Centre applies and further develops the scientific advancements of this research within practice, policy, and in academic training.

LOGOS AND PUBLICATIONS

Logos

[EPS High-res version](#)

[PNG High-res version](#)

[TIF High-res version](#)

Publications



Download "What is resilience?" (pdf, 2 MB)

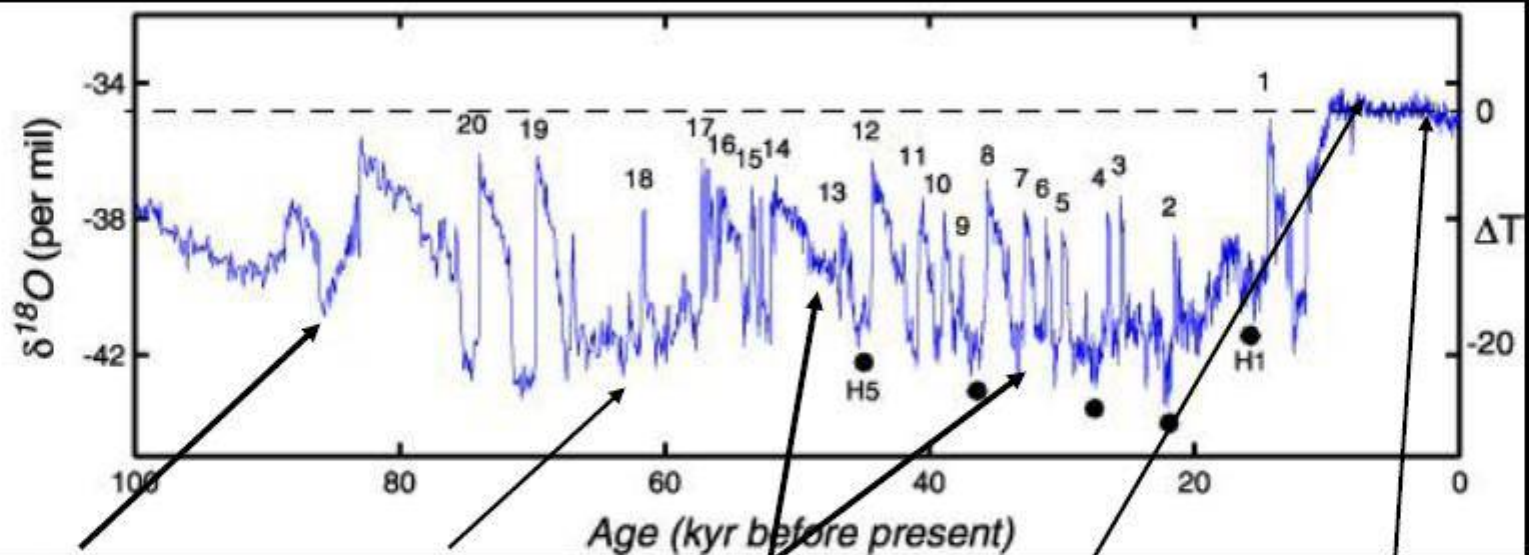
Download "Vad är resiliens?" Swedish version (pdf, 2.1 MB)

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Human Development and Earth System Dynamics



First migration of fully modern humans out of Africa

Aborigines arrive in Australia

Migrations of fully modern humans from South Asia to Europe

Beginning of agriculture

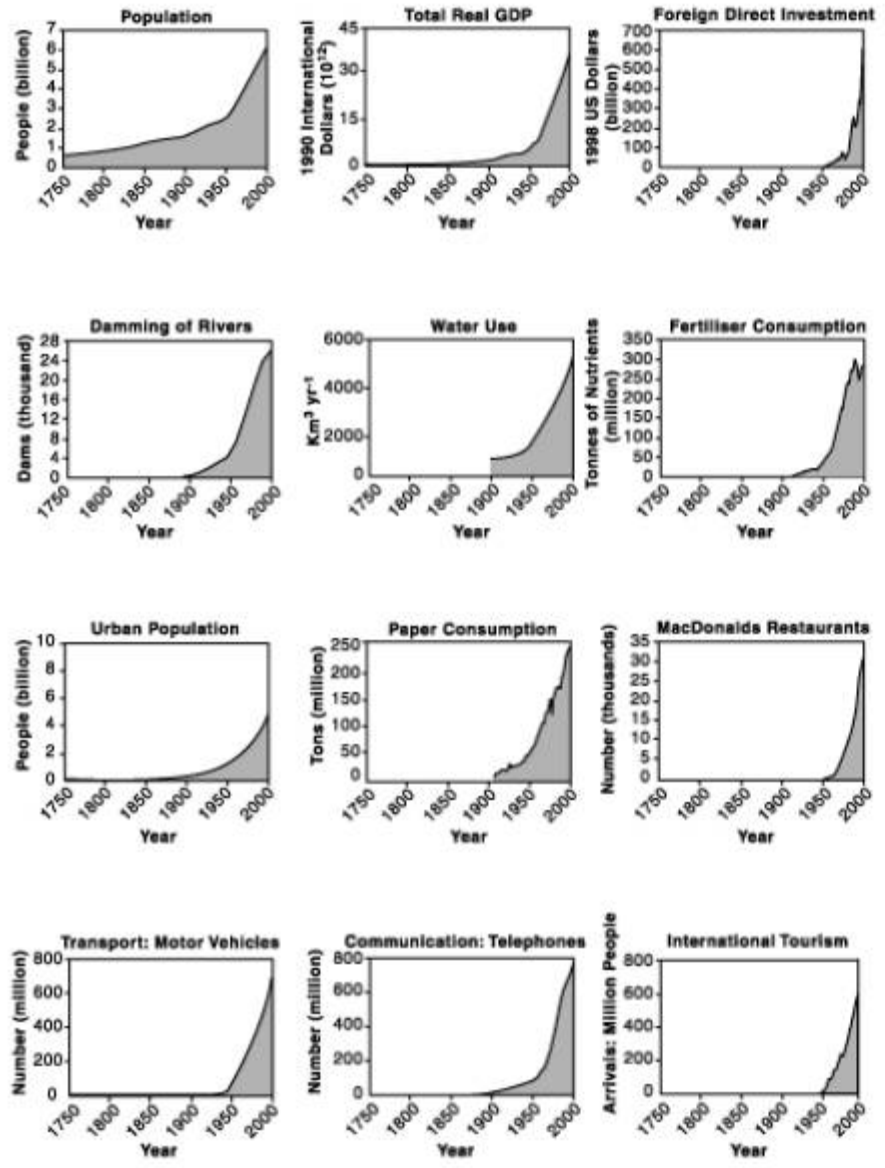
Great European civilisations: Greek, Roman

**Source: GRIP ice core data (Greenland)
And S. Oppenheimer, "Out of Eden", 2004**

Anthropocene Stage 2 (1945 - 2010/2020)

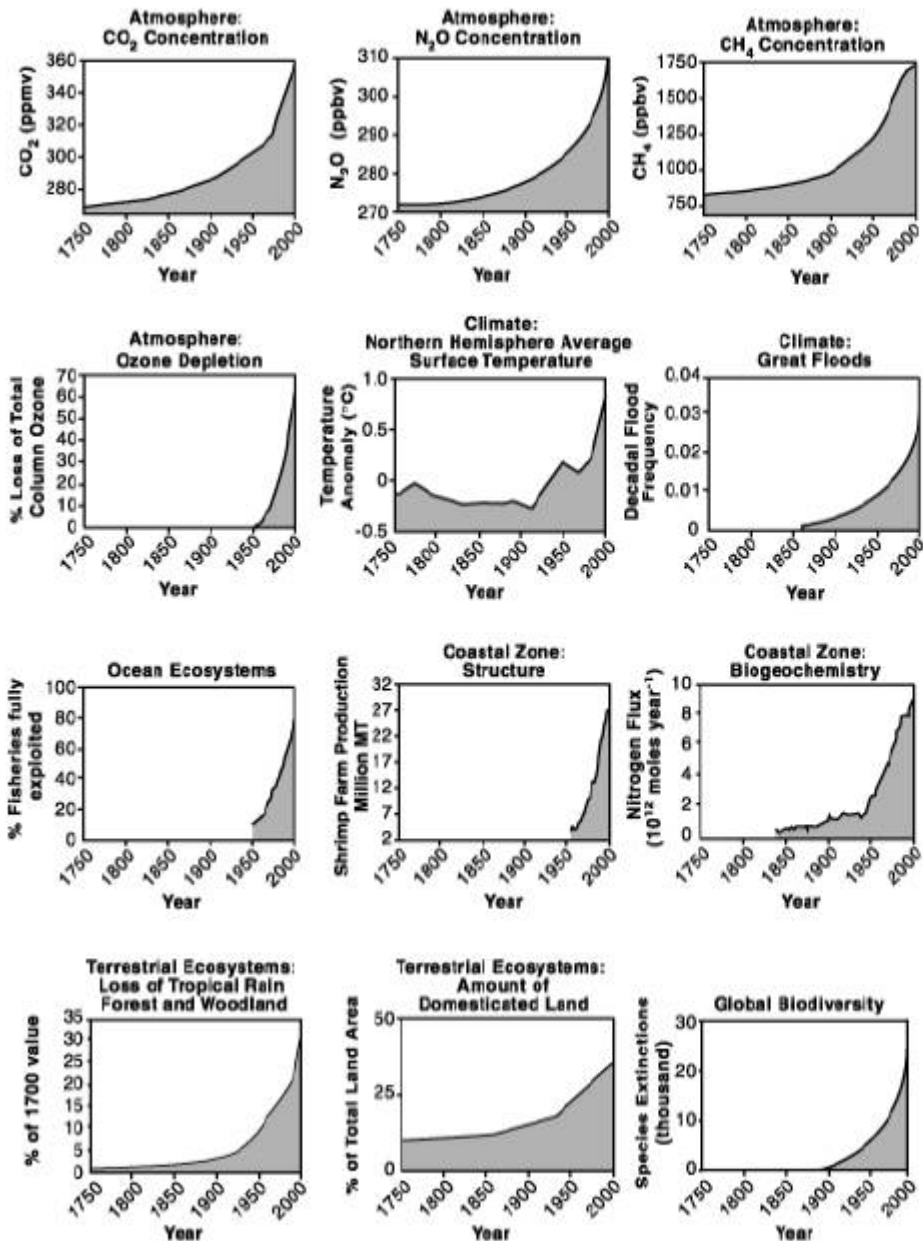
The changing 'human enterprise', from 1750 to 2000.

Note the start of the 'Great Acceleration' around 1950, when many activities began or accelerated sharply.



Responses of the biophysical Earth System to the accelerating 'human enterprise'.

The biophysical responses of the Earth System show many of the same features as the Great Acceleration in the human enterprise.

