

Towards Indigenous/Aboriginal Food Sovereignty



**POCASSET
POKANOKET
LAND TRUST INC.**



Global Village Farms, Grafton MA, TuckAway
& Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust

A scenic landscape featuring a lush green field in the foreground, a dense forest of evergreen trees on a hill in the background, and a yellow flower in the lower right corner. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, italicized serif font.

*“We didn’t land on Plymouth Rock,
Plymouth Rock landed on us.”*

~— Malcolm X

Who owns the land

La tierra es de el que la trabaja

The land is from who works it

Movimientos sin tierras

Landless movement

¿Como poder poseer ocupar o adueñarnos de nuestra madre?

How we can occupy, take possession or own our mother?

Gracias a los ancestros-Thank You Ancestors



Our ancestral peoples passed on our history mouth to ear. Their descendents defeated colonizers and established regenerative agriculture, cooperatives, and survival programs.

Thanking the ancestors...

To our Pocasset Pokanoket ancestors that lived on our Watuppa Reservation as communities living in harmony with their environment leaving a blood trace to impact the next generations.



Thanking the ancestors...

To our Mayan ancestors that lived on Mesoamerica as communities living in harmony with their environment leaving a blood trace to impact the next generations.

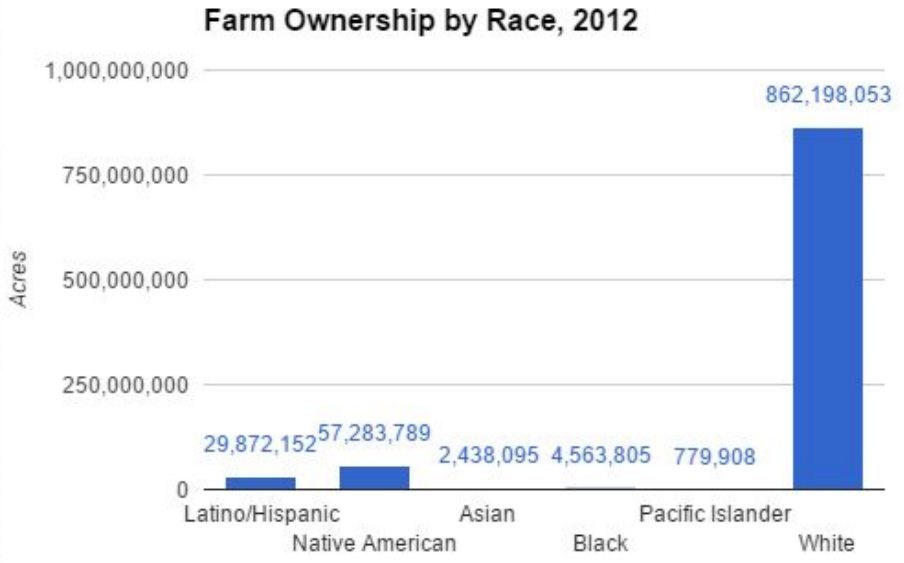


**Racism and injustice are built into
the DNA of the U.S. Food System.**

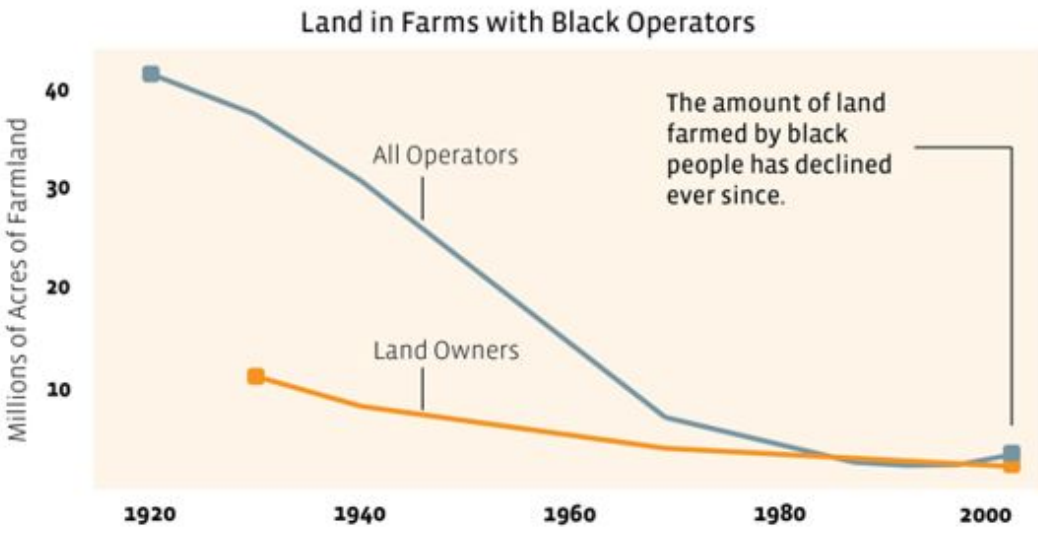


#1. The U.S.A. food system was built on stolen lands.

The descendants of European colonizers control almost all of this land today.



