

Chapter 1 : What Does Sustainable Food Mean? | Home Guides | SF Gate

From chik'n fried chik'n to biscuits & gravy, your favorite Texas Southern comfort food lives here. Vegan, plant-based, kosher & more, we've got something wholesome & hearty for y'all.

Designing eco-friendly packaging that can keep products fresh and endure temperature changes that come with cooking can be a challenge. Packaging companies told Food Dive they recently made moves to offer sustainable options with water-based ink and more compostable packaging, but have faced obstacles along the way. While some brands are aiming to only appear more sustainable, others are making slow efforts to be eco-friendly with new innovations and products. For major food and beverage companies, the higher cost of sustainable materials and the struggle to keep food fresh are barriers. These materials also tend to be less effective in maintaining freshness, since packaging companies say plastic can have a tighter seal and keep out air better than other materials. Instead of paying more for eco-friendly materials, companies have been picking material, like kraft paper, that looks more sustainable to consumers, he added. Leach said the products that appear to be more green do sell better. But some companies are still making an effort to pay more for eco-friendly packaging despite the challenges. When will sustainable be the norm? So the challenge for packaging manufacturers becomes determining what new innovations and materials are the best investments. Randall LaVeau, business development manager at Interpress Technologies, which manufactures formed paperboard and plastic food packaging products, told Food Dive there is a huge push for more recycling in the marketplace. In fact, a recent report identified Coca-Cola, PepsiCo and Nestle as businesses contributing most to pollution. New innovations in sustainable packages Several companies have developed more sustainable options this year. Other companies are working to find new ways to help the environment. Wayne Shilka, vice president of innovation and technical support at Eagle Flexible Packaging, a printer of packaging in Chicago, has prioritized offering more sustainable options to their customers. Only one customer ended up using the compostable product because it cost more any other packaging option the company offered. Every year since, a few more customers have worked with them to outfit their products with compostable material, Shilka said. As more companies turn to compostable and sustainable packaging, the price will come down and make it more appealing, Shilka added. Flexible packaging "which is any package whose shape can be readily changed, such as bags and pouches" is popular. Representatives at packaging companies said flexible packaging can be an issue for sustainability since it has multilayer films with plastic and paper that need to be separated to be recycled. LaVeau said most of his products are "recyclable to an extent" because of the layers. Green Rush Packaging has the same issue. Abner Guzman Flexible packaging can also provide a higher product-to-package ratio, which creates fewer emissions during transportation and ultimately uses less space in landfills. He said flexible packaging is a sustainable option because it uses up less energy and prolongs the shelf life of the food so it eliminates food waste. However, many of those laws have not impacted the food packaging industry. Vancouver, Canada has adopted a ban on the distribution of polystyrene foam cups and containers, as well as restrictions on disposable cups and plastic shopping bags. As countries around the world change their packaging to adjust to these sustainability goals, Reinders said U. And as more CPG makers start mass producing sustainable options around the world, he said it will drive prices down globally. The more the big guys get into it, the better it will be.

Chapter 2 : California Medical Marijuana Delivery - Green Cuisine

In , the United Nations reported on "Organic Agriculture and Food Security", stating that using organic and sustainable agriculture could be used as a tool to reach global food security without expanding land usage and reducing environmental impacts.