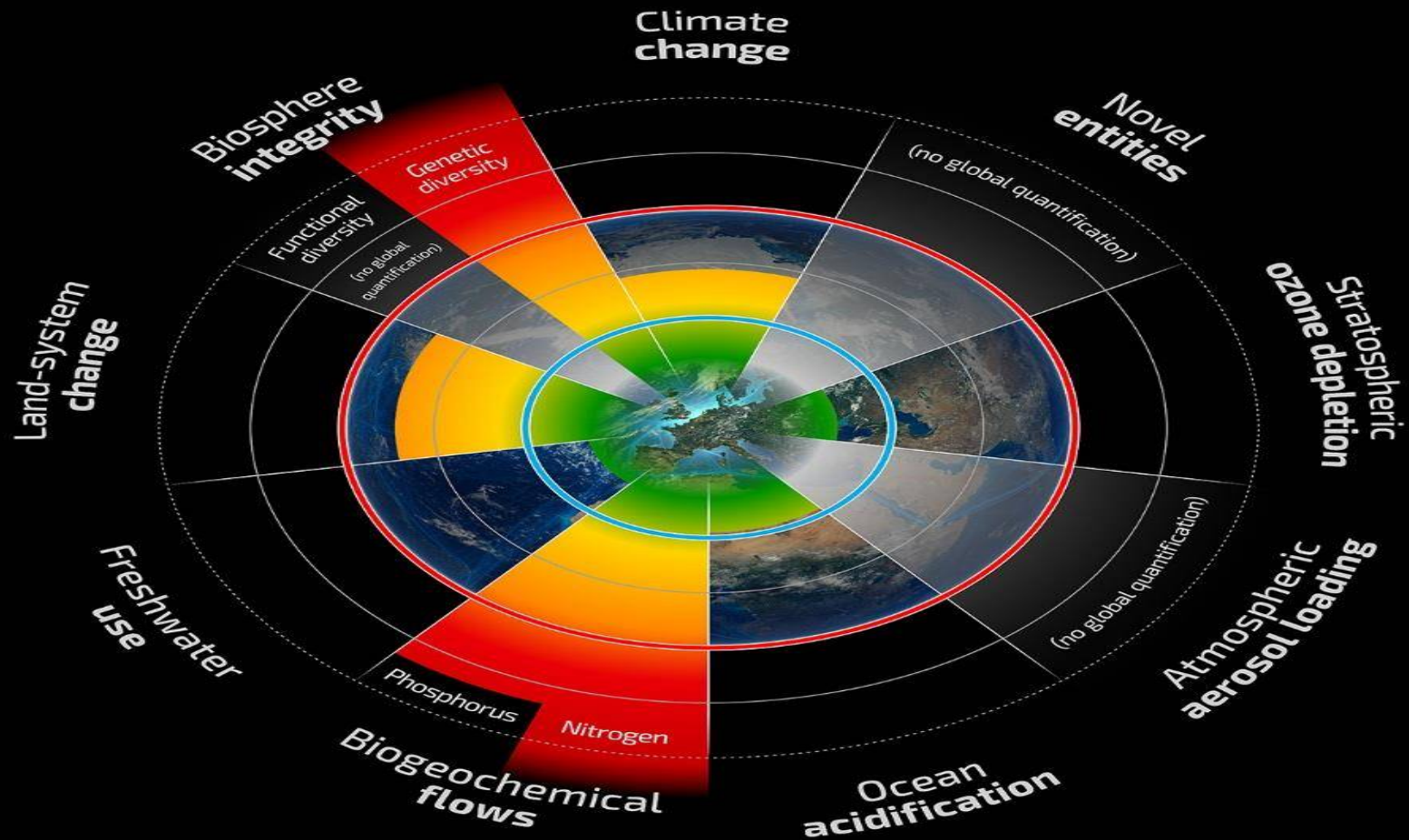


**“WELCOME TO THE ANTHROPOCENE”
YOUTUBE VIDEO**

**PLANETARY BOUNDARIES FRAMEWORK:
A SAFE OPERATING SPACE FOR HUMANITY
STOCKHOLM RESILIENCE CENTER**

Planetary Boundaries

A safe operating space for humanity



- Beyond zone of uncertainty (high risk)**
- In zone of uncertainty (increasing risk)**
- Below boundary (safe)**
- Boundary not yet quantified**

GLOBAL WARMING IN MAINE

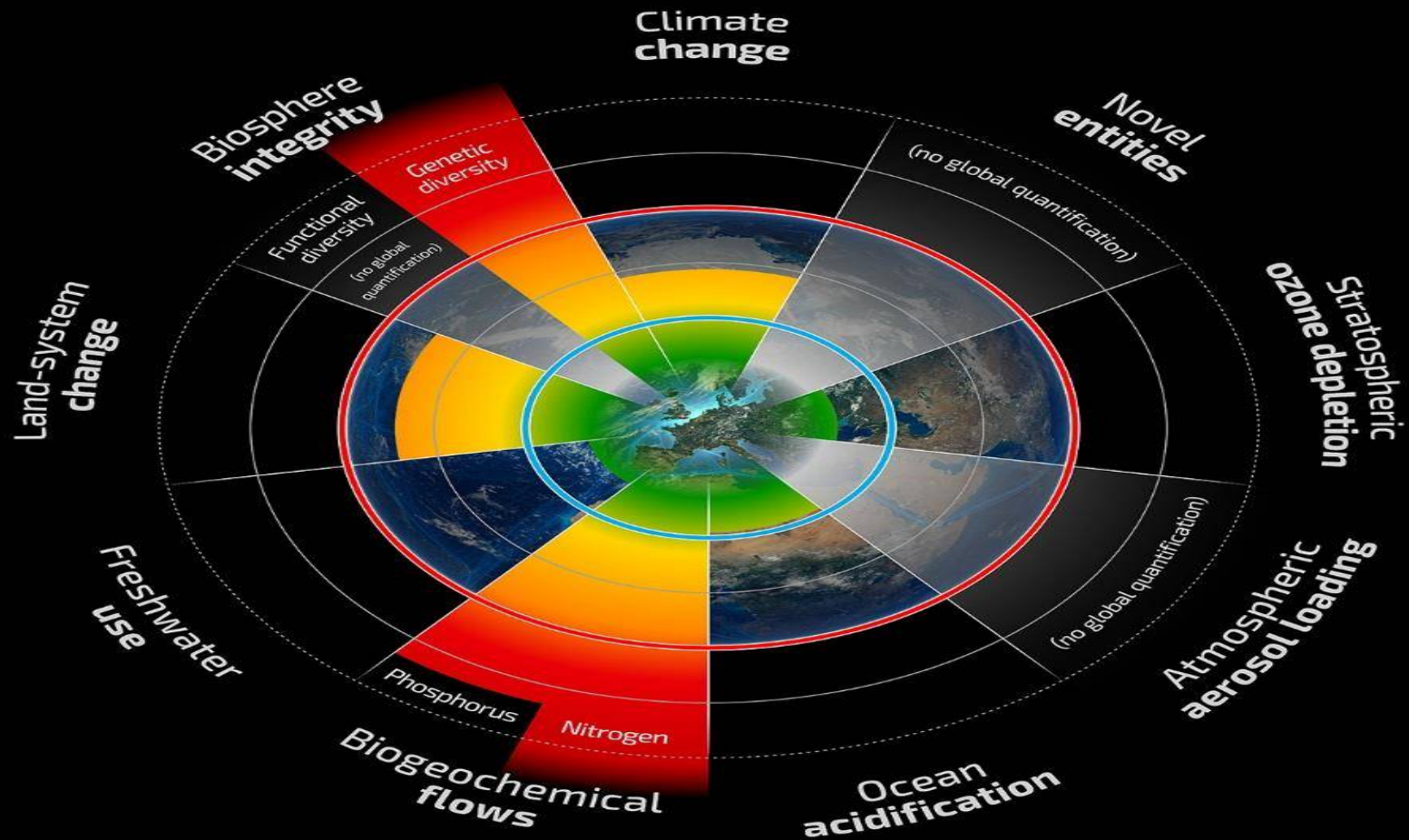
Warning Signs, Winning Solutions





Planetary Boundaries

A safe operating space for humanity



- Beyond zone of uncertainty (high risk)**
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Table 9: Possibly Extinct and Possibly Extinct in the Wild Species

The number of recent extinctions documented by the Extinct (EX) and Extinct in the Wild (EW) categories on The IUCN Red List is likely to be a significant underestimate, even for well-known taxa such as birds. The tags 'Possibly Extinct' and 'Possibly Extinct in the Wild' have therefore been developed to identify those Critically Endangered species that are, on the balance of evidence, likely to be extinct (or extinct in the wild). These species cannot be listed as EX or EW until their extinction can be confirmed (i.e., until adequate surveys have been carried out and have failed to record the species and local or unconfirmed reports have been investigated and discounted).

All 'Possibly Extinct' and 'Possibly Extinct in the Wild' species on the current IUCN Red List are listed in the table below, along the year each assessment was carried out and, where available, the date each species was last recorded in the wild. Where the last record is an unconfirmed report, last recorded date is noted as "possibly".

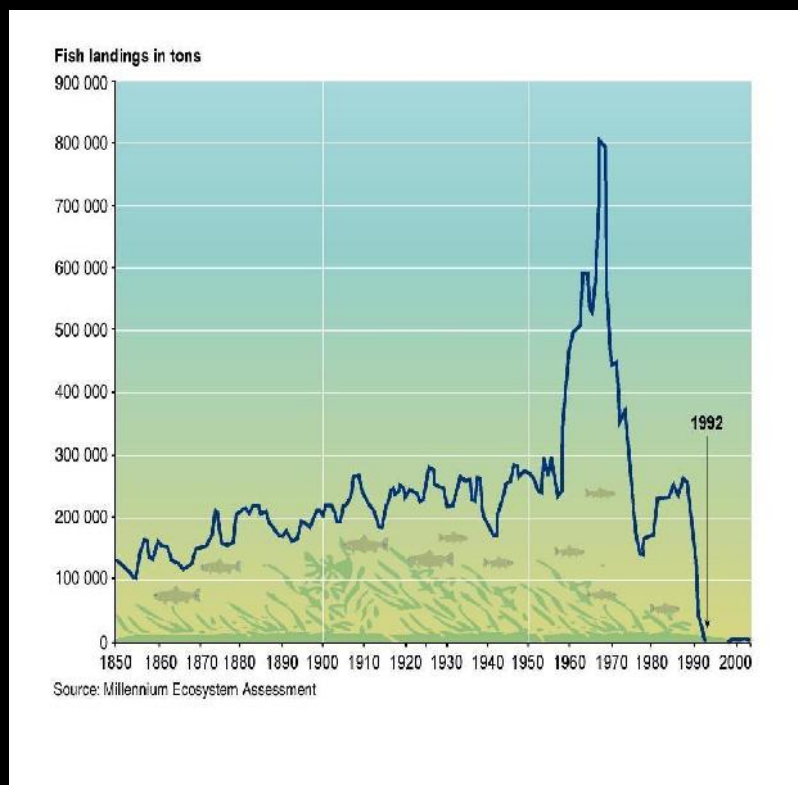
CR(PE) - Critically Endangered (Possibly Extinct), CR(PER) - Critically Endangered (Possibly Extinct in the Wild)

