

OCCUPY BACKYARDS STATEMENT

Declaration of the Chicken Have More Plan Enabling Local Food Security

Inspired by the Occupy Wall Street General Assembly Statement

REPRESENTING THE 99% OF THE CHICKENS IN THE WORLD, We hereby declare the Chicken Have More Plan, that employs family flocks to occupy backyards and enable individuals, communities and local governments to be more sustainable, and self-sufficient with food security.

As we gather together in solidarity to express a feeling of mass injustice, we must not lose sight of what brought us together. We write so that all local growers, family farmers and backyard gardeners, who feel wronged by the corporate forces of the world can know that we, heritage chickens, are your allies.

As one flock, united, we acknowledge the reality: that the future of local sustainable agriculture requires the cooperation of humans, livestock, plants and Nature alike.

That a democratic, healthy food supply system derives its just power from the vitality of regional and planetary ecosystems and soils. It is the peoples' responsibility to protect ecosystems while cultivating, harvesting and consuming food borne of our planet.

Our system must protect local rights to grow wholesome, healthy, non-GMO food, and upon corruption of that system, it is up to the individuals to protect their own rights, and those of their neighbors and future generations.

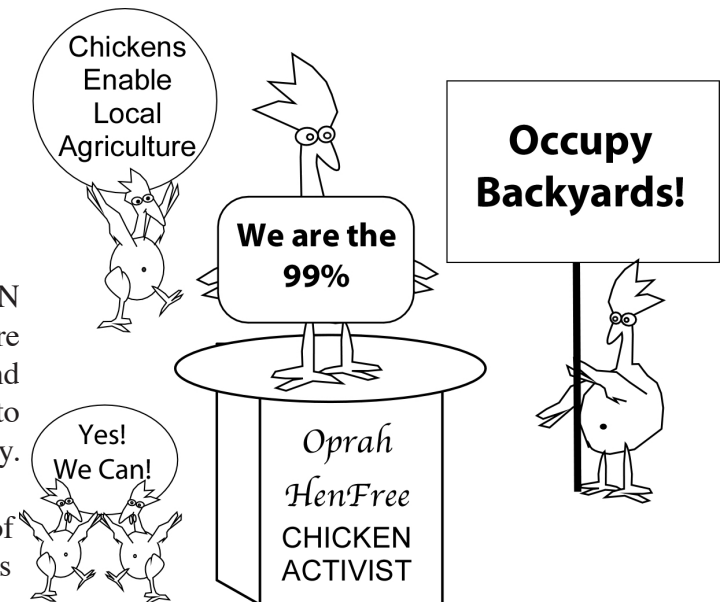
We understand that urban gardening, farm-yards and local growers are on the verge of a giant leap forward, ushering in a new—and necessary—era of local and home food production that utilizes heirloom seeds and heritage livestock. We have peaceably assembled here, as is our right, to let these facts be known.

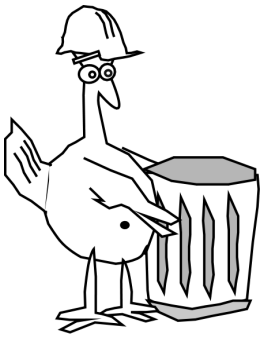
There is a Universal Right for people to grow (and rise) their own food. Hence: **The Declaration of Local Foods Rights**. We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all people have certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the right to grow one's food in their yards—including chickens!

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 25 states "Everyone has the right to a standard of living for the health and well-being of himself and his family including food....."

1. The Chicken Have More Plan can Provide Food Security for All. Folks can have a good meal of eggs and garden goods that only travel the short distance from backyards to nearby homes. Heritage chickens have valuable skill-sets that can be employed in local food production systems. Some of these "skill-sets" include production of manure for fertilizer and compost, along with being mobile, earth-friendly herbicides and pesticides. And of course, local chickens provide eggs and meat that don't have to travel 1,200 miles from feedlots, or be hatched, raised and processed in non-transparent, toxic-waste generating factory farms.

2. Diverting Food and Yard "Waste" from Trash Collection. Chickens can divert biomass "wastes" such as kitchen scraps, leaves, grass clippings and other garden residuals into organic assets of fertilizer, compost, garden soil and eggs. Employ chickens as clucking civil service workers in our backyards and divert tons of





residential “biomass wastes” from the trash collection system and transform them into compost and top soil, also called “black gold”; one of the most valuable commodities on the planet!

BIG TIME tax payer dollars can be saved from being spent on equipment, personnel, fuel, tipping fees and other costs associated with solid waste management streams, while protecting our environment from the pollution and despoliation of landfills.

3. Decrease Oil Consumption and Oil Dependence. Commercial food systems cannot produce without oil. Over 17% of America’s oil is used in agricultural production and, about 25% of this oil is used for fertilizer. The total energy inputs for food production, processing, packaging, transporting and storing can be greater than the calories embodied in the food. It is estimated that every person in this country requires about one gallon of oil per day just to bring food to the table. How sustainable is that? Chickens, and their skill sets, can help America decrease the amount of oil used in feeding ourselves...and, at the same time, activating Nature’s regenerative cycle by returning nutrient-rich organic materials to the Earth, restoring life and fertility to our soils.

4. Emergency Preparedness. When disasters occur, local food can become a matter of life or death. Keeping local chickens is even more important in times of trouble. With family flocks, folks can still have a good meal of eggs or chicken stew.

5. National Defense. Whoever controls your food supply controls you. Food supply—or lack of it—has created and destroyed civilizations since time began. The Defense Department has stated that America’s most vulnerable points are our food and water supplies. Local agriculture—rich with living soils, and modern day Victory Gardens—help keep America strong and secure.



