

Soil Carbon Restoration – Take Action

How can you take action in your own life to restore carbon to the soil and help rebuild the marvelous system that nature has put in place to renew our atmosphere?

Below are just a few of meaningful action steps for farmers, gardeners and homeowners, landscape managers, consumers and businesses, activists and educators, and policy makers to take. We will be editing and building on this list regularly, so check back often.

Farmers

- Plant nitrogen fixing cover crops and living row paths.
- Incorporate no-till or shallow till practices.
- Recycle biomass with livestock (grazers, browsers, compost to poultry).
- Replace pesticides and fungicides with diverse beneficial organisms.
- Incorporate perennials or pasture cropping into your farm plan.

Gardener/Homeowner

- Plant your lawn with diverse species, including deep rooted grasses and nitrogen fixing species like clover.
- Mow, cut back, and/or heavily mulch over weeds instead of pulling.
- Incorporate multi-layer, perennial, diverse plantings into your yard.
- Compost, rather than burn, your yard waste.
- Plant nitrogen fixing cover crops and living row paths.

Landscape Manager

- Emphasize perennials in plantings and fill in gaps with annuals.
- Minimize the use of pavement and unproductive mulch.
- Incorporate nitrogen fixing trees and perennials into the landscape.
- Maintain diverse forested buffers and perimeters (can be productive).
- Mow, cut back, and/or heavily mulch over weeds instead of pulling.

Consumer, Investor, Funder or Business

- Purchase food from farmers that use regenerative and organic practices.
- Stop buying from/supporting large scale, conventionally grown soy, corn, canola and cotton products which use synthetic nitrogen and persistent herbicides, contributing to massive soil loss every year.
- Compost your kitchen waste.

- Consume only 100% grass-fed and pasture raised meats, looking for farmers and ranchers prioritizing soil building.
- Invest your food dollars in local farmers building soil, invest your climate action donations and advocacy into reforestation and reversing desertification (rehydrating the land) locally and globally.

Activist/Educator

- Advocate against factory animal operations and for properly managed grass and pasture based farming.
- Support replanting your local environment, support diverse meadows and deep rooted grass landscapes
- Get to know diverse plants and biodiverse ecosystems in your region.
- Invest your climate action donations and advocacy into reforestation and reversing desertification (rehydrating the land) locally and globally.
- Study soil microbe biodiversity and support composting everywhere.

Policy Maker

- Rule out synthetic nitrogen fertilizers on athletic fields, institutional and public park lands.
- Prioritize climate funding for carbon farmers and ecosystem restoration.
- Align local building codes with biodiversity and habitat regeneration and protection.
- Emphasize development projects that regenerate, preserve, and do not destroy soil ecosystems.
- Prioritize green infrastructure for coastal and inland flood management.