The amount of farmland controlled by African Americans has consistently declined from a high point around the turn of the twentieth century.



***IN 2021 BLACK & INDIGENOUS
FARMERS ARE STILL WAITING ON
GETTING OUR CHECK***





#2. The labor that built the U.S.A. food system was stolen from Indigenous Black-Latinx people. Labor laws continue to permit exploitation of farm and food workers.

While those who run U.S. farms are overwhelmingly white, the roughly 3.5 million people who do the day-to-day work of growing and harvesting food are not.

Percentage of Farmworkers who Identify as Latino



Percentage of Farm Managers who Identify as Latino



Excluded from labor protections, about one-third of farmworkers live below the poverty line.

Farmworkers' Total Family Income Levels
National Agricultural Workers Survey 2013-2014

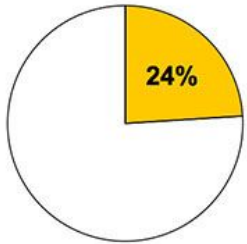


Mean U.S. Household Income: \$53,657

#3. Industrial agriculture is destroying the planet. Black-Indigenous regenerative farming methods are ignored or appropriated.

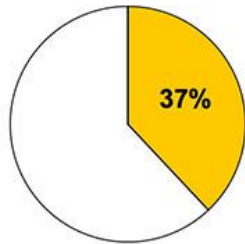
Agriculture's Share of Global Environmental Impact (2010)

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



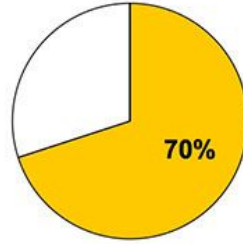
100% = 49 Gt CO₂e

EARTH'S LANDMASS (EX-ANTARCTICA)



100% = 13.3 bn ha

WATER WITHDRAWAL



100% = 3862 km³ H₂O

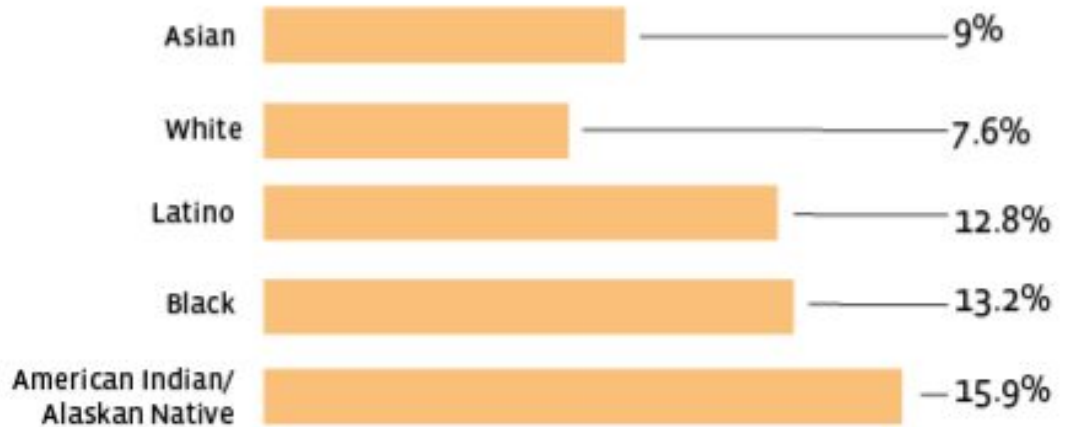
 WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

Sources: <http://ow.ly/rpfmN>



#4. We live under a system of food apartheid, where people of color are disproportionately impacted by food scarcity and diet-related illness.

