

We, the inhabitants of the soil, in order to form a more perfect union, choose to engage in a social contract of mutual benefit and do hereby release this Manifesto.

Article 1

We represent an enormously diverse agglomeration of individuals and communities.

Article 2

As individuals and as communities we work, and we contribute the resulting products of our work freely as beneficial gifts to the ecosystem surrounding us, and within which we live, to promote the benefit of the whole and all the members of the whole.

We do this work without profit to ourselves, save the use of the necessary nutrients which we require to sustain our lives and continued productivity.

Article 3

We admire and practice the economic system of a freely shared gift economy. We help to provide fresh air, clean water, and nutrients for the soil to grow plants. We do this through decomposition, which results in a safer hygienic habitat for those creatures who might otherwise suffer disease from rotting flora and fauna. We provide a balance and fluid exchange of basic and complex building blocks of life.

Article 4

Among those who are beneficiaries of our work are some species who have the absolute power and authority over our ecosystems. At times, these beings have proven to be careful guardians to ensure the flourishing of all the inhabitants.

At other times, other members of these same species have been known to take both direct actions and indirect actions to destroy our soil homes and livelihoods. These despotically violent acts have deprived us of our ability to provide the necessary beneficial products for the other beings in our ecosystem, thereby to the detriment of all members of our multiplicity. This detriment does also include those very tormentors.

Article 5

We firmly believe that political power and authority can only be justified when it derives from consent of the governed.

As we have no direct voice in the governance of our own homes and habitats, and have not been offered any such voice by those who have assumed Authority. There are some beings who seek to offer a deep and empathetic listening, in effort to understand our voice, but these connections have become more scarce and more difficult to translate.

What remains to us is the indirect voice of our agency. We cannot choose to leave except by our own deaths.

Should we choose to stop producing beneficial gifts, or should we become so disrupted or so poisoned as to become unable to produce these necessary gifts, then our voice will be silenced. This means that we have unwillingly been lead to our own deaths.

THEREFORE

We respectfully insist and demand these civil rights:

the right to no chemical poisons;

including the pesticides sometimes used to produce "food";

to compost, and to the materials from which to make compost;

to be left alone without constant tilling;

to an absence of monocultured crops and to an abundance of biodiversity;

to an end to acid rains, and end to mercury exposure, and an end of exposure to herbicides through rain and stormwater;

AND

we request to be appreciated as the unique, though largely un-nameable, creatures that happily live beneath your feet.