

Master Vegetarian Program, Spring 2009
May 12, Food Policy by Don Merrick

Objective: To provide an overview on food policy, how it affects our health and impacts the environment, and what we can do about it.

Presentation Outline

Corporations
The US Farm Bill and Related Trade Policy
Sustainable Agriculture
The National Organic Program
Genetically Engineered Foods
Fair Trade
Consumer Activism

Resources for Corporations

Appetite For Profit: How The Food Industry Undermines Our Health And How To Fight Back, by Michele Simon, 2006.
Food Politics: How The Food Industry Influences Nutrition And Health, by Marion Nestle, 2002.

Resources for The US Farm Bill and Related Trade Policy

Food Fight: The Citizen's Guide To A Food And Farm Bill, by Daniel Imhoff, 2007.
National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, www.sustainableagriculture.net.
Brighter Green, <http://brightergreen.org/>.
Use search engine for "farm bill."

Resources for Sustainable Agriculture

Articles and the book Fast Food Nation (2001) by Eric Schlosser.
Articles and books Omnivore's Dilemma (2006) and In Defense Of Food (2008) by Michael Pollan.
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education, www.sare.org, part of USDA
National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, www.sustainableagriculture.net.
Union For Concerned Scientists, www.ucsusa.org/food_and_agriculture

Resources for The National Organic Program and Organic Farming

Oregon Tilth, www.tilth.org
The Rodale Institute and Rodale Press
The Organic Farmer Research Foundation, www.ofrf.org

Resources for GE Foods

The Food Revolution (2001) by John Robbins, part IV (75 page critique)
Seeds of Deception (2003) by Jeffrey Smith
Organic Consumers Association, www.organicconsumers.org.
Northwest Rage (centered in Portland), www.nwrage.org.

Fair Trade

The Fair Trade Federation, www.fairtradefederation.org