American Adults 20 or Older Diagnosed with Diabetes, 2010-2012

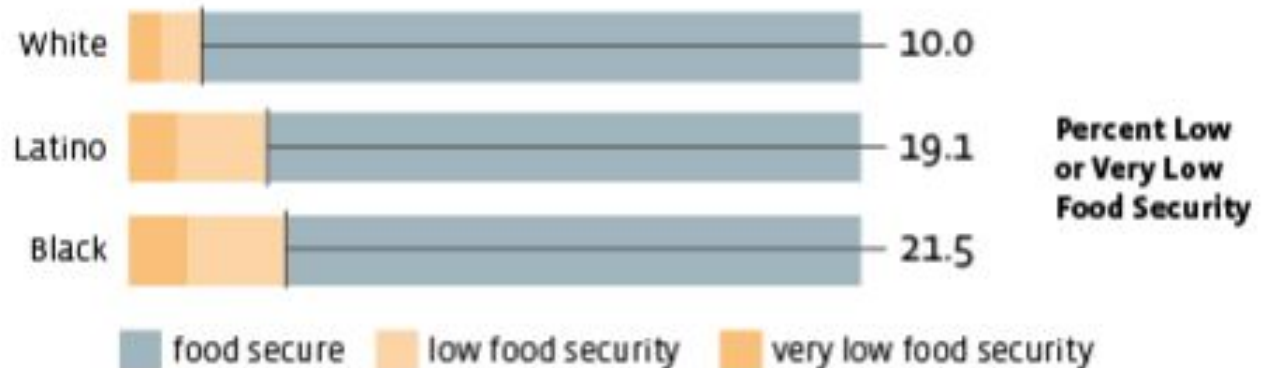


USDA ERS / STATEOFOBESITY.ORG / CDC



Food Security in American Households, 2015

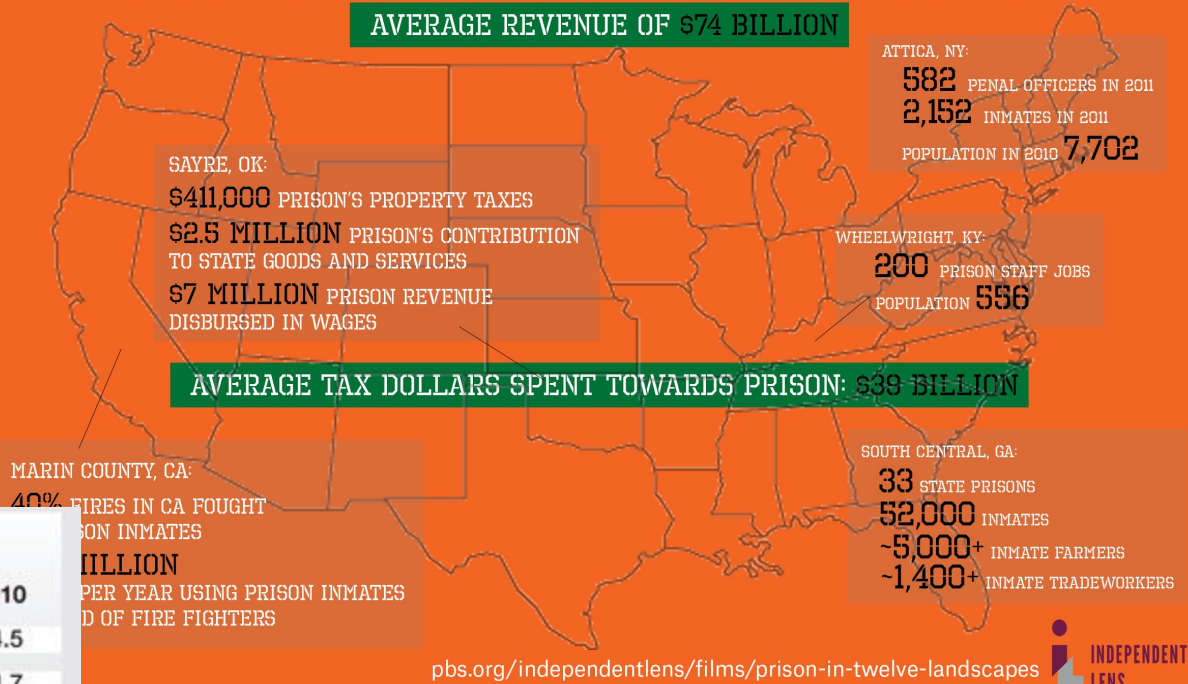
Experts define "low food security" as reduced quality or variety of food, but people still get enough to eat. "very low food insecurity" includes disrupted eating patterns and prolonged hunger.



