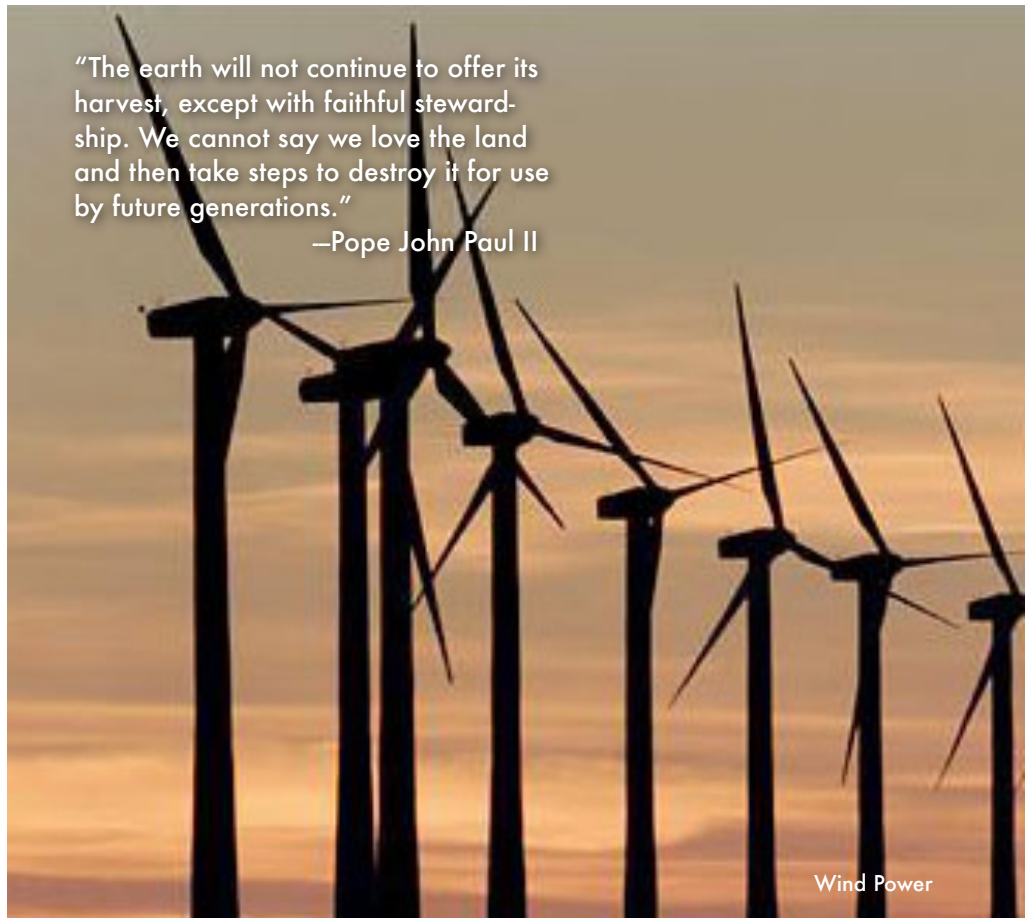




www.blueearthfarms.org

EarthTalk

SEPTEMBER
2008



Wind Power

"The earth will not continue to offer its harvest, except with faithful stewardship. We cannot say we love the land and then take steps to destroy it for use by future generations."

—Pope John Paul II

The Green Economy— What Does it Mean For Us?

Green Collar Jobs

Background

What's the best way to give Americans of all socioeconomic backgrounds a tangible stake in fighting for issues like global warming?

Easy:

Make it our livelihood. Every day, about 135 million people go to work in the U.S. Imagine what would happen if millions of those jobs—plus new ones created for

people who are currently unemployed—were in fields like renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and green building.

Concerns:

Our two crucial concerns about survival—the environment and making a living—would be combined. A person's commitment to their job would also be their commitment to the planet.

Opportunity:

Right now, there's a great opportunity not only to make America's economy stronger by making it greener, but to make Americans living in poverty part of

a revitalized middle class. The first thing we have to do is provide the training that will turn 20th century blue-collar jobs into secure 21st-century green-collar jobs.



We are changing our September workshop schedule to participate in the GREEN JOBS NOW National Day of Action. To help our community be the change, join us at the farm from 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Saturday September 27th to explore the future of the green job economy. There will be fun activities for the kids, movies on Green Technologies and other resources to explore and take home with as well as some great local harvest eats. The event is free of charge as are all of our workshops. We hope to see you here!!!



The 'green economy' is no longer just the dream of misty-eyed treehuggers. It has become a global political and economic imperative, with science, industry and law to back it up. Investment opportunities are coming fast: government funding, and multi-billion-dollar initiatives are making the transition ever more a part of the present tense.

Did You Know...

* There's already a huge green economy developing. In 2006 renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies generated 8.5 million new jobs, nearly \$970 billion in revenue, and more than \$100 billion in industry profits.

* According to the National Renewable Energy Lab, the major barriers to a more rapid adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency in America are insufficient skills and training.

* In December 2007, President Bush signed the Green Jobs Act to train workers for green collar jobs. It authorizes \$125 million for workforce training programs targeted to veterans, displaced workers, at-risk youth, and families in extreme poverty. It will train people for jobs like installing solar panels and weatherization.

Green-Collar Jobs...

Rebuild a Strong Middle Class

Provide Pathways Out of Poverty

Require Some New Skills (and some new thinking about old skills)

Tend to be Local Jobs

Strengthen Urban & Rural Communities

Protect Our Health and the Health of the Planet

Learn More...

Green For All is developing a clearing-house full of resources, case studies, and tools from people all around the country who are working to implement green-collar jobs. Explore it: www.greenforall.org/resources

All of us here at Blue Earth Farms will continue to keep adding resources to our web site that will help us all learn more and connect with others working to promote a better more sustainable way of life. We are also pleased to announce that we will be providing outreach programs to the local schools and other interested groups / organizations free of charge over the winter months until we can upgrade our current classroom space to allow more warmth! If you're school or group is interested in talking with us further about the workshops we can provide please feel free to contact us;

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What Kind of Jobs Help Build a Green Economy?

Fighting global warming & transforming the U.S. Into a green economy is a massive and defining Challenge for our time.

It is the work of a generation, and specifically, the work of millions of people, performing the jobs needed to build the green economy such as;

BUILDING RETROFITTING
SOLAR PANEL INSTALLATION
WINDMILL INSTALLATION
LANDSCAPING
PARKS MANAGEMENT
AGRICULTURE
ALTERNATIVE ENERGY RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT
ENERGY EFFICIENT AUTOS

& MANY MORE

Don't forget to mark September 27th to join us and explore what we can all do for our future!

Questions? Comments?
Contact us!



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