The incorporation of biological and ecological processes into agricultural and food production practices. For example, these processes could include nutrient cycling , soil regeneration , and nitrogen fixation. Using decreased amounts of non-renewable and unsustainable inputs, particularly the ones that are environmentally harmful. Using the expertise of farmers to both productively work the land as well as to promote the self-reliance and self-sufficiency of farmers. Solving agricultural and natural resource problems through the cooperation and collaboration of people with different skills. The problems tackled include pest management and irrigation. Farming and natural resources[edit] Traditional farming methods had a low carbon footprint. Sustainable agriculture can be understood as an ecosystem approach to agriculture. Long-term experiments have provided some of the best data on how various practices affect soil properties essential to sustainability. In the United States a federal agency, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, specializes in providing technical and financial assistance for those interested in pursuing natural resource conservation and production agriculture as compatible goals. Conservation farming in Zambia The most important factors for an individual site are sun, air, soil, nutrients , and water. Of the five, water and soil quality and quantity are most amenable to human intervention through time and labor. Although air and sunlight are available everywhere on Earth, crops also depend on soil nutrients and the availability of water. When farmers grow and harvest crops, they remove some of these nutrients from the soil. Without replenishment, land suffers from nutrient depletion and becomes either unusable or suffers from reduced yields. Sustainable agriculture depends on replenishing the soil while minimizing the use or need of non-renewable resources, such as natural gas used in converting atmospheric nitrogen into synthetic fertilizer , or mineral ores e. Possible sources of nitrogen that would, in principle, be available indefinitely, include: The last option was proposed in the s, but is only gradually becoming feasible. More realistic, and often overlooked, options include long-term crop rotations , returning to natural cycles that annually flood cultivated lands returning lost nutrients indefinitely such as the flooding of the Nile , the long-term use of biochar , and use of crop and livestock landraces that are adapted to less than ideal conditions such as pests, drought, or lack of nutrients. Crops that require high levels of soil nutrients can be cultivated in a more sustainable manner with appropriate fertilizer management practices. Water[edit] In some areas sufficient rainfall is available for crop growth, but many other areas require irrigation. For irrigation systems to be sustainable, they require proper management to avoid salinization and must not use more water from their source than is naturally replenishable. Otherwise, the water source effectively becomes a non-renewable resource. Improvements in water well drilling technology and submersible pumps , combined with the development of drip irrigation and low-pressure pivots, have made it possible to regularly achieve high crop yields in areas where reliance on rainfall alone had previously made successful agriculture unpredictable. However, this progress has come at a price. In many areas, such as the Ogallala Aquifer , the water is being used faster than it can be replenished. Several steps must be taken to develop drought-resistant farming systems even in "normal" years with average rainfall. These measures include both policy and management actions: Indicators for sustainable water resource development are: This is the average annual flow of rivers and groundwater generated from endogenous precipitation, after ensuring that there is no double counting. It represents the maximum amount of water resource produced within the boundaries of a country. This value, which is expressed as an average on a yearly basis, is invariant in time except in the case of proved climate change. The indicator can be expressed in three different units: This is the sum of internal renewable water resources and incoming flow originating outside the country. Unlike internal resources, this value can vary with time if upstream development reduces water availability at the border. Treaties ensuring a specific flow to be reserved from upstream to downstream countries may be taken into account in the computation of global water resources in both countries. This is the proportion of the global

