

Bio: John Wilson,

Farmer, Owner of New Earth Farm, Virginia Beach, VA.

For nearly thirty years, farmer and contractor John Wilson has been active in organic farming and sustainable practices. Born in