Scientific name	Common name	IUCN Red List (2015) Category	Year of Assessment	Date last recorded in the wild
MAMMALS				
<i>Bos asseni</i>	Kouprey	CR(PE)	2008	1969/70
<i>Capromys gambelii</i>	Gambel's Hutia	CR(PE)	2008	1989
<i>Crotonomys australis</i>	Dinagat Crotonomys	CR(PE)	2008	1975
<i>Crocidura trichura</i>	Christmas Island Shrew	CR(PE)	2008	1985
<i>Crocidura wilsoni</i>	Wilson's Shrew	CR(PE)	2008	1976
<i>Cyppochloris wilsoni</i>	De Wilson's Golden Mole	CR(PE)	2008	1937
<i>Dendrolagus majori</i>	Woodswallow Tree-kangaroo	CR(PE)	2008	1928
<i>Dipodomys grosvengi</i>	Six Quilled Kangaroo Rat	CR(PE)	2008	1986
<i>Lepusillus apicatus</i>	Lesser Stick-nest Rat	CR(PE)	2008	1970
<i>Lepusillus swinhonis</i>	Bald	CR(PE)	2008	2002
<i>Melomys zanjibar</i>	Zanzibar's Dink Rice Rat	CR(PE)	2008	1949
<i>Mesocricetus nanus</i>	Dwarf Huta	CR(PE)	2008	1937
<i>Mesocricetus zanzibaricus</i>	Little Earth Huta	CR(PE)	2008	1978
<i>Monodelphis unicoloratus</i>	Single-striped Opossum	CR(PE)	2011	1899
<i>Myotis tomentosus</i>	Clowny Tube-nosed Bat	CR(PE)	2008	1962
<i>Myotis robustus</i>	New Zealand Greater Short-tailed Bat	CR(PE)	2008	1967
<i>Neopogon plumbeus</i>	Ethiopian Archibius Rat	CR(PE)	2008	1926
<i>Nyctophilus howlandi</i>	Lord Howe Long-eared Bat	CR(PE)	2008	1972
<i>Peromyscus guardii</i>	Angel Island Mouse	CR(PE)	2008	1991
<i>Peromyscus melibatorius</i>	Puebla Deer Mouse	CR(PE)	2008	Before 1948
<i>Phalanger notialis</i>	Telefonis Cuscus	CR(PE)	2008	Possibly 1997
<i>Phantasia imogene</i>	Thomas's Big-eared Bat	CR(PE)	2008	1890
<i>Pipistrellus murphyi</i>	Christmas Island Pipistrelle	CR(PE)	2009	2009
<i>Perodiplosis pulchra</i>	Montane Monkey-faced Bat	CR(PE)	2008	?
<i>Pteropus ananias</i>	Aru Flying Fox	CR(PE)	2008	Possibly 1992
<i>Pteropus tuberculatus</i>	Vanuatu Flying Fox	CR(PE)	2008	Before 1930
<i>Uromys amoenus</i>	Emma's Giant Rat	CR(PE)	2008	
<i>Uromys imperator</i>	Emperor Rat	CR(PE)	2008	Possibly 1960s
<i>Uromys portulacis</i>	Guadalcanal Rat	CR(PE)	2008	1886-1888
<i>Zyomys pedunculatus</i>	Central Rock Rat	CR(PE)	2008	2001
BIRDS				
<i>Comptosia imperialis</i>	Imperial Woodpecker	CR(PE)	2013	1956
<i>Cyanocitta stelleri</i>	Spix's Macaw	CR(PER)	2013	2000
<i>Trochoceros godali</i>	Turquoise-throated Puffleg	CR(PE)	2012	Possibly 1976
<i>Eurostocheus esai</i>	New Caledonian Nightjar	CR(PE)	2014	1939
<i>Hemiprocne luteola</i>	Nukupuu	CR(PE)	2012	1995-1996
<i>Hydrobatia macrodactylus</i>	Guadelupe Storm-petrel	CR(PE)	2012	1912
<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>	Poo-ill	CR(PE)	2012	2004
<i>Myadestes lanaiensis</i>	Oloaoo	CR(PE)	2013	1994
<i>Myadestes borealis</i>	Eldemo Curlew	CR(PE)	2012	1963
<i>Paramevrops maculata</i>	Oahu Alauahio	CR(PE)	2012	1985
<i>Pomarea mira</i>	Ua Pou Monarch	CR(PE)	2013	Possibly 2010
<i>Ptilinopus pittaensis</i>	Ou	CR(PE)	2012	1989
<i>Perodroma caroliniana</i>	Jamaica Petrel	CR(PE)	2013	1879
<i>Pyrhura subandina</i>	Sinu Parakeet	CR(PE)	2014	1949
<i>Siphonaria americana</i>	Jamaican Parakeet	CR(PE)	2012	1860
<i>Speophila melanops</i>	Hooded Seed-eater	CR(PE)	2012	1823
<i>Turtur neosecalceolaris</i>	New Caledonian Buttonquail	CR(PE)	2014	1911
<i>Vireniroa bachmani</i>	Bachman's Warbler	CR(PE)	2013	1988
REPTILES				
<i>Acrochordo nasuta</i>	Culebra Giant Anole	CR(PE)	2009	1932
<i>Coluber prokoki</i>	Prokoki's Reed Snake	CR(PE)	2011	?
<i>Crotalus panamensis</i>	Lesser Saint Croix Skink	CR(PE)	2013	?
<i>Colinus ocellatus</i>	Giant Hispaniolan Gallinule	CR(PE)	2004	Possibly 2004
<i>Contomastix vittata</i>		CR(PE)	2009	?
<i>Cynisca goni</i>		CR(PE)	2012	?
<i>Gerrhonotus sutor</i>	La Palma Giant Lizard	CR(PE)	2008	?

Human Imprint on Marine Ecosystems

Fisheries collapse

- The Atlantic cod stocks off the east coast of Newfoundland collapsed in 1992 forcing the closure of the fishery
- Depleted stocks may not recover even if harvesting is significantly reduced or eliminated entirely
- About 50% of all fish stocks are fully exploited, 18% are overexploited, and 10% have been depleted or are recovering from depletion



**Millennium Ecosystem Assessment 2005,
Steffen et al. 2004**

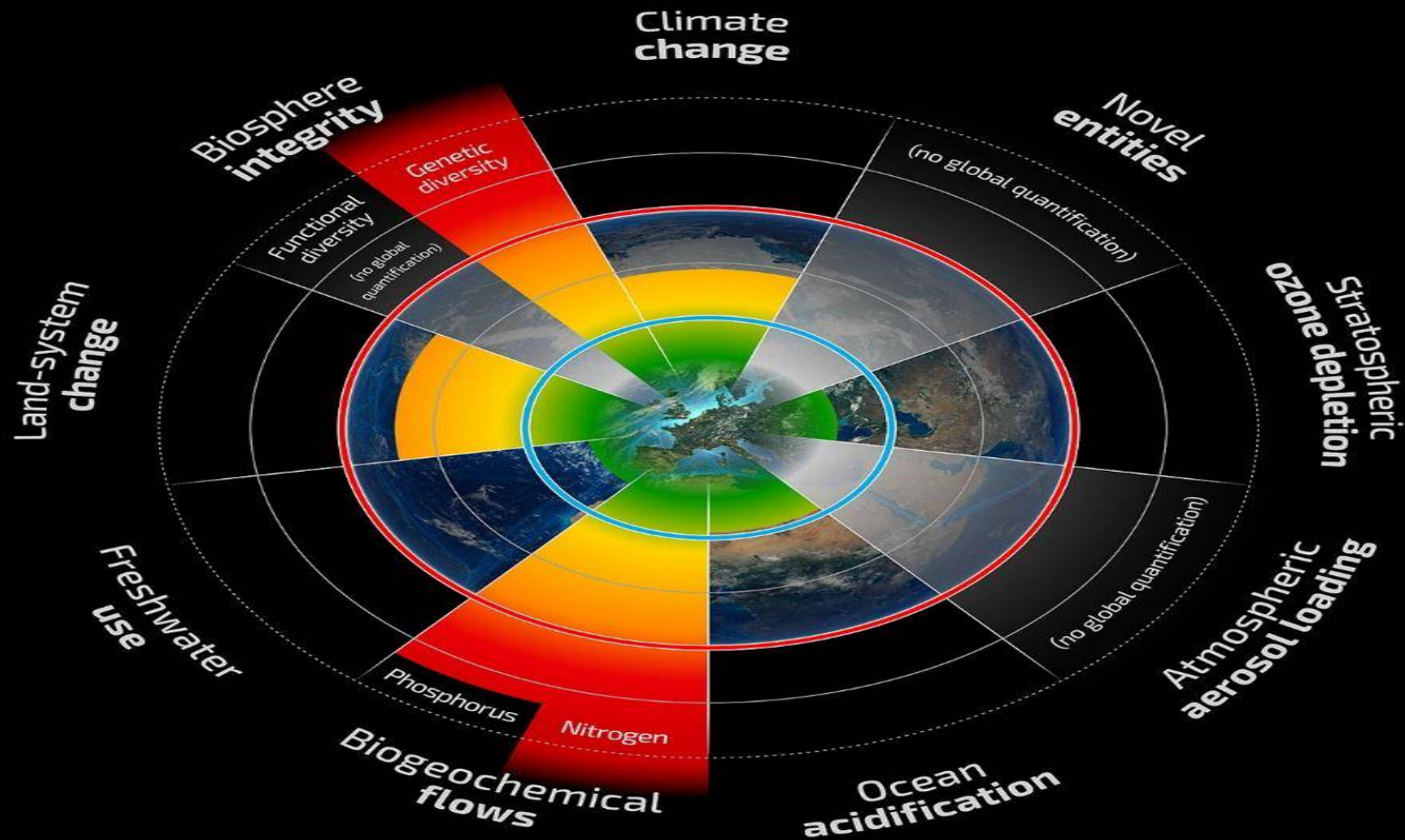
Southern China: Loss of Biological Diversity