renewable water resources originating outside the country, expressed in percentage. It is an expression of the level to which the water resources of a country depend on neighbouring countries. In view of the limitations described above, only gross water withdrawal can be computed systematically on a country basis as a measure of water use. When expressed in percentage of water resources, it shows the degree of pressure on water resources. A rough estimate shows that if water withdrawal exceeds a quarter of global renewable water resources of a country, water can be considered a limiting factor to development and, reciprocally, the pressure on water resources can affect all sectors, from agriculture to environment and fisheries. Experts predict that crop yields will be halved within thirty to fifty years if erosion continues at present rates. Without efforts to improve soil management practices, the availability of arable soil will become increasingly problematic. Intensive agriculture reduces the carbon level in soil, impairing soil structure, crop growth and ecosystem functioning, [12] and accelerating climate change. It is the second most important nutrient for plant after nitrogen, [16] and is often a limiting factor. It is needed for root ramification and strength and seed formation, and can increase disease resistance. A way to make rock phosphate more effective and last longer is to implement microbial inoculants such as phosphate-solubilizing microorganisms, known as PSMs. Peak farmland As the global population increases and demand for food increases, there is pressure on land resources. In land use planning and management, considering the impacts of land use changes on factors such as soil erosion can support long-term agricultural sustainability, as shown by a study of Wadi Ziqlab, a dry area in the Middle East where farmers graze livestock and grow olives, vegetables, and grains. And although expansion of agricultural land can decrease biodiversity and contribute to deforestation, the picture is complex; for instance, a study examining the introduction of sheep by Norse settlers Vikings to the Faroe Islands of the North Atlantic concluded that, over time, the fine partitioning of land plots contributed more to soil erosion and degradation than grazing itself. In Europe, one such tool is a geo-spatial data system called SoilConsWeb [29] which is being developed to inform soil conservation minded decision making within agricultural sectors and other areas of land management. In industrial agriculture, energy is used in on-farm mechanisation, food processing, storage, and transportation processes. The International Energy Agency projects higher prices of non-renewable energy resources as a result of fossil fuel resources being depleted. It may also generate negative externality, such as pollution as well as financial and production costs. There are several studies incorporating these negative externalities in an economic analysis concerning ecosystem services, biodiversity, land degradation and sustainable land management. These include The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity study led by Pavan Sukhdev and the Economics of Land Degradation Initiative which seeks to establish an economic cost benefit analysis on the practice of sustainable land management and sustainable agriculture. The way that crops are sold must be accounted for in the sustainability equation. Food sold locally does not require additional energy for transportation including consumers. Pursuing sustainable agriculture results in many localized benefits. Having the opportunities to sell products directly to consumers, rather than at wholesale or commodity prices, allows farmers to bring in optimal profit. Triple bottom line frameworks including social and environmental aspects alongside the financial show that a sustainable company can be technologically and economically feasible. For this to happen, growth in material consumption and population need to be slowed down and there has to be a drastic increase in the efficiency of material and energy use. To make that transition, long- and short-term goals will need to be balanced enhancing equity and quality of life. Two of the many possible practices of sustainable agriculture are crop rotation and soil amendment, both designed to ensure that crops being cultivated can obtain the necessary nutrients for healthy growth. Soil amendments would include using locally available compost from community recycling centers. These community recycling centers help produce the compost needed by the local organic farms. These resources in the past were thrown away into large waste disposal sites, are now used to produce low cost organic compost for organic farming. Other practices includes growing a diverse number of perennial crops in a single field, each of which would grow in separate season so as not to compete with each other for natural resources. Nitrogen fixation from legumes, for example, used in conjunction with plants that rely on nitrate from soil for growth, helps to allow the land to be reused annually. Legumes will grow for a season and replenish the soil with ammonium and nitrate, and the next season other plants can be

seeded and grown in the field in preparation for harvest. Rotational grazing with pasture divided into paddocks

Monoculture, a method of growing only one crop at a time in a given field, is a very widespread practice, but there are questions about its sustainability, especially if the same crop is grown every year. Today it is realized to get around this problem local cities and farms can work together to produce the needed compost for the farmers around them. This combined with growing a mixture of crops polyculture sometimes reduces disease or pest problems [37] but polyculture has rarely, if ever, been compared to the more widespread practice of growing different crops in successive years crop rotation with the same overall crop diversity. Such methods may also support sustainable weed management in that the development of herbicide-resistant weeds is reduced. Replacing a natural ecosystem with a few specifically chosen plant varieties reduces the genetic diversity found in wildlife and makes the organisms susceptible to widespread disease. The Great Irish Famine " is a well-known example of the dangers of monoculture. In practice, there is no single approach to sustainable agriculture, as the precise goals and methods must be adapted to each individual case. There may be some techniques of farming that are inherently in conflict with the concept of sustainability, but there is widespread misunderstanding on effects of some practices. This will help move people away from the slash-and-burn or slash-and-char techniques that are the characteristic feature of shifting cultivation. These are often cited as inherently destructive, yet slash-and-burn cultivation has been practiced in the Amazon for at least years. Some of the key tools to grazing management include fencing off the grazing area into smaller areas called paddocks, lowering stock density, and moving the stock between paddocks frequently. The capacity for ecosystem services to be strong enough to allow a reduction in use of synthetic, non renewable inputs whilst maintaining or even boosting yields has been the subject of much debate. Different methods are available to induce steam into the soil in order to kill pests and increase soil health. Solarizing is based on the same principle, used to increase the temperature of the soil to kill pathogens and pests. Mustard, radishes, and other plants in the brassica family are best known for this effect. Off-farm impacts[edit] A farm that is able to "produce perpetually", yet has negative effects on environmental quality elsewhere is not sustainable agriculture. An example of a case in which a global view may be warranted is over-application of synthetic fertilizer or animal manures, which can improve productivity of a farm but can pollute nearby rivers and coastal waters eutrophication. The other extreme can also be undesirable, as the problem of low crop yields due to exhaustion of nutrients in the soil has been related to rainforest destruction, as in the case of slash and burn farming for livestock feed. In Asia, specific land for sustainable farming is about In some cases even a small unit of aquaculture is also included in this number AARI Increased production may come from creating new farmland, which may ameliorate carbon dioxide emissions if done through reclamation of desert as in Israel and Palestine, or may worsen emissions if done through slash and burn farming, as in Brazil. Climate change and agriculture As the Earth is entering the Anthropocene, an epoch characterized by human impacts such as climate change, agriculture and agricultural development are at risk. Agriculture has an enormous environmental footprint, and is simultaneously leading to huge amounts of environmental changes globally and being hugely impacted by these global changes. This is complicated by the fact that the Earth is undergoing rising amounts of environmental risks. Sustainable agriculture provides a potential solution to enable agricultural systems to feed a growing population while successfully operating within the changing environmental conditions. Another way to define sustainable agriculture is to give attention to the "human and environmental aspects," [46] because of the turn to a more unsustainable way of farming in U. During the Great Depression in the United States many farming families were living in subhuman and hungry conditions and treated "sustainability as a resource-input and food-output equation. There has been evidence provided by developing nations from the early s stating that when people in their communities are not factored into the agricultural process that serious harm is done. The social scientist Charles Kellogg has stated that, "In a final effort, exploited people pass their suffering to the land.

