

SUMMER OF SOIL

7 JULY - 9 AUGUST 2013, JÄRNA SWEDEN

**“THE TIME HAS COME TO WORK TOGETHER
LIKE NEVER BEFORE TO SAVE OUR SOILS”**

Summer of Soil is a 5-week, multi-disciplinary accelerator program designed to awaken and inspire a collaborative movement to rebuild and maintain living soils.

The program will include a series of hands-on soil-related **Courses**, an **Exhibition** of regenerative growing practices and the 5-day **Living Soil Forum** for bringing conversation to action.

WWW.SUMMEROFSOIL.SE



WHY SOIL?

- ▶ More than **90%** of our food comes from our soil.
- ▶ **25%** of the Earth's soils are highly degraded & **10 million ha** of productive land are annually lost as a result of soil degradation. **That is around 30 soccer fields per minute.**
- ▶ Agriculture is responsible for **75%** of the erosion worldwide.
- ▶ The Global Soil Partnership & FAO aims to declare an **International Year of Soils** in 2016 or 2017.
- ▶ **Let's start now!**

SUMMER OF SOIL MANIFESTO

1. We need a collaborative effort by all stakeholders in our food system to strengthen our capacity to steward our common soils.
2. We have to educate and inspire all stakeholders to develop and practice more sustainable food and soil initiatives.
3. We should design, create and implement intelligent initiatives to accelerate the urgently needed shift towards more sustainable, regenerative agricultural models; ultimately to secure resilient, fertile and living soils and reverse further degradation of arable land.
4. Time is a key factor. We have to accept the challenge of bringing about a shift over the coming years to see measurable impact in all areas of society.
5. The role of existing regeneration and conservation practices should be recognized as crucial and exemplary to promote living and healthy soils, sequester carbon and increase biodiversity.
6. The role and power of consumers as the driving force behind 'ordering' the shift towards a sustainable and regenerative agriculture through their choices should be recognized & strengthened.
7. Successful soil initiatives must be genuinely inclusive by design, balanced by age and gender, and representative of consumers, farmers, scientific & academic institutions, public & private sector organizations, media, government, and NGOs.
8. We need to explore and adapt new participatory- and financial models, enabling transparency and a more active and conscious participation by all stakeholders in our food-system.

Further Inspiration:

[Global Soil Partnership, FAO \(2011\)](#)

[The State of Soil in Europe - European Commission \(2012\)](#)

Summer of Soil

aims to empower global citizens through participation in hands-on **Courses** to become active stewards of our soil:

7 July		Course Schedule Subject to Change		9 August	
Living Foods - Cooking vegetarian abundance		LIVING SOIL FORUM 22-26 JULY		Living Foods - Meats and Wild Foods	
Introduction to Organic Agriculture				BD Agriculture	Forest Gardening
Permaculture Design Course				Introduction to Permaculture	Farmers University
Urban Gardening	Aquaponics			Regenerative Agriculture	Living Seeds
Beekeeping	Biochar (TBC)			Soil Biology (TBC)	Beekeeping



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LIVING SOIL FORUM

The Summer of Soil presents the 5-day Living Soil Forum to activate and empower people to secure a better future for our soils. Through engaging key players in the agricultural system, from producers to consumers, we seek to connect people and ideas, to create common understanding, to integrate existing initiatives, and to promote genuine, cross-sector collaboration around solutions that work to secure and restore healthy, living soils for the sake of our health, food- security and climate.

Objectives:

- **Build** an inclusive, global soil movement
- **Inspire** concerned consumers and especially youth to become active soil stewards
- **Promote** soil awareness throughout the entire agricultural system
- **Showcase** innovative practices and inspirational centres of agricultural production, living soil conservation and regeneration
- **Design** and initiate real projects and campaigns to leverage soil acupuncture points across the globe



22 — 26 JULY 2013

INVITATION

If you are concerned about the state of the world's soils and wish to be part of the solution, then we need your input. Your participation will allow you to contribute to this critical movement; experience collaboration in its truest sense; tap into the resources and intelligence of a diverse group of stakeholders; and establish meaningful relationships with an extensive, international network of colleagues active in this field.

Core Partners:



Associate Partners:



Summer of Soil is organized by Imagineers Sweden AB in collaboration with local hosts **Kulturcentrum Järna**, **Kulturforum AB** and **Skillebyholm**. For more information:

Pieter Ploeg, project coordinator
pieter@summerofsoil.se (press)
+46 7378 52136

Reinoud Meijer, project coordinator
reinoud@summerofsoil.se
+46 7309 73637

James Ede, forum coordinator
james@summerofsoil.se

Lucy Carver, exhibition coordinator
lucy@summerofsoil.se

Nakyta Grimm, course coordinator
nakyta@summerofsoil.se

Lyra Skusa, intern coordinator
lyra@summerofsoil.se

Isak Stoddard, course adviser
isak@summerofsoil.se

 www.twitter.com/summerofsoil

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