How to Occupy Backyards and employ family flocks? City Chicks: Keeping Micro-Flocks of Chickens as Garden Helpers, Compost Creators, Bio-recyclers and Local Food Suppliers ushers in a new paradigm of how employ chickens in a variety of roles that help decrease carbon footprints, save tax payer dollars and support local food supply production. And all this is done in a way that is biologically sustainable, economically equitable, and serves you, your communities, our Earth and future generations of all beings.

To the people of our planet, this is: “*The Cluck Heard Round the World*”

.....and our slogan is: “*Employ Chickens to Occupy Backyards and Declare Local Food Security*”



**The Chicken
Have More Plan**

We urge you to assert your power to claim food security. Exercise your right to peaceably grow your own food, repopulate family farms, and expand community supported agriculture. Save, and protect, heirloom seeds and heritage livestock. Help create solutions to produce healthy foods that are grown in living soils. This, will in turn generate solutions for our health care crisis, environmental pollution and the epidemics of nutritional poverty and hidden hunger in food deserts across the planet.

To all communities, in the spirit of direct democracy, take action and form groups, especially poultry and garden clubs to support, train and expand growing diversity in local food supply systems. Join us! Make your voices and clucks heard! Make your food supply secure, sustainable, regenerative, green, abundant and healthy! In Local Top Soil We Trust.

Uncle Sam Expects You To Keep Hens and Raise Chickens



Two Hens in the Back Yard for Each Person in the House Will Keep a Family In Fresh Eggs

EVEN the smallest back yard has room for a flock large enough to supply the house with eggs. The cost of maintaining such a flock is small. Table and kitchen waste provide much of the feed for the hens. They require little attention—only a few minutes a day.

An interested child, old enough to take a little responsibility, can care for a few fowls as well as a grown person.

Every back yard in the United States should contribute its share to a bumper crop of poultry and eggs in 1918.

In Time of Peace a Profitable Recreation

In Time of War a Patriotic Duty

For information about methods of Back-Yard Poultry Keeping suited to your location and conditions, write

Your State Agricultural College
or
The United States Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

This Space Donated by the Publisher

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HELP FEED YOURSELF

Make Back Yards and Vacant Lots Productive



WORK A GARDEN—RAISE CHICKENS

GROW VEGETABLES AND FRUITS

IF YOUR SOIL IS FERTILE AND SUNNY

Don't let your land loaf. Keep it working all season. Don't assume that the season is too far advanced to begin garden operations. Some vegetables may be planted at practically any time until past the middle of summer.

Start new crops between the rows of others that are soon to be removed.

Begin over again in late summer and plant vegetables that mature best in cool weather, such as radishes, lettuce, spinach, kale.

See that your garden toward fall is full of potatoes, beets, turnips, cabbage, and other staple foods that can be stored for the winter.

Grow lima and navy beans for harvest when ripe.

CAN OR PRESERVE SURPLUS PERISHABLES

Dry fruits and sweet corn and such other vegetables as may be preserved in this way.

Can only the products that can not be kept otherwise.

Concentrate products so that each jar or can will hold as much food and as little water as possible.

There is a shortage of containers. Don't let one be wasted in your home. Empty spices and similar materials from jars and fill them with food.

Reserve regular tight-sealing containers for perishable vegetables, meat, and fish.

Use wide-necked bottles with paraffin seals for putting up fruit and preserves; use glasses or crocks for jellies and jams; use bottles and jugs corked and sealed with paraffin for fruit juices, catsups, and other liquid products.

KEEP A FLOCK OF HENS

IF YOUR SOIL IS NOT SUITABLE FOR GARDENING

A small number of chickens can be kept in almost any back yard.

They can be housed at small expense in plans boxes or other large packing cases.

They can be fed to a large extent on table scraps and vegetable waste.

Their eggs should make a substantial addition to the family food supply.

Surplus cockerels from hatchings and old hens will take the place of a considerable quantity of purchased meat.

Separate roosters from hens after the hatching season and produce infertile eggs. Such eggs are much more easily kept in good condition than fertile eggs.

Preserve surplus fresh eggs in water glass or lime-water.

Somebody Has to Raise or Pack Everything You Eat DO YOUR SHARE!



CHILDREN CANNED AND SAVED THESE PERISHABLES FOR WINTER USE

MAKE EVERY JAR HELP FEED YOUR FAMILY

Can this year if you have never canned before. The conservation of food is a vital necessity under war conditions.

No previous experience is necessary. Canning and preserving are simple processes and may be carried out by children or adults, with home utensils.

Put up more food than ever this year if you usually pack for winter use.

Write to-day to the U. S. Department of Agriculture or your State agricultural college or ask your county agent for explicit directions for growing vegetables, for raising chickens, and for canning foods at home with the ordinary home utensils.

DEMONSTRATE THRIFT IN YOUR HOME

Make saving, rather than spending, your social standard

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Cooperating with State Agricultural Colleges



DO NOT SELL LAYING HENS



Keep the laying hen

Save the
30 Eggs

—or more—

laid by the average hen
from February to May



Food is needed to win the war

Don't sell the laying hen—all spring she will be turning insects, weeds, garbage, and waste into eggs for the Nation

Make 60c. per hen

Those 30 eggs at 24 cents a dozen mean an income of 60 cents per hen—practically all profit, as hens on the farm at this season receive little if any special feed.

2c. a lb. or 2c. an egg?

What if poultry sometimes brings 2 cents more a pound in winter than after the laying season—you would lose only 8 cents on a 4-pound hen, but make 60 cts. on her eggs—gain 52 cts.

IT'S BOTH PATRIOTIC AND PROFITABLE TO KEEP THE LAYING HEN
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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