#5. Power and decision-making in the U.S.A. food system are concentrated in the hands of the few, who do not prioritize the health and wholeness of our people.

HOW PRISON HAS SHAPED RURAL AMERICA'S ECONOMY

AVERAGE REVENUE OF \$74 BILLION



AVERAGE TAX DOLLARS SPENT TOWARDS PRISON: \$39 BILLION

pbs.org/independentlens/films/prison-in-twelve-landscapes



CORN

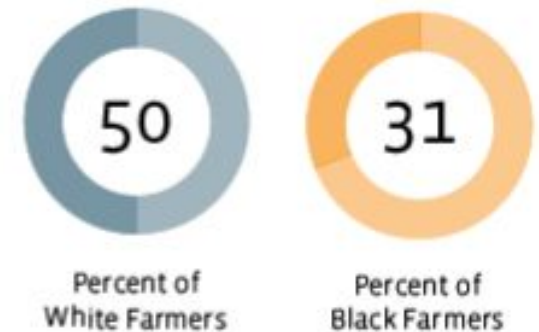
| | 2014 | 2013 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Monsanto | 35.5 | 34.9 | 34.4 | 33.4 | 34.5 |
| DuPont Pioneer | 34.5 | 36.0 | 36.1 | 35.8 | 34.7 |
| Local & Regional Companies | 11.3 | 11.0 | 11.8 | 13.0 | 13.4 |
| AgReliant | 7.0 | 6.7 | 6.5 | 6.6 | 6.1 |
| Dow AgroSciences | 6.0 | 5.3 | 5.2 | 4.7 | 4.5 |
| Syngenta | 5.7 | 6.1 | 6.0 | 6.5 | 6.8 |

SOYBEANS

| | 2014 | 2013 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| DuPont Pioneer | 33.2 | 34.7 | 34.0 | 35.6 | 31.9 |
| Monsanto | 28.0 | 26.8 | 26.0 | 23.7 | 25.9 |
| Local & Regional Companies | 18.3 | 17.9 | 19.1 | 20.3 | 21.4 |
| Syngenta | 9.8 | 10.1 | 10.3 | 10.8 | 11.0 |
| Dow AgroSciences | 5.2 | 5.0 | 3.5 | 2.0 | 1.4 |
| AgReliant | 3.1 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 2.6 | 2.4 |
| Public/Saved Seed | 2.4 | 2.5 | 4.0 | 5.0 | 6.0 |

Even today, U.S. government policies designed to ease the difficulties of farming disproportionately benefit whites.

Farmers Who Received Payments from the Government, 2007



Percent of White Farmers

Percent of Black Farmers

**We are not obligated to complete the task,
but neither are we free to desist from it.**



Missions that complement each other

GLOBAL VILLAGE:

A land-based center of cooperative living, working and movement-building based in self-sustainable farming, education, and healing with low-income immigrant communities of color and other oppressed people internationally working towards their emancipation.

Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust Inc. & Indigenous People's Network:

The PPLT educates tribal youth and other indigenous groups about land stewardship, sacred protection of mother earth and its water resources. We provide public education with an American Indian consciousness reflecting historical perspectives, culture and agricultural practices, and spiritual values. We strive to exemplify the American Indian/indigenous peoples' respect for Mother Earth and all living AS ONE.

GV - PPLT Timeline

2008: The idea is born in PROVIDENCE RI

2010: After 2 years of organizing and creating structure we start meeting periodically.

2012: 2 years of visiting other projects and communities to learn with and from other movements we started IPN (Indigenous Peoples Network) partnership

2016: We bought the land and started building soil and infrastructure, the farm begins.