Chapter 3 : Sustainable Food | HuffPost

Sustainability is the process of maintaining change in a balanced fashion, in which the exploitation of resources, the direction of investments, the orientation of technological development and institutional change are all in harmony and enhance both current and future potential to meet human needs and aspirations.

Sustainable development The name sustainability is derived from the Latin *sustinere tenere*, to hold; sub, under. Sustain can mean "maintain", "support", or "endure". Components[edit] Three dimensions of sustainability[edit] A diagram indicating the relationship between the "three pillars of sustainability", in which both economy and society are constrained by environmental limits [18] Venn diagram of sustainable development: One such pillar is future generations, which emphasizes the long-term thinking associated with sustainability. A study from pointed out that environmental justice is as important as sustainable development. The simple definition that sustainability is something that improves "the quality of human life while living within the carrying capacity of supporting eco-systems", [34] though vague, conveys the idea of sustainability having quantifiable limits. But sustainability is also a call to action, a task in progress or "journey" and therefore a political process, so some definitions set out common goals and values. More than that, sustainability implies responsible and proactive decision-making and innovation that minimizes negative impact and maintains balance between ecological resilience, economic prosperity, political justice and cultural vibrancy to ensure a desirable planet for all species now and in the future. More recently, using a systematic domain model that responds to the debates over the last decade, the Circles of Sustainability approach distinguished four domains of economic, ecological, political and cultural sustainability ; [42] this in accord with the United Nations , Unesco , Agenda 21 , and in particular the Agenda 21 for culture which specifies culture as the fourth domain of sustainable development. Rather, it involves treating all four domainsâ€”economy, ecology, politics and cultureâ€”as social including economics and distinguishing between ecology as the intersection of the human and natural worlds and environment as that which goes far beyond what we as humans can ever know. Human sustainability can be achieved by attaining sustainability in all levels of the seven modalities. Shaping the future[edit] Integral elements of sustainability are research and innovation activities. A telling example is the European environmental research and innovation policy. It aims at defining and implementing a transformative agenda to greening the economy and the society as a whole so to make them sustainable. Research and innovation in Europe are financially supported by the programme Horizon , which is also open to participation worldwide. Additionally, instigating innovative and sustainable travel and transportation solutions must play a vital role in this process. Resilience-thinking evolved from the need to manage interactions between human-constructed systems and natural ecosystems in a sustainable way despite the fact that to policymakers a definition remains elusive. It is also concerned with commitment from geopolitical policymakers to promote and manage essential planetary ecological resources in order to promote resilience and achieve sustainability of these essential resources for benefit of future generations of life? In nature, the accounting occurs naturally through a process of adaptation as an ecosystem returns to viability from an external disturbance. The adaptation is a multi-stage process that begins with the disturbance event earthquake, volcanic eruption, hurricane, tornado, flood, or thunderstorm , followed by absorption , utilization , or deflection of the energy or energies that the external forces created. History of sustainability The history of sustainability traces human-dominated ecological systems from the earliest civilizations to the present day. Coal was used to power ever more efficient engines and later to generate electricity. Modern sanitation systems and advances in medicine protected large populations from disease. In the late 20th century, environmental problems became global in scale. In the 21st century, there is increasing global awareness of the threat posed by the human greenhouse effect , produced largely by forest clearing and the burning of fossil fuels. The focus ranges from the total carrying capacity sustainability of planet Earth to the sustainability of economic sectors, ecosystems, countries, municipalities, neighbourhoods, home gardens, individual lives, individual goods and services[clarification needed], occupations, lifestyles, behaviour patterns and so on. In short, it can entail the full compass of biological and human activity or any part of it. To shed light on the big