Photo: ICIMOD

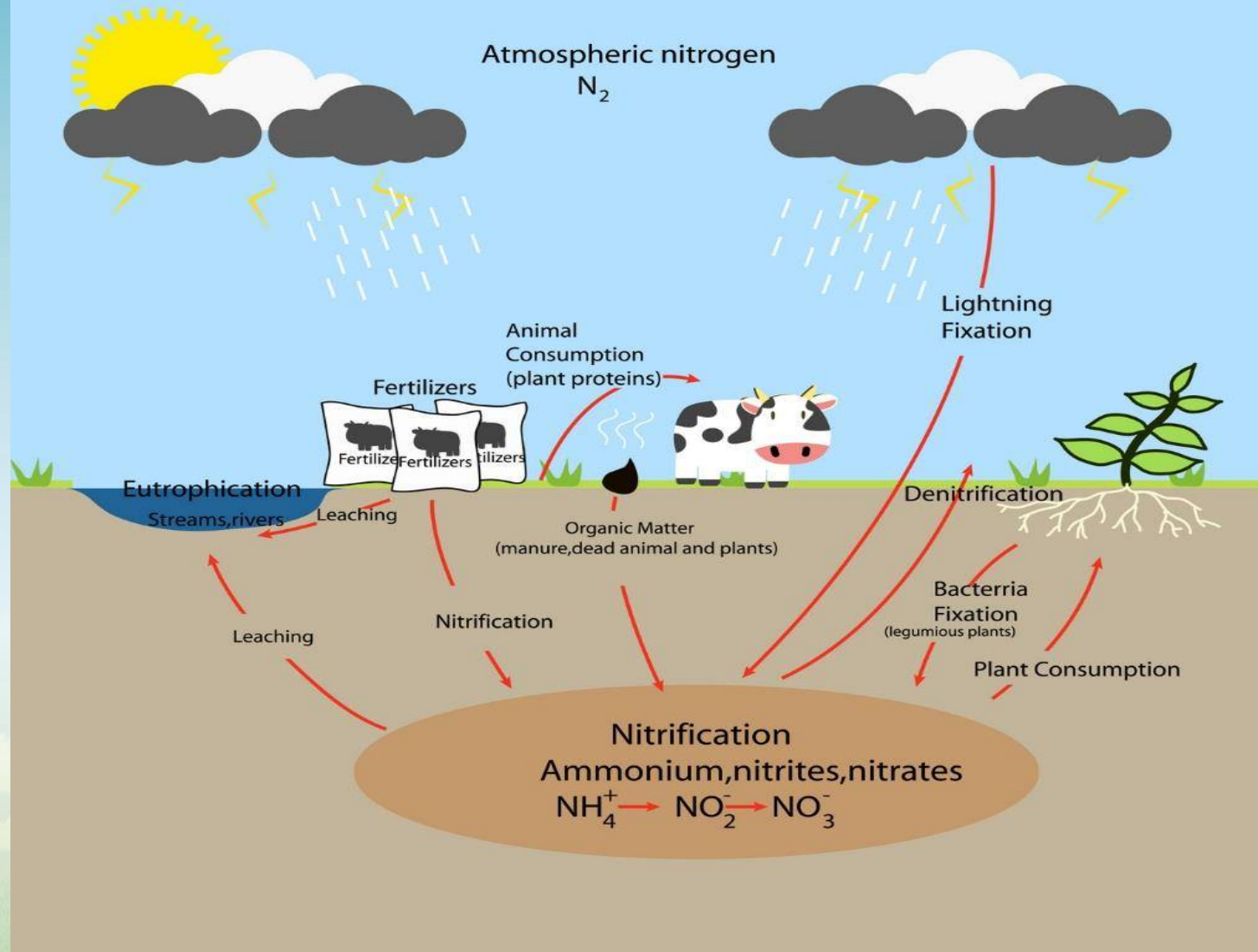
Planetary Boundaries

A safe operating space for humanity



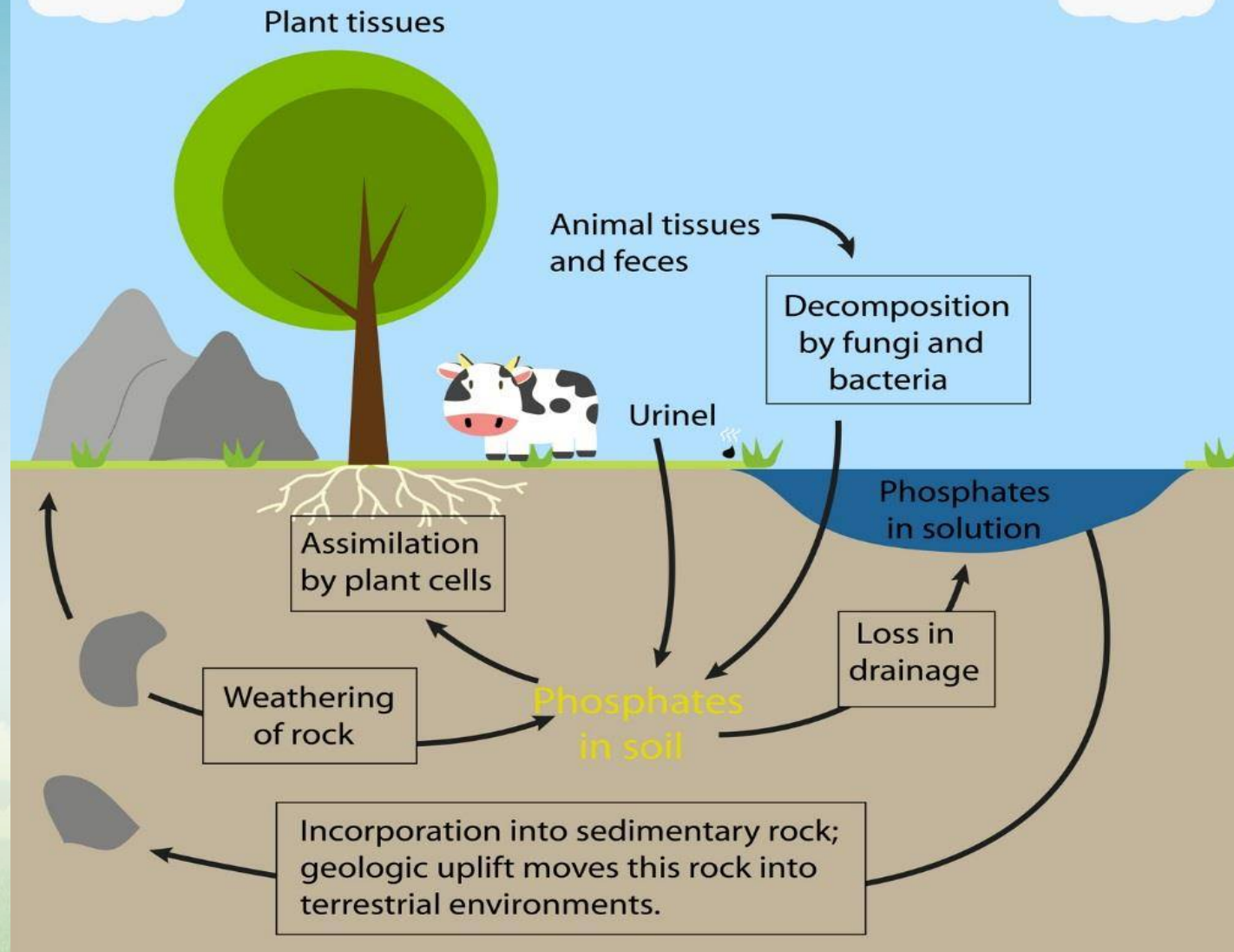
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- Below boundary (safe)**
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The Nitrogen Cycle





The Phosphorus Cycle

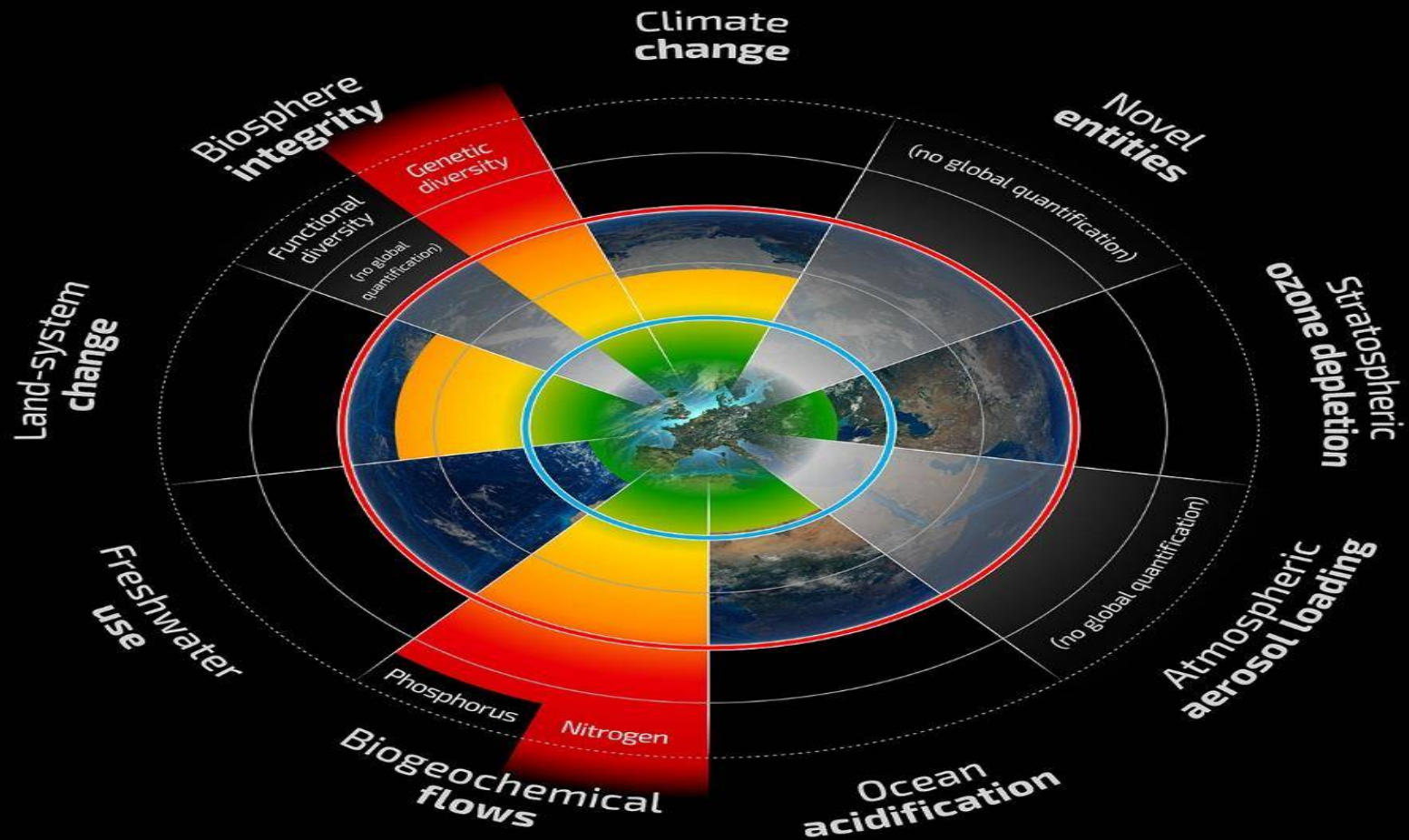






Planetary Boundaries

A safe operating space for humanity



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HOW DID WE ARRIVE HERE?

- ~ INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION, 1950S “GREAT ACCELERATION”
- ~ ADVANCES IN SCIENCE INCLUDING REMNANT SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY OF WWII
- ~ CONSUMERISM/MARKETING/ECONOMIC “GROWTH IMPERATIVE”
- ~ GLOBALIZATION OF TRADE, FINANCE, COMMUNICATION, TOURISM, ETC
- ~ PRIVATIZATION AND COMMODITIZATION OF “THE COMMONS”, “PUBLIC GOODS”
- ~ ECONOMIC BOTTOM LINE (PROFIT), LACK OF ACCOUNTING OF “EXTERNALITIES”
- ~ TECHNOLOGY/MEDIA/COMMUNICATION
- ~ DRAMATIC SHIFTS IN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STRUCTURES
- ~ INCREASING POPULATION GROWTH
- ~ INCREASING FOOD AND ENERGY DEMANDS....

