

## **Facts About Our Father's World -- What's the Sting?**

### **Earth - Land**

- Forests covered at least 48% of the earth's surface. Over 60% are now gone.
- The U.S. loses 2 acres of prime farmland every minute to development.
- Wetlands cover only 4-6% of the earth's surface, yet global functions are estimated at over 200 TRILLION annually.
- We average losing 80,000 wetland acres annually. That's equivalent to losing a football field every minute.
- Having to account for rising temperatures in the past 20 years, seed companies have had to update twice, because of new growing periods.
- GE (Genetically Engineered) crops require more pesticides. Since GE corn, soy and cotton have been introduced, pesticide use has increased by 122 MILLION pounds.
- The CDC (Centers for Disease Control) report that American children, ages 6–11, have more lawn pesticide residues in their bodies than all other age groups.

### **Wind - Air**

- Air pollution in India causes over 527,000 deaths annually. Worldwide, over 2 million annually. Over 5 million are poisoned annually.
- Over 50,000 Americans die annually due to air pollution and approx. 25,000 are from California.
- What's the #1 cause of absenteeism in West Coast schools? Asthma related.
- The air pollution is so bad in Shang Hai, China; Jakarta and Kanpur, India; and No:1 polluted city, Ahvaz, Iran; the air quality is similar to smoking 2 packs of cigarettes per day.
- #1 most Polluted city in the U.S.? Los Angeles – Long Beach, CA
- The top 5 most Polluted cities in America are all located in California

## **Fire - Energy (and there are many)**

Several Types of Energies: Gasoline/Petroleum, Natural Gas, Coal, Nuclear, Aquatic, Hydro, Renewable, Wind, Geo-Thermal, Solar, Food .....

- Americans use approx. 405 million gallons of gasoline per day.
- Approx. 30% of energy used in buildings is used inefficiently or unnecessarily.
- The World's oil reserves will last until 2052    --- gas reserves until 2065  
    --- coal reserves until 2150

### **SOLAR**

- One of the fastest growing energy sources in the world, growing at a rate of 30% annually.
- Solar panels work for 25 years or more, and you can sell your excess back to the National Grid.

Why, you ask?

Why not !!!

*It's free, renewable, plentiful, doesn't pollute and it's infinite*

### **FOOD**

- The World population is growing faster than its food supplies.
- As of now, there are over 7.3 BILLION people    --in 2024? 8 BILLION
- The typical American meal contains ingredients from at least 5 countries outside the U.S.
- It takes 16 pounds of grain and soy to produce 1 pound of beef.
- The world tosses out 5 BILLION eggs annually because they do not meet their government's agriculture standards.
- Over 60% of America's lakes and rivers caution to NOT eat the fish.

## Water

- Global warming accounts for approx. 20% in water scarcity.
- Water will be the 'oil of the 21<sup>st</sup> century."
- By 2050, 7 billion people will be faced with water scarcity.
- 783 MILLION people do NOT have access to clean water.
- 2.5 BILLION people do NOT have access to adequate sanitation.
- Sea levels have risen approx. 6-7 inches in the past 100 years, which is more than the previous 2,000 years combined.
- Though the oceans cover approx. 70% of the earth's surface, 80% of the Pollution IN the oceans originate on land.
- An average American uses 80-100+ gallons of water per day.  
An average Ethiopian uses 3 gallons per day.

## **The GOOD News !!!**

- The use of wind power is increasing 25-35% per year, worldwide.
- Denmark currently receives 30% of its electricity from wind.
- The Illinois IPL helped 12 congregations purchase energy from a local wind farm.
  
- Going 65mph instead of 75mph reduces your gas consumption by 15%.
- In 2009, Hilton Head SC used over 1 BILLION plastic bags annually.  
Today they use approx. 1 MILLION (Beaufort County, SC)
- Communal gardening is taking popularity everywhere. Rural to urban.
- BUY LOCALLY support Regionally MORE Farmer's Markets today
- SUPPORT FAIR TRADE
- ADVOCATE SPEAK OUT and SPEAK to the proper people in govt. and media