picture, explorer and sustainability campaigner Jason Lewis has drawn parallels to other, more tangible closed systems. The environmental impact of a community or of humankind as a whole depends both on population and impact per person, which in turn depends in complex ways on what resources are being used, whether or not those resources are renewable, and the scale of the human activity relative to the carrying capacity of the ecosystems involved. Careful resource management can be applied at many scales, from economic sectors like agriculture, manufacturing and industry, to work organizations, the consumption patterns of households and individuals and to the resource demands of individual goods and services. This formulation attempts to explain human consumption in terms of three components: The equation is expressed: The most prominent among these concepts might be the Circular Economy, with its comprehensive support by the Chinese and the European Union. There is also a broad range of similar concepts or schools of thought, including cradle-to-cradle laws of ecology, looped and performance economy, regenerative design, industrial ecology, biomimicry, and the blue economy. These concepts seem intuitively to be more sustainable than the current linear economic system. The reduction of resource inputs into and waste and emission leakage out of the system reduces resource depletion and environmental pollution. However, these simple assumptions are not sufficient to deal with the involved systemic complexity and disregards potential trade-offs. For example, the social dimension of sustainability seems to be only marginally addressed in many publications on the Circular Economy, and there are cases that require different or additional strategies, like purchasing new, more energy efficient equipment. Sustainability measurement Sustainability measurement is the quantitative basis for the informed management of sustainability. They are applied over a wide range of spatial and temporal scales. Companies such as Lief www.lief.com.

Chapter 4 : Green Cuisine - Stone Harbor NJ

Green Cuisine Delivery Santa Barbara is a cannabis delivery service serving the Santa Barbara, Ca area. See their menu, reviews, deals, and photos.