SCALE ~ COMPLEXITY ~ SPEED

***LACK OF: KNOWLEDGE, WISDOM, WIDER VIEW,
HUMANITY’S PLACE, GRASP OF RESPONSIBILITIES,
CONSEQUENCES***

**A HUMANKIND OUT OF SYNC WITH A LIVING EARTH,
HER SYSTEMS, AND HER ABILITY TO SUSTAIN US**

“Sit, be still and listen.

For you are drunk,

And we are on the edge of the roof.”

~Rumi, 13th century Persian poet, scholar, jurist

“We are part of the Earth,

And it is part of us,

What befalls the Earth

Befalls the sons of Earth.”

~Chief Seattle, 1852

“When the stakes are life on earth, all else is a diversion.”

~ Susan Murphy, American zen teacher



ECOLOGICAL FRAMEWORKS

*“We can not solve our problems with the same
thinking that created it”*

~Albert Einstein

ICEBERG FRAMEWORK FOR ADDRESSING GLOBAL ISSUES





Life-affirming actions
in sync with Earth's
ability to sustain us

?

new ecological worldviews,
new stories:

***The Well-being of Earth and
Humankind are One***

ECOLOGICAL WORLDVIEWS GIVE RISE TO EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES AND INNOVATIONS

Systems thinking

Advances in science

sustainability science, soil science, toxicology.....

Advances in technology

internet's global communication and connectivity: new ways to share, learn, gather...

Ecological economics

from maximizing profit, to sustaining life; regenerative over extractive economies; an accounting of "externalities"; triple bottom line; ecological and sacred economics...

Ecological design/waste reduction

cradle to cradle design, biomimicry, composting, zero waste...

Social marketing for sustainability

Ecological governance

UN Sustainability Goals, COP 21 Paris; national, regional, local policies...

Food security and sustainability

small scale local organic gardening and farming, csa farms, composting, permaculture...

Ecological art

New stories, new heroes

Spiritual ecology

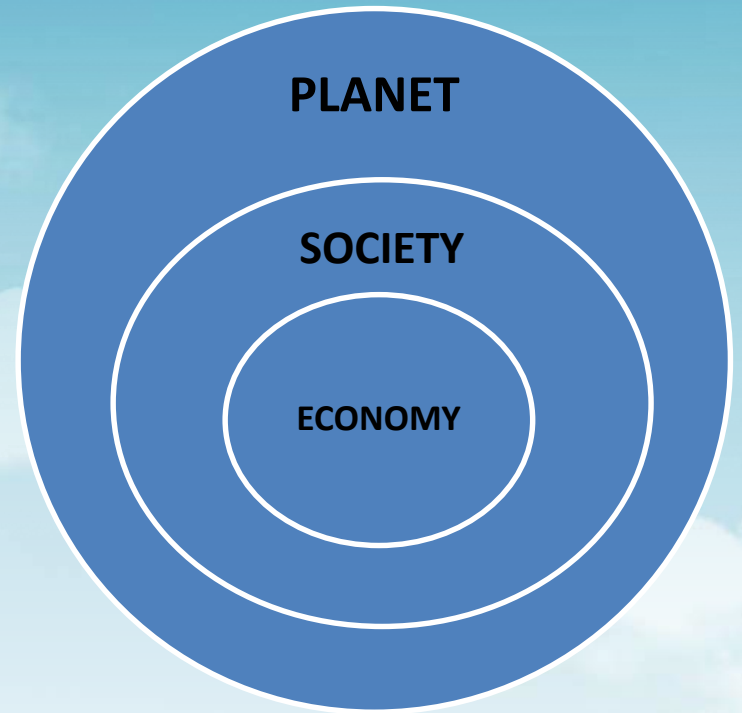
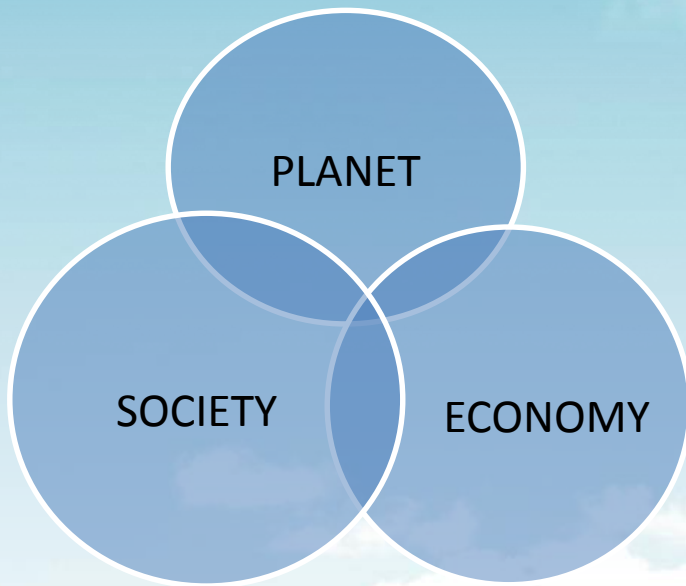
belonging, abundance, aliveness, gratitude, service, pathways for life in the Anthropocene



**MORE IDEAS, INDIVIDUALS AND
ORGANIZATIONS REFLECTING
ECOLOGICAL WORLDVIEWS**

“

Triple bottom line



- ~ Thriving lives and livelihoods
- ~ Abundant secure food systems
- ~ Abundant secure water
- ~ Renewable, secure, clean energy
- ~ Healthy and productive ecosystems
- ~ Governance for thriving societies



Spiritual Ecology

THE CRY *of the* EARTH

Essays by:

THICH NHAT HANH, JOANNA MACY,
WENDELL BERRY, SANDRA INGERMAN, RICHARD ROHR,
BILL PLOTKIN, MARY EVELYN TUCKER, BRIAN SWIMME,
OREN LYONS, VANDANA SHIVA & OTHERS

Edited by Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee

Copyrighted Material

- ~ Father Thomas Berry: earth-based spirituality
- ~ Sister Miriam MacGillis: Genesis Farm
- ~ Susan Murphy: zen buddhist teacher
- ~ Vandana Shiva: physicist, food security and social justice activist
- ~ Winona LaDuke: voice for indigenous consciousness
- ~ Wendell Berry: literary master, organic farmer
- ~ Bill Plotkin: psychologist, soul of the planet
- ~ Mary Evelyn Tucker: academic scholar, author
- ~ Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee: sufi teacher, author
- ~ Brian Thomas Swimme: mathematical cosmologist
- ~ John Stanly & Davis Loy: engaged Buddhists incorporating scientific realism
- ~ Satish Kumer: eco-philosopher, editor, college founder, (soil, soul, society)
- ~ Joanna Macy: eco-philosopher, spiritual activist
- ~ Thich Nhat Hanh: zen buddhist monk

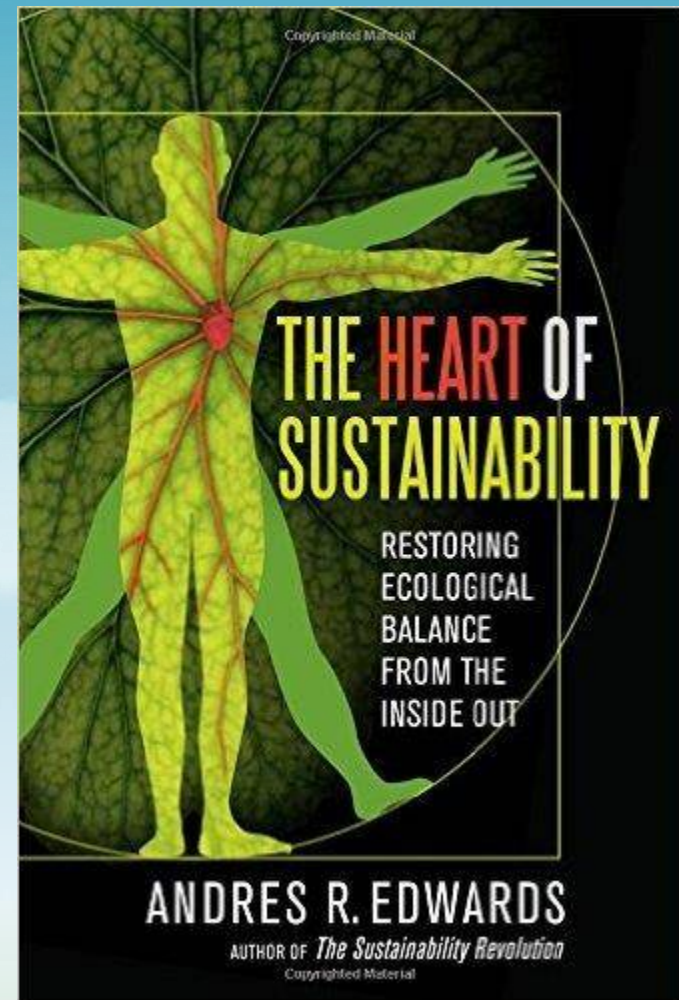
Thriveable Future Frameworks: Inner Transformations, Outer Actions

Four e's: ecology, economy, equity, education

Four c's: compassion, creative, conscious, connected

SPIRALS: scalable, place-making, intergenerational, resilient, accessible, life-affirming, self-care

COURAGE: compassion, openness, understanding, regeneration, action, gratitude, empathy



Sustainable Development Goals

The image displays a grid of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Each goal is represented by a colored square containing a number, a title, and a white icon. The goals are arranged in three rows: the first row has 6 goals, the second row has 5 goals, and the third row has 6 goals. The first goal (SDG 0) is a white square with the UN logo and the text 'TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD: THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT'. The other goals are numbered 1 through 17.

Goal Number	Goal Title	Icon Description
0	TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD: THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	UN Logo
1	NO POVERTY	Family silhouette
2	ZERO HUNGER	Bowl with steam
3	GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	Heart rate line
4	QUALITY EDUCATION	Open book and pencil
5	GENDER EQUALITY	Gender symbol with equals sign
6	CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	Water tap with drop
7	AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	Sun with power button
8	DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	Bar chart with upward arrow
9	INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	Stacked cubes
10	REDUCED INEQUALITIES	Circle with equals sign
11	SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	City buildings
12	RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	Infinity symbol with arrow
13	CLIMATE ACTION	Eye with globe
14	LIFE BELOW WATER	Wave and fish
15	LIFE ON LAND	Tree and birds
16	PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	Dove and gavel
17	PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	Interlocking circles

DIVISION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, UN-DESA

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RESOURCES

- 2015 - Time for Global Action for People and Planet
- United Nations
- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

"An eye-opening, humorous, and highly readable account of how our seemingly innocuous lifestyles are part of a larger system of destruction and dysfunction. A must-read." —Juliet B. Schor, author of *Plentitude: The New Economics of True Wealth*

THE STORY OF STUFF



The Impact of Overconsumption on the Planet,
Our Communities, and Our Health—
And How We Can Make It Better

Annie Leonard

Founder of The Story of Stuff Project

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THE UPCYCLE

BEYOND SUSTAINABILITY—
DESIGNING FOR ABUNDANCE

WILLIAM
MCDONOUGH

FOREWORD BY PRESIDENT™ BILL CLINTON

WITH
&
AUTHORS OF CRADLE TO CRADLE

MICHAEL
BRAUNGART

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Soil Foodweb Analysis

Report prepared for:

