

Useful and Relevant URLs for 2019 Current Issue

1- Be sure to access the CT Envirothon web site's **Current Issue** folder for presentations related to this year's current issue during the Forestry, Soils, Aquatics and Wildlife workshops. (Look for Dr. Orefice's presentation: The Benefits and Applications of Integrating Trees into Northeast Agriculture)

2- An Interesting perspective on the need for **sustainable agriculture: A Planetary Diet**

*Introductory article from the Hartford Courant, Sunday, January 27, 2019, Section D
In the "Smarter Living Section"

*The original article on "A new diet to Safeguard the Earth" from the Lancet journal:
[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(18\)31788-4/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(18)31788-4/fulltext)

3- Refer to the URL below for **2019 Key Topic Resources** recommended by the NCF Foundation, the national Envirothon organization to which CT Envirothon belongs:

<https://www.envirothon.org/media/attachments/2019/01/25/2019-ncfe-ci-resources-final.pdf>

4- Other resources that may provide useful background information include:

I. Sustainable Agriculture: (sustainable farming systems)

- [What is sustainable agriculture? — UC SAREP](http://asi.ucdavis.edu/programs/sarep/about/what-is-sustainable-agriculture)
asi.ucdavis.edu/programs/sarep/about/what-is-sustainable-agriculture
- What is sustainable agriculture?
<https://www.ucsusa.org/food-agriculture/advance-sustainable-agriculture/what-is-sustainable-agriculture#.XEdY71xKi9I>
- Sustainable Agriculture
<https://www.nal.usda.gov/afsic/sustainable-agriculture-0>
- USA Today Special Ed on Farming and Food: America's Farming Landscape
https://issuu.com/studiogannett/docs/department_of_agriculture
- USDA with USA Today: Farming and Food
<http://www.rfdtv.com/story/35178647/usa-todays-2017-agriculture-issue-released#.W736DWhKi9K>

II. Farming Practices that Build Soil Organic Matter

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcseprd1318196.pdf

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/soils/health/mgnt>

<https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/AY/AY-363-W.pdf>

<https://extension.psu.edu/managing-soil-health-concepts-and-practices>

<https://www.grainews.ca/2016/09/22/theres-a-new-faster-way-to-build-up-the-soil-in-your-fields/>

https://www.canr.msu.edu/foodsystems/uploads/files/where-to-start_building_soils.pdf

- Could soils help save the climate?
This article, from national's resources list, is provided by Deutsche Welle, or DW, Germany's public international broadcaster. The service is available in 30 languages.

III. Conservation Practices

- <https://www.nap.edu/read/2132/chapter/5>
- <https://cuesa.org/article/10-ways-farmers-are-saving-water>
- https://prod.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2_007156.pdf
- <https://landstewardshipproject.org/farmtransitionsvaluingsustainablepracticeswaterqualitymanagement>
- <https://landstewardshipproject.org/farmtransitionsvaluingsustainablepracticespollinatorandbeneficialinsectservices>

IV. Integrated Pest Management and Biological Pest Control Techniques:

- Principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
 - Identify pests, their hosts and beneficial organisms before taking action. ...
 - Establish monitoring guidelines for each pest species. ...
 - Establish an action threshold for the pest. ...
 - Evaluate and implement control tactics. ...
 - Monitor, evaluate and document the results.

<https://www2.ipm.ucanr.edu/What-is-IPM/>

<https://ipm.tamu.edu/about/strategies/>

V. The Role of New Technology

1- Agricultural Biotechnology

<https://www.usda.gov/topics/biotechnology>

Advanced Technologies | National Institute of Food and Agriculture

nifa.usda.gov/topic/advanced-technologies

nifa.usda.gov/topic/agriculture-technology

nifa.usda.gov/topic/biotechnology

- WNPR program on GMOs
[Should We Care If We're Eating GMOs?](#)
- USDA with USA Today Seeds of Change
<http://agwired.com/2018/04/06/usfra-in-usa-today/>
- USDA with USA Today: Farming's New Environment
https://issuu.com/studiogannett/docs/usam_deptofagriculture_32416

2- Precision Agriculture:

<https://sustainableamerica.org/blog/what-is-precision-agriculture/>

- Precision Agriculture: Potential and Limits
<https://global.nature.org/content/precision-agriculture-potential-and-limits>
- The Challenges of Precision Agriculture: Is Big Data the Answer?
https://ageconsearch.umn.edu/bitstream/230057/2/THE%20CHALLENGES%20OF%20PRECISION%20AGRICULTURE_manuscript_SAEA_2016.pdf

3- Use of UAVs to increase farm efficiency for food production

- Water for Food
<https://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/news-and-events/news/2018/03/drones-are-buzzing-toward-increased-crop-production>
- Agricultural Drones: What Farmers Need to Know
<https://agribotix.com/whitepapers/farmers-need-know-agricultural-drones/>
- Six Ways Drones are Revolutionizing Agriculture
<https://www.technologyreview.com/s/601935/six-ways-drones-are-revolutionizing-agriculture/>
- Pros and Cons of Drones in Agriculture --- not a secure site
<http://www.droneguru.net/the-pros-and-cons-of-drones-in-agriculture/>
- United Nations FAO: Drones for Food --- not a secure site
<http://www.fao.org/3/I8494EN/i8494en.pdf>
- Agriculture for Impact
<https://ag4impact.org/sid/ecological-intensification/precision-agriculture/>