Geoffrey Golson Author Manager: He earned his Ph. He is General Editor of the Encyclopedia of Environment and Society and author of several books, including Environment and Society: A Critical Introduction , Lawn People: A Critical Introduction He and his students seek to explain human environmental practices and knowledge, the influence nonhumans have on human behavior and organization, and the implications these interactions hold for ecosystem health, local community, and social justice. Past projects have examined chemical use in the suburban United States, elk management in Montana, forest product collection in New England, and wolf conservation in India. Green Food General Editor: His current research focuses on the construction metrics that characterize the life cycle impacts of emerging renewable energy technologies. He is interested in how life cycle assessments focus on material and energy flows and exclude people from the analysis, and how these metrics are used to influence investment, policy, and social resistance. Mulvaney also draws on his dissertation research on agricultural biotechnology governance to inform how policies to mitigate risks of genetically engineered biofuels are shaped by investors, policy-makers, scientists, and social movements. Mulvaney holds a Ph. Less common now are the pastoral ways in which we have come to imagine agriculture, such as the images found on a milk carton. Agriculture and the food system have become thoroughly industrialized and increasingly globalized. A plentiful supply of cheap fossil fuels has helped to power mechanization, produce the fertilizers and pesticides, and lengthen distance from farm to plate. The result is a carbon-intensive food system that keeps food prices cheap, while large retailers and processors continue to extract value from farmers at increasing margins. The result of this transformation is an agrifood system with an enormous productive capacity, but one that causes considerable environmental burdens and that has exacerbated problems with poverty and food distribution. The extent to which our agricultural system has become dependent on fossil fuel-based fertilizers; highly mechanized planting, harvesting, and processing; and high-tech seed has changed significantly the systems on which past agricultural practices depended. Our existing food and agricultural production systems have a long list of environmental and social impacts that suggest the need for a more sustainable agrifood system. Not only are there these externalities cause by agricultural production, but the resource intensity of the industrial food system overall could be undermining its future prosperity. For example, most agricultural soils, once rotated out of production, and once enriched with nearby farm animals, are now treated with chemicals intending to kill all of the living matter in the soil. The soil, far from its previous state as a collection of carbon and living organisms, and as a reservoir of essential nutrients, is now a sterile environment for controlled growth and pest control. Industrial concentration has marked the 20th century in agriculture as food and agriculture companies have vertically and horizontally integrated to dominate entire sectors; grain transportation, meat packing, agro-chemical manufacturing, and seed production are just some examples of agricultural sectors that are dominated by only a handful of large, multinational firms. This in and of itself has implications as the decisions made in several small boardrooms of multinational corporations to pursue one technology or another can have a considerable and lasting effect on the landscape and on human health. Consumers demand that their food purchases defy the logic of seasons. They want tomatoes and strawberries in the cold of winter. They want consistent-tasting fast foods. This is happening while consumers have become more distant from the food they eat, and less aware of what it takes to get a food from the field to the factory to the plate. The move toward green food is part of a reaction to the degradation and violence of industrial agriculture. The development has many roots in animal rights movements, appropriate technology movements, and back-to-the-land movements, among many others, each with its own motivations for action. The slow food movement, for example, emerges out of the hope to combat the spread of fast-food, reintroducing the cultural rituals of eating that require more time spent at the table in conversation, as opposed to the fast-paced meals eaten in the car. Evidence for the popularity of this new green food movement can be seen in the growth of

organic agriculture and the constantly evoked statistic of its 20 percent annual growth in sales and revenues. The popularity and growth of farmers markets also shows evidence of this burgeoning agrifood movement. So in many ways the environmental and social impacts of food production are closely tied to our individual choices as consumers. Often lacking from the mainstream discussion of green foods, but critical to the question of environmental justice, is the treatment of agricultural workers. Many agricultural and food system workers are minorities or immigrants, many of whom lack legal rights. The story of agricultural labor in the United States and Mexico has an interesting twist. Those farmers without a market for corn had little to sell but their labor, and their seasonal migrations result in remittances back to their communities. The story shows how food production in many industrialized countries is strongly influenced by everything from government policies on trade to consumer fads. We hope this volume speaks to the numerous issues and challenges we face in order to change our approach to eating. These entries help lay out the contours of the field of agrifood studies. They look to provide the reader with a basic understanding of the institutions, practices, and concepts to help identify what is and is not a green food. Because food is so intimately connected to our daily lives, it could be that the food system offers the most promise to make changes in a sustainable direction. What constitutes an actual sustainable and green food system is still an open question. There are many unresolved questions about what it should look like, what policies would help get it there, and what kinds of tradeoffs we face in deciding which path to choose. This volume should provide people interested in food and agricultural systems with the basic analytical and conceptual ideas that help explain why our food system looks the way it does, and what can be done to change it.

Green tea is prized for its delicate flavor and sweet scent, and our ceremonial-grade matcha is no exception. Organically grown and hand-picked in its native Japan, this matcha is specially cultivated to achieve a bright green color, velvety soft texture, and the ultimate in both taste and aroma.

Sustainable Management of Food is a systematic approach that seeks to reduce wasted food and its associated impacts over the entire life cycle, starting with the use of natural resources, manufacturing, sales, and consumption and ending with decisions on recovery or final disposal. EPA works to promote innovation and highlight the value and efficient management of food as a resource. Through the sustainable management of food, we can help businesses and consumers save money, provide a bridge in our communities for those who do not have enough to eat, and conserve resources for future generations. Building on the familiar concept of "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle," this approach shifts the view on environmental protection and more fully recognizes the impacts of the food we waste. Examples include unsold food from retail stores; plate waste, uneaten prepared food, or kitchen trimmings from restaurants, cafeterias, and households; or by-products from food and beverage processing facilities. Excess food refers to food that is recovered and donated to feed people. Food waste refers to food such as plate waste, spoiled food, or peels and rinds considered inedible that is sent to feed animals, to be composted or anaerobically digested, or to be landfilled or combusted with energy recovery. Food loss refers to unused product from the agricultural sector, such as unharvested crops. When the higher levels of the hierarchy are no longer feasible, then the food waste left over should be put to beneficial use such as composted or sent to be broken down through anaerobic digestion. Additional resources on wasted food can be found at Further with Food: Center for Food Loss and Waste Solutions. Wasted food is a growing problem in our modern society and an untapped opportunity. In alone, more than 39 million tons of food waste was generated, with only 5. EPA estimates that more food reaches landfills and incinerators than any other single material in our everyday trash, constituting 22 percent of discarded municipal solid waste. Department of Agriculture USDA estimates that in , 31 percent or billion pounds of the billion pounds of food produced was not available for human consumption at the retail and consumer levels i. Pay Less for Trash Pickupâ€” Organizations might pay less for trash pickup by keeping wasted food out of the garbage. Some haulers lower fees if wasted food is separated from the trash and sent to a compost facility instead of the landfill. Receive Tax Benefits by Donatingâ€” If you donate healthy, safe, and edible food to hungry people, your organization can claim tax benefits. Waste Less and Spend Less â€” If you or your organization can find ways to prevent waste in the first place, you can spend less by buying only the food you will use. Preventing wasted food can also reduce energy and labor costs associated with throwing away good food. Helping People Preventing wasted food and recovering wholesome, nutritious food can help you make a difference in your community: Feed People, Not Landfills â€” Instead of feeding landfills, we should be feeding people in our communities. You can donate a variety of foods to many different types of organizations. Contact Feeding America Exit or your local food rescue organizations for information about where you can donate and what types of food your local organization is able to accept. Feed Children â€” In , the U. Department of Agriculture National School Lunch Program provided nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches to more than 31 million children each school day. Create Job Opportunities - Recovering and recycling wasted food through donation, salvaging, processing, industrial reuse, and composting strengthens infrastructure and creates jobs. Food recycling in these sectors employs more than 36, people, supporting local economies and promoting innovation. They predict that by eliminating food loss and wasted food we would have enough food to feed all the chronically undernourished. The nutrients in the food never return to the soil. The wasted food rots and produces methane gas. Save Resourcesâ€” Wasted food wastes the water, gasoline, energy, labor, pesticides, land, and fertilizers used to make the food. Adding compost to gardens, highway construction sites, and poor soils makes great things happen. Properly composted organics wasted food and yard waste improve soil health and structure, improve water retention, support more native plants, and reduce the need for fertilizers and pesticides. Top of Page Sources of Statistics.

Chapter 6 : Sustainable Table | Welcome to Sustainable Table

For food, a sustainable system might be seen as encompassing a range of issues such as security of the supply of food, health, safety, affordability, quality, a strong food industry in terms of jobs and growth and, at the same time, environmental sustainability, in terms of issues such as climate change, biodiversity, water and soil quality.

Chapter 7 : Sustainable Food | Inhabitat - Green Design, Innovation, Architecture, Green Building

Sustainable Management of Food is a systematic approach that seeks to reduce wasted food and its associated impacts over the entire life cycle, starting with the use of natural resources, manufacturing, sales, and consumption and ending with decisions on recovery or final disposal.

Chapter 8 : Sustainable Food Awards

Sustainable Food. Cal Dining is committed to serving food at the intersection of delicious, nutritious and sustainable. In addition to focusing on plant-forward cooking, Cal Dining prioritizes using ingredients that are locally grown, humanely-treated and environmentally and socially responsible.

Chapter 9 : Sustainable agriculture - Wikipedia

Sustainable agriculture provides healthy food for consumers while protecting the environment and human health, safeguarding animal welfare and supporting local communities. Questions to Ask Asking questions is the best way to ensure that you're purchasing sustainably raised, healthful foods and supporting sustainable farmers.