Go Green Landscaping
David Melevsky
10 Crossing Drive
Scarborough, ME 04074 USA

Report Sent:
Sample#: 03-009318 | Submission:03-004155
Unique ID: Peterson
Plant: turf

Invoice Number: 0
Sample Received: 6/7/2012

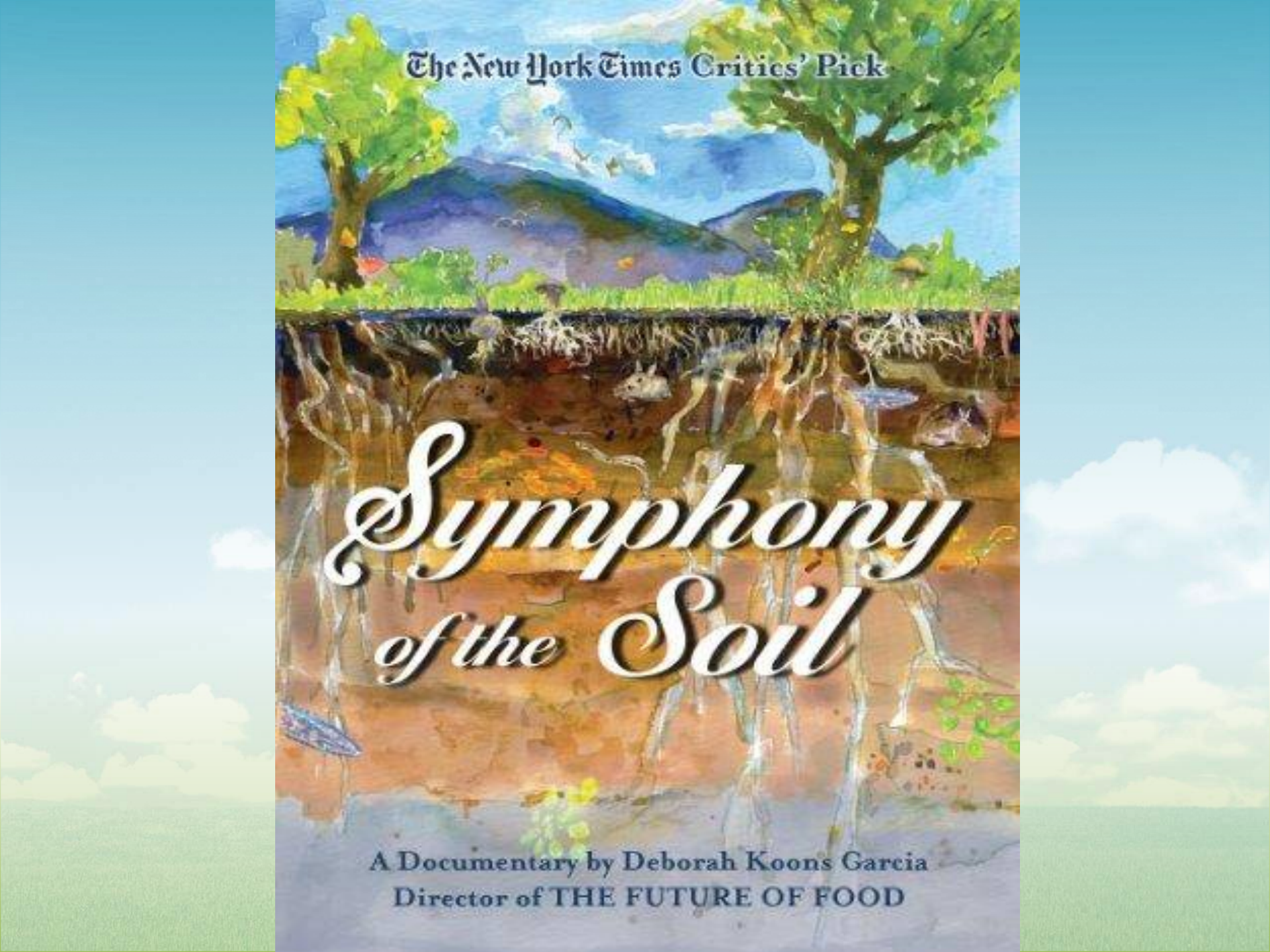
david@gogreenlandscaping.com

For interpretation of this report please contact:

Local Advisor: or regional lab
Soil Foodweb New York
soilfoodwebny@aol.com
631-750-1553

Consulting fees may apply

Organism Biomass Data	Dry Weight	Active Bacterial (µg/g)	Total Bacterial (µg/g)	Active Fungal (µg/g)	Total Fungal (µg/g)	Hyphal Diameter (µm)	Nematodes per Gram of Soil
Results	0.890	19.2	434	8.47	450	3	
Comments	Too Dry	Good	Excellent	Low	Excellent		
Expected Range	Low: 0.45 High: 0.85	15 25	100 300	15 25	100 300		
		Protozoa Numbers/g		Total Nematodes #/g	Percent Mycorrhizal Colonization		Nematodes per Gram of Soil Identification to genus
		Flagellates	Amoebae		Ciliates	ENDO	
Results	15	518	0	4.62	4%	0%	Bacterial Feeders
Comments	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Eucephalobus 0.60 Plectus 0.60
Expected Range	Low: 10000 High:	10000	50 100	20 30	40% 80%	40% 80%	Fungal Feeders Aporcalalmium 0.48 Microdorylaimus 0.36
Organism Biomass Ratios	Total Fungal to Total Bacterial	Active to Total Fungal	Active to Total Bacterial	Active Fungal to Active Bacterial	Plant Available N Supply (lbs/acre)		
Results	1.04	0.02	0.04	0.44	<5		Fungal/Root Feeders Merlinius 0.48
Comments	Good	Low	Low	Low			Predatory Clarkus 0.84
Expected Range	Low: 0.8 High: 1.5	0.25 0.95	0.25 0.95	0.75 1.5			Root Feeders Longidorus 0.36 Paratylenchus Pin nematode 0.36



The New York Times Critics' Pick

Symphony of the Soil

A Documentary by Deborah Koons Garcia
Director of **THE FUTURE OF FOOD**



Sonatas of the Soil
Volume I

*A collection of short films from the
Symphony of the Soil Project*

Portrait of a Winemaker

Sekem Vision

Transition Town Totnes

Directed by Deborah Koonr Garcia



Sonatas of the Soil
Volume II

From the Symphony of the Soil Project

*Let's Grow Again
Walking and Talking with Yandrea Stone
A Talk by Yandrea Stone*

Directed by Deborah Koonr Garcia

Citizens for a Green Scarborough



CITIZENS FOR
A GREEN
SCARBOROUGH

Town of Scarborough Pest Management Policy

Adopted September 21, 2011

SECTION I. POLICY.

All pesticides are toxic to some degree and the widespread use of pesticides is both a major environmental problem and a public health issue. Federal regulation of pesticides is no guarantee of safety.

Scarborough recognizes that the use of pesticides may have profound effects upon indigenous plants, surface water and ground water, as well as unintended effects upon people, birds and other animals in the vicinity of treated areas. Scarborough recognizes that all citizens, particularly children, have a right to protection from exposure to hazardous chemicals and pesticides.

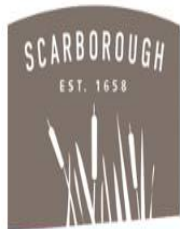
Scarborough recognizes that it is in the best interest of public health to eliminate the use of pesticides on town- owned lands; to encourage reduction and elimination of pesticide use on private property; and to introduce cultural and management practices to prevent, and when necessary, address pest problems on town-owned land.

Scarborough supports the Precautionary Principle (as defined by the Wingspread Statement of January 1998) as the basis for its Pest Management Policy. The Precautionary Principle states, "When an activity raises threats of harm to the environment or human health, precautionary measures should be taken, even if some cause and effect relationships are not yet fully established."

Therefore, it is the express policy of Scarborough to refrain from the use of pesticides upon property it owns, uses or controls, except in situations that pose an imminent threat of serious injury to persons, property or agriculture.

SECTION II. AUTHORITY.

The Scarborough Town Manager shall oversee the implementation of the Pest Management Policy. A Pest Management Advisory Committee shall act in an advisory capacity to develop and oversee a Pest Management Plan consistent with this policy, including the Town Manager's responsibilities.



Town of Scarborough, Maine



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[Town Government > Boards & Committees >](#)

Pest Management Advisory Committee

The Town of Scarborough Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC) shall act in an advisory capacity to develop and oversee a pest management program and advise the Town Manager of any problems encountered or amendments required to achieve the full and successful implementation of an organic pest management program.

[Town of Scarborough Pest Management Policy \[PDF\]](#)

Liaisons

Thomas Hall
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Phone: (207) 730-4150
Email: bgulli

Steve Quirk
Facilities Manager
Phone: (207) 883-7645
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Members

- Terri Eddy, Member At-Large - 2016
- Iver Carlsen, Recreation Advisory Board
- Todd Jepsen, School Department
- Chris Herrick, Member-At-Large - 2017
- Tim Lindsay, Arborist/Horticulturist - 2018
- Marla Zando, Knowledgeable about organics approach - 2018
- Vacant, Conservation Commission

Meetings

Committee meets on an as-needed basis.

Meeting Agendas & Minutes

Documents are in [Adobe PDF](#) format, and may take a few moments to load.

Recent List Items			
Date	Agenda	Minutes	Notes
March 15, 2016	Agenda		
November 17, 2015	Agenda		
August 11, 2015	Agenda	Minutes	
June 23, 2015	Agenda	Minutes	
May 5, 2015	Agenda	Minutes	

Showing 5 items from page [Pest Management Advisory Committee Meetings](#), sorted by Date. [View more »](#)

Community Engagement Survey

WebGIS

Field Scouting Reports

Permaculture is an ecological design process...

which mimics Nature's wisdom, systems and patterns; is based in ethics; and supportive of human needs. It is a regenerative, holistic, systems-approach to cultivating resilience, abundance and thriving at the personal and community levels.

Permaculture is best known as an organic food production system, offering pathways of evolution for organic gardening. With its twelve guiding principles and focus on **building living soil**, techniques include:

- ~no-till practices
- ~closed-loop systems
- ~stacked functions
- ~food forests
- ~sheet mulching
- ~edible perennials
- ~plant guilds
- ~polycultures
- ~herb spirals
- ~chicken tractors
- ~water catchment systems

....***and “permablitzs”***

More broadly, permaculture challenges our wider worldview with systems thinking, horticultural and sustainability science, pattern literacy, transition modelling, and spiritual and deep ecology. Such concepts can be integrated, designed and radiate globally into: food security systems; regenerative over extractive economies; strategies for climate adaptation; environmental restoration; renewable energies for post carbon societies; urban and suburban redesign; non-currency exchanges; collaborative participatory processes; and more.

Permaculture helps us “consciously live our way” toward a necessary new story for humankind.

The story involves humanity’s inner collective transformation and its evolving reflection in the restored outer landscape and systems of Earth. Earth urgently calls us now, offering feedback, and permaculture teaches us to listen, to follow Earth’s lead, to act.



Permablitz for The Bees!

