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O is for rganic Lands

Finding a solution to global warming is really hard to do!

There is too much carbon dioxide(CO_2) in this planet's air so it's causing Earth to heat up. Even if we stop using fossil fuels like oil and coal, Earth will continue to warm because of CO_2 already in the air. This will cause melting of our Arctic's frozen soil which will release even more CO_2 . We must find ways to remove CO_2 from our atmosphere.

Bad farming practices are a major cause of climate change. For thousands of years people have been cutting down CO_{2^-} absorbing plants and forests to create more farming land. As this happens CO_2 stored in soil releases into The air.



Big agricultural farming methods ("big ag") use these methods and other bad practices to create even more carbon release into the air. "Big ag" uses pesticides. Land sprayed with pesticides destroys both good and bad bugs. Good microbes, bacteria, insects and more are needed to keep soil healthy. Healthy soil absorbs (sucks in) and stores huge amounts of CO_2 .

Another reason the soil on Earth can't absorb CO_2 is because so much of it is covered with homes, buildings, concrete or asphalt parking lots and roads.





Carbon Sequestration

The words "carbon sequestration" sound hard to understand but what they stand for is very important When we sequester (store) carbon in soil, we keep it away from Earth's air. Organic land from an organic style of farming can work miracles. Healthy soil teaming with organisms will pull in carbon to use and store. All plants and organic lands will absorb tons of CO_2 . This will help cool the Earth.

How Can Kids Help Store Carbon Dioxide in Soil?

You can be a part of this important way to lower the amount of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere to slow global warming.

1. Write your government leaders to tell them to develop programs to help farmers use organic farming methods.

2. Learn how to garden organically. Check out <u>KSE's Action Program Organic</u> <u>Gardening.</u>

3. Create organic lawns and gardens in your community to absorb more CO_2 .

4. Write to corporations like Target Stores. Tell them to create parking areas that have lots of open space with soil and plants to slow global warming.



Rodale and Organic Farming.

http://rodaleinstitute.org/reversing-climate-change-achievable-byfarming-organically/

Soil Will Save Us http://rodaleinstitute.org/shop/the-soil-will-save-us/

YouTube of author Kriston Ohlson Sail Will Save US https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SP_t-kOO_R4

Floor of the Forest

http://www.dailyliked.net/fantastic-fungi/

Organic farming and sequestration

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21141778

http://www.strauscom.com/rodale-whitepaper/

http://www.treehugger.com/corporate-responsibility/organic-farming-could-stop-global-climate-change.html

Soil Carbon Restoration http://www.nofamass.org/sites/default/files/2015_White_Paper_web.p df

Building Soils: Sierra Club http://www.sierraclub.org/loma-prieta/soils-committee/building-soils

Plants and Carbon Sequestration https://www.nps.gov/teachers/classrooms/carbon-sinks.htm