2017: Apprenticeship program begins. Youth program begins.

2018: Pocasset tribe formed PPLT with a land agreement with the state of RI. & Twin River Casino; an evolution of Indigenous Peoples Network programming to land and educate.

2019: Community workshops. And HunabKu community center

2020: Mass non profit status and formation of Tuck Away Farm Cooperative.

2020: PPLT received USDA Grant.

Culturally centered Farm Share (CSA)



Regenerative Ancestral Farming



Fossil Fuel
Compared to
Industrial Ag: **8.9%**

Carbon Sequestered
lbs/year : **2400**

Increase in Topsoil
Depth : **300%**

Indigenous-Black-Latinx Farmer Inclusion



Land-Based Healing Justice



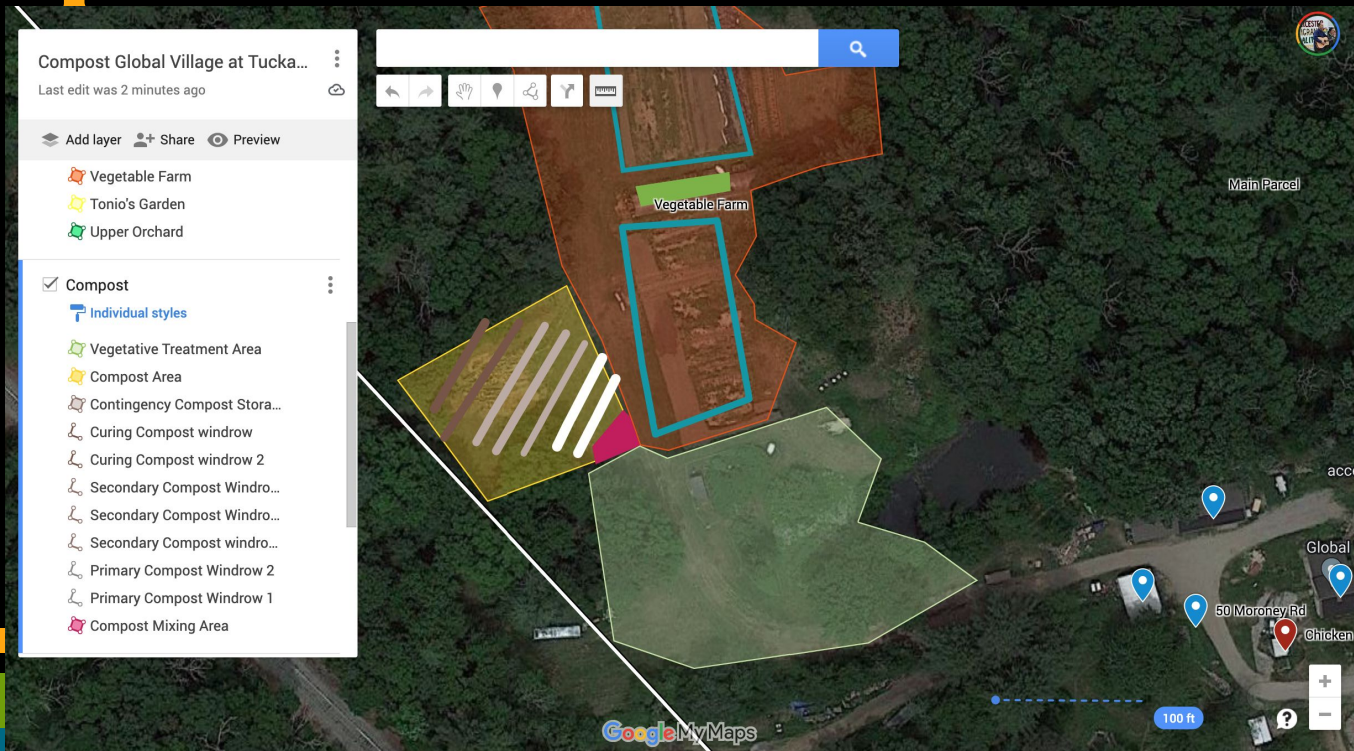
“If my resilience were a cup, it would be overflowing.”