Local apiary property

Portland Permaculture Meetup





Portland, ME

Founded Nov 28, 2005

[About us...](#)

[+ Invite friends](#)

Permie's 2,363

Group reviews 198

Upcoming Meetups 29

Past Meetups 724

Our calendar



Learn skills. Make connections. Live well.

[+ SUGGEST A NEW MEETUP](#)

[Upcoming 29](#)

[Past](#)

[Calendar](#)

FEATURED MEETUP

2016 Maine Permaculture Design Certification Course - 5 Weekend Format

MOFGA Common Ground Education Center
294 Crosby Brook Road, Unity, ME (map)



Be part of creating a better future. A one-weekend-per-month format for the internationally-recognized full Permaculture Design Certificate Course, running June through September 2016. Typically sells out. 2016 MAINE LOCATION: We will return to MOFGA's beautiful and spacious facility in Unity Maine (2h drive from Portland). Co-sponsored by... [LEARN MORE](#)

Fri Jun 3

9:00 AM

[RSVP](#)

15 going

9 spots left

2 comments

Price:
\$250.00 deposit

What's new



[MORE](#)





APIARY ETIQUETTE

- Don't be afraid of the bees - they love life and do not want to sting you.
- DON'T SWAT if a bee approaches you. Don't even think about swatting.
- If you feel angry, WHISTLE. The bees don't understand your anger.

ABOVE ALL, send the bees LOVE
Every little thing in the world
wants to be loved.

← HÜGEL ← TRAIL BUILDING
← SWALES of COMFREY
VEG. GARDEN REHAB →
POLY CULTURES for Orchard Trees →













LIVING IN THE ENVIRONMENT

AP® EDITION

G. TYLER MILLER • SCOTT E. SPOLMAN



Environmental Science

Heithaus • Arms



Crops and Soil

Much of Earth's surface cannot be farmed. Only about 37 percent of Earth's land surface is agricultural, or land that can be used to grow crops. Urban areas occupy about 3 percent of Earth's land surface and are expanding, often into agricultural land. We need to use our remaining agricultural land as efficiently as possible for a to continue to grow enough food for the world while maintaining natural resources.

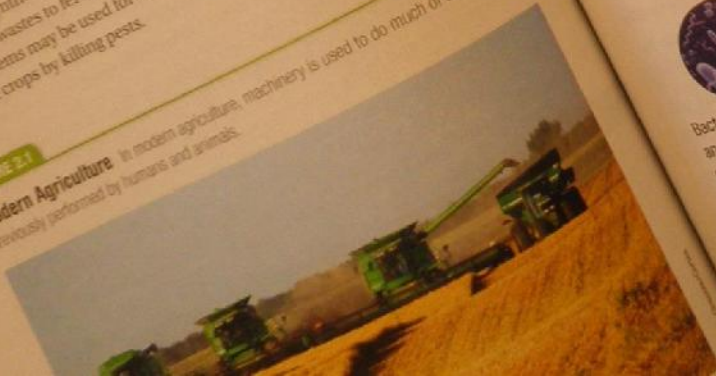
Agriculture: Traditional and Modern

The basic processes of farming include plowing, fertilization, irrigation, and pest control. In traditional agriculture, plows are pushed by the farmer or pulled by livestock. Plowing helps crops grow by mixing soil nutrients, loosening soil particles, and uprooting weeds. Organic fertilizers, such as manure, are used to enrich the soil so that plants grow strong and healthy. Fields are irrigated by water flowing through ditches. Weeds are removed by hand or machine. These traditional techniques have been used since the earliest days of farming, centuries before tractors and pesticides were invented.

In industrialized countries, the basic processes of farming are now carried out using modern agricultural methods. Machinery powered by fossil fuels is now used to plow the soil and harvest crops, as shown in Figure 2.1. Synthetic chemical fertilizers are now used instead of manure and plant wastes to fertilize soil. A variety of overhead sprinklers and drip systems may be used for irrigation. Synthetic chemicals are used to protect crops by killing pests.

FIGURE 2.1

Modern Agriculture In modern agriculture, machinery is used to do much of the work previously performed by humans and animals.



Fertile Soil: The Living Earth

Soil that can support the growth of healthy plants is called **fertile soil**. Plant roots grow in **topsoil**, the surface layer of soil, which is usually richer in organic matter than the subsoil is. Fertile topsoil is made up of living organisms, rocks, water, air, and organic matter, such as dead organisms.

Most soil starts to form when rock is broken down into smaller and smaller fragments by wind, water, and chemical weathering. Chemical substances such as water to form new materials. Temperature changes and moisture cause rock to crack and break apart, which creates smaller particles on which the seeds of pioneer plants fall and take root. The dead material from plants and other organisms add to the soil. It can take hundreds or even thousands of years to form a few centimeters of soil.

Other processes also help to produce fertile topsoil. The rock particles they decompose dead plants and organic debris, and add more nutrients to the soil. Earthworms, insects, and other small animals help plants grow by breaking up the soil and allowing air and water into it. As you can see in Figure 2.2, several layers of soil lie under the topsoil. The bottom layer is **bedrock**, which is the solid rock from which most soil originally forms.

FIGURE 2.2

Soil Profile Soil is made of rock particles, air, water, and dead and living organisms. The number and characteristics of the soil layers may be different in different types of soil.

Arts and earthworms break up and aerate the soil.



Bacteria and fungi decompose organic matter.



Rhizobium bacteria produce fixed nitrogen.

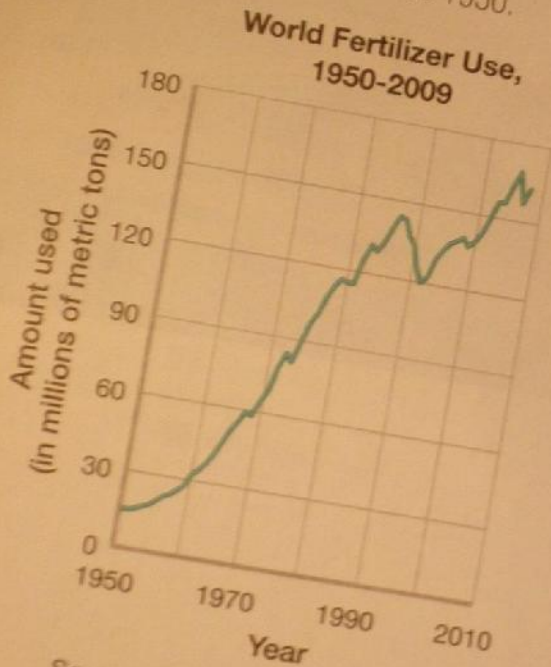


- Surface litter** fallen leaves and partially decomposed organic matter
- Topsoil** organic matter, living organisms, and rock particles
- Zone of leaching** dissolved or suspended materials moving downward
- Subsoil** larger rock particles with organic matter, and inorganic compounds
- Rock particles** rock that has undergone weathering
- Bedrock** solid rock layer

CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING
Identify Name two processes that help to make soil fertile.

FIGURE 2.6

World Fertilizer Use The use of inorganic fertilizers has increased dramatically worldwide since 1950.



Source: Earth Policy Institute

Enriching the Soil

In traditional farming, the soil is enriched by adding organic matter, such as manure and leaves, to the soil. As the organic matter decomposes, it adds nutrients to the soil and improves the texture of the soil. Modern farming uses inorganic fertilizers that contain nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. These fertilizers have changed farming methods. Without these fertilizers, crop production would be less than half of what it is today. Over the past 50 years, the use of such fertilizers has increased rapidly, as shown in Figure 2.6.

A modern method of enriching the soil is to use both organic and inorganic fertilizers by adding compost and chemical fertilizers to the soil. **Compost** is partly decomposed organic material. Compost can be made from many sources. For example, you can buy composted cow manure at a garden store. Also, many cities and industries now compost yard and crop wastes. This compost is sold to farmers and gardeners. The composting process is saving costly landfill space.

Salinization

The accumulation of salts in the soil is known as **salinization** (sal-uh-nay-zay shuhn). Salinization is a major problem in places such as the Middle East, California, and Arizona, which have low rainfall and naturally salty soil. In these areas, irrigation water comes from rivers or groundwater. The water is saltier than rainwater. When water evaporates, the salts are left behind. Eventually, the soil becomes so salty that crops cannot grow.

MAKING YOUR OWN COMPOST HEAP

Why on Earth would you want to pile a bunch of garbage in your yard and let it rot? Okay, so the idea may sound a little crazy, but it's actually a very good one—especially if you're serious about it.

Compost is the natural product of Earth's organic recycling process. When a dead organism decomposes, nutrients are returned to the soil. A compost heap is a collection of organic materials such as leaves, grass, and fruit peelings that will decompose over time to create rich, fertile soil. By making your own compost heap, you can reduce the amount of waste you send to the local landfill and create an excellent natural fertilizer for your garden.

There are many opinions on how to construct the best compost heap—it can be as basic or as fancy as you like. Either way, composting is easy, and it's almost impossible to foul up the process.

A compost heap can be placed just about anywhere in the yard. Either a sunny or a shady spot will be fine. You will want to keep it out of the way of normal activity, however.

Many people choose a spot on a concrete slab or a grassy area and then simply pile their materials there. This method is easy and effective.

A compost heap contains a mishmash of many different organic materials. Most of your heap will probably consist of grass clippings and leaves. You can also add raw vegetables, other uncooked food scraps, coffee grounds, tea bags, cotton, dust, discarded plants, and weeds. Avoid adding pet manure, cooked foods, and meat of any kind. If you add raw food wastes, cover them with leaves to keep away flies and to prevent an unpleasant odor.

Your heap will begin to decompose through the action of microorganisms. It's a good idea to shovel a couple of scoops of soil from your yard into the heap. The microorganisms in the soil will immediately begin decomposing the items in the heap.

By making your own compost heap, you can reduce the amount of waste you send to the local landfill and create an excellent natural fertilizer for your garden.

You may choose to keep your compost pile in a ready-made container similar to this one.



Compost Heap Container



Loose wire can be twisted around two sections of chicken wire to create a "door" for easy turning.

You can build this container for your compost heap with a few materials from your local hardware store.

Layers of a Compost Heap

- Leaves and other clippings
- Grass and kitchen wastes
- Soil from your garden
- Leaves and grass clippings
- Small tree branches and logs



Turn the heap at least once a month to keep it well aerated and active. After the organic matter has broken down to the point that no single item is recognizable, it's ready to work into your garden's soil. The entire process can take anywhere from two months to one year, depending on the kinds of materials being decomposed and how often the heap is turned. Composting is more of an art than a science, so be prepared to experiment!

Compost Container

If you choose to construct your compost pile, you will be able to add more materials to a smaller area. This can help a ready-made container from a hardware store or you can build one yourself.

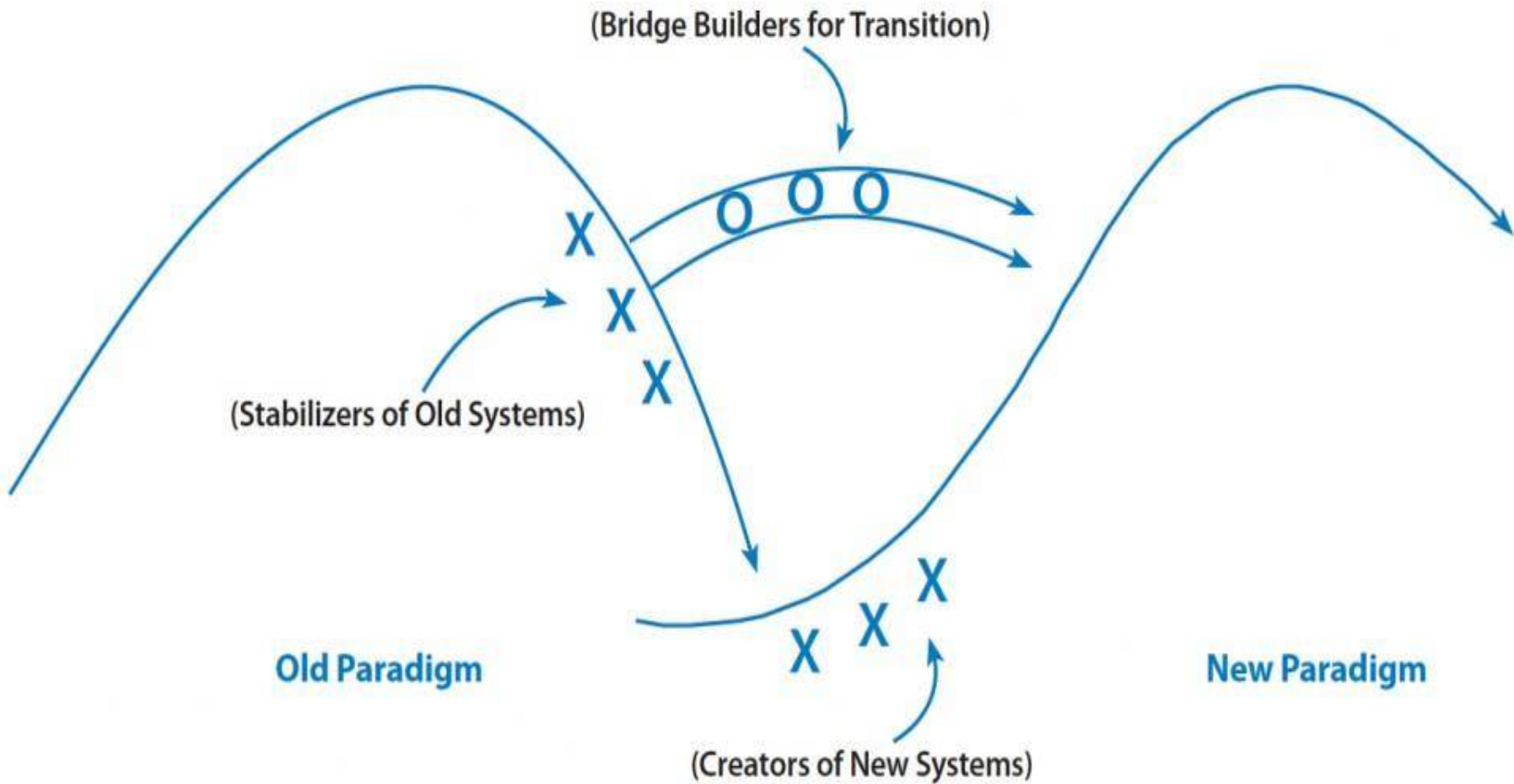
If you decide to build one, you may wish to use metal stakes and chicken wire to create a container like the one shown at left. Keep in mind, however, that as long as the container allows air to get to and out, the type of container you choose is limited only by your imagination!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Consult your library for a manual on composting. You might find one of these helpful.

The Complete Compost Gardening Guide, by Barbara Pleasant and Deborah L. Martin. North Adams, Massachusetts: Barbara Pleasant and Deborah L. Martin, 2008.

Learn to Compost: 50 Easy Tips to Turn You into the Master Composter, by Glen Munnier. Glen Munnier, 2012.

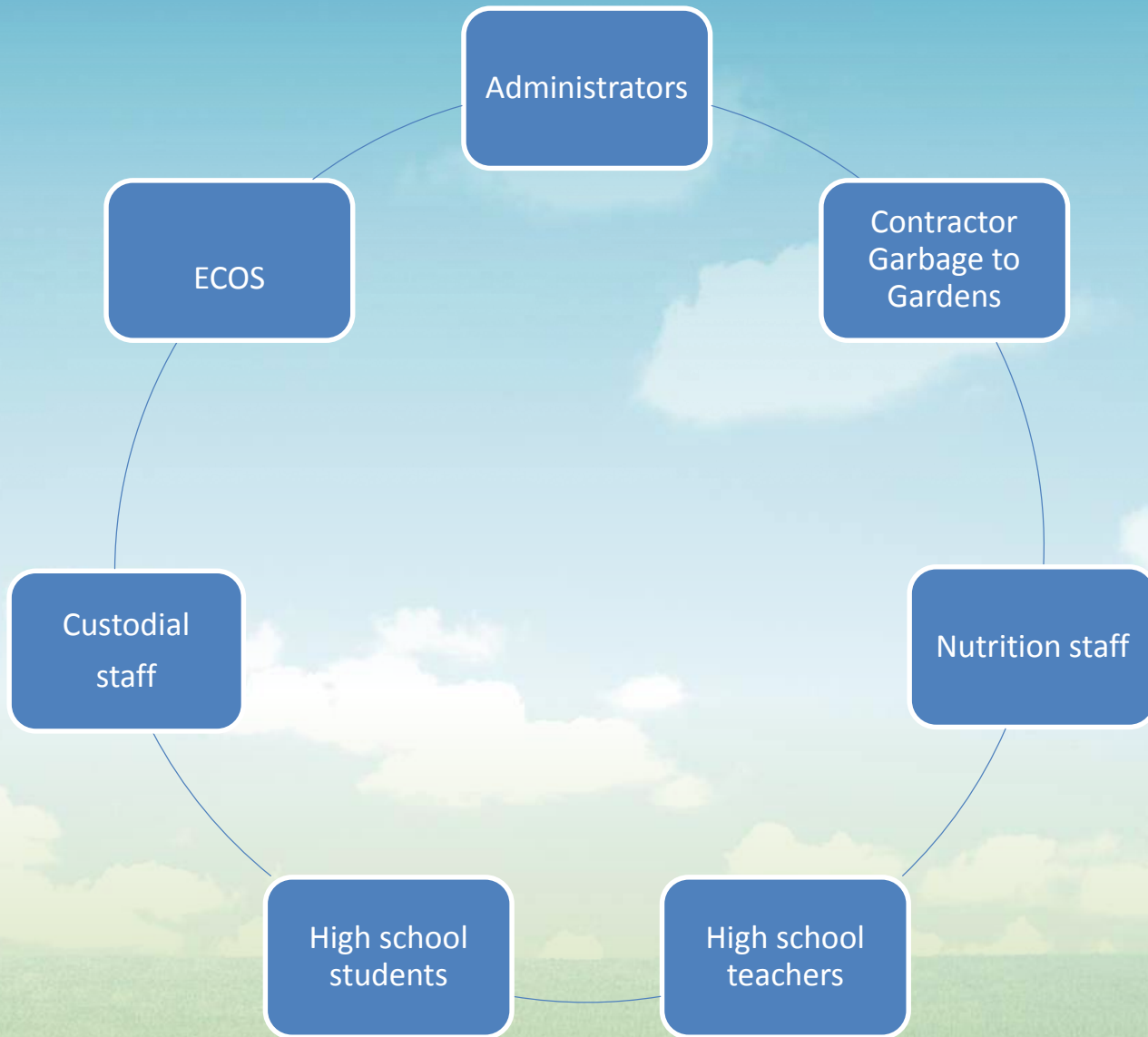


Two Hoops Transition Model, Bob Steigler, www.newstories.org



Top reasons to compost

- ✓ 35 million tons of **food waste** per year ends up in US landfills and incinerators
- ✓ **Landfills and incinerators contribute to climate change.** Landfills take up space, emit methane, and contribute to greenhouse gases; incinerators leave toxic ash waste and release carbon dioxide
- ✓ **Composting reduces climate change** by acting as a carbon sink, absorbing carbon
- ✓ Compost is Nature's life-sustaining **Black Gold**, feeding plants, which feed us
- ✓ Add compost to your garden or lawn **instead of synthetic chemical fertilizers and pesticides**
- ✓ Compost doesn't negatively impact **human health and the environment**, or create artificial plant dependencies like synthetic chemical fertilizers and pesticides
- ✓ Composting does not pollute groundwater, **enhances soil's ability to retain water**, reduces the need for irrigation, and protects against erosion
- ✓ Compost restores healthy soil biology/microbial activity, promoting a complex, living underground **soil web of life**
- ✓ **Enhanced soil biology/microbial activity** adds soil nutrients, combats plant disease, and grows healthier food
- ✓ **Imagine...** turning old apple cores, tea bags, coffee grounds and paper plates into sweet carrots, juicy tomatoes and strawberries!
- ✓ Remember **Great Grandma's garden**she knew best after all!
- ✓ **Combat global warming with out even leaving the high school cafeteria!**





Top reasons to compost

WHY COMPOST?

Why not?

WHY COMPOST?

Why Compost?

YAY!
Biotray

Compost
Me!

COMPOSTING
LET'S DO THIS!



\$

Top reasons to comp

- ✓ 35 million tons of **food waste** per year ends up in US
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- ✓ Compost doesn't negatively impact **human health** and it helps create artificial plant dependencies like synthetic fertilizers and pesticides
- ✓ Composting does not pollute groundwater, **enhances water quality**, reduces the need for irrigation, and protects soil
- ✓ Compost restores healthy soil biology/microbial activity and creates a living underground **soil web of life**
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- ✓ Remember **Great Gramma's garden** ...she knew
- ✓ **Combat global warming** with out even leaving the house

WHY COMPOST?
to end use
of synthetic
fertilizers!

plants
want real
food!



WHY COMPOST?
IT'S



COMPOSTING
LET'S DO THIS!



WHY COMPOST?

X to landfill?
X to incinerator?
😊 to compost pile?



COMPOSTING
ME!

We
are
done
with
Styro!!

COMPOST

ALL FOOD & LIQUIDS!
CARD BOARD BOXES (NO STAINERS)
TEA BAGS, NAPKINS
COMPOSTABLE TRAYS
PAPER PRODUCTS W/ NO LINERS

Compost This

paper with NO
sticker ok

**CANS
BOTTLES**

EMPTY LIQUID INTO COMPOST FIRST!

TRASH

WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT!

RECYCLING

Coming soon, another bin for...

...single use like at home!





ecomaine





You, Earth, its systems and all living things are One.

How will that change how you live your life?

What legacy will you leave your children and grandchildren?



***...and will that
include composting?***



CREDITS

The background of the slide is a landscape photograph. The bottom third of the image shows a lush green field, possibly a crop field, extending to a flat horizon line. Above the horizon, the sky is a clear, bright blue, filled with several fluffy white cumulus clouds of varying sizes. The overall scene is bright and open.



KITCHEN GARDENERS
INTERNATIONAL



WORM MAINEA