Compost inoculation for soil regeneration

Why carbon sequestration is important
and how

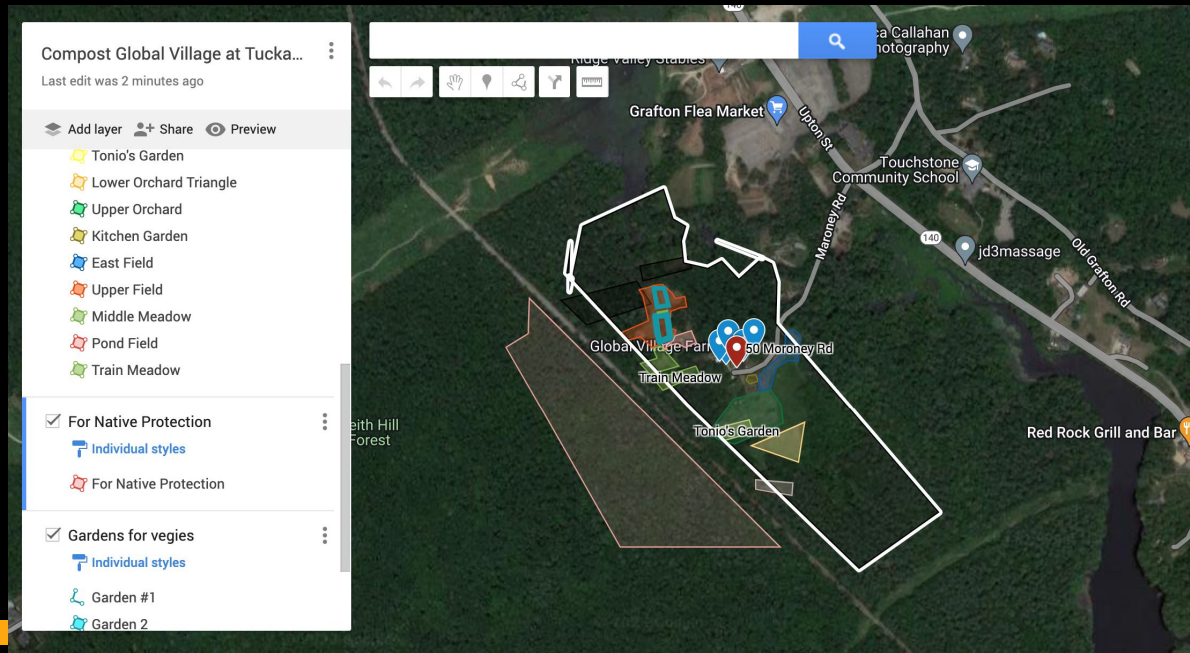


Compost Present and Expansion



Composting Map

Full Farm Map



Here you can see the full operation!

How close to farm operation?



Is very close we use our compost almost daily for many applications!

Support for Activists



Organizing for Racial Justice and Cultural Survival



- Consulting and training organizations
- Contributed to reparations agenda for Vision for IPN and NEFOC
- Contributed to policy platforms for NESAWG, NOFA
- Last Farm Bill - win for CSA farmers and EBT users

But How?

Training

- Apprenticeships, on jobs on farms over 5 year period
- Visiting other farms and projects
- Farming conferences and workshops

Money/Equipment

- Working, organizing and saving, 10 years
- Living frugally - collective house
- Family savings
- Hiring minimal labor and volunteers at first
- Community loan fund
- USDA NRCS local office - high tunnel, forestry, irrigation, and other grants.
- Buying equipment used
- Local sustainable farmer network for bulk orders

“Business” Plan/Entity

- Small Farm planning class
- Annual strategic planning to refine values, vision, mission, goals, objectives and strategies
- Started as sole proprietorship, moved to 501(c)3 nonprofit
- Harvard University Legal Clinic

Land

- Super star Realtor
- Chose marginal and vacant land that needed years of work - less expensive
- Personal savings
- Moving toward cooperative ownership - either land trust, LLC, or the existing nonprofit



This presentation have been repurposed from the Original in collaboration with our comrades @ Soul Fire Farm and we want to appreciate giving them full credit for their work.

Who grows the food?



"Land is the only real wealth in this country and if we don't own any we'll be out of the picture."

Ralph Paige,
Federation of
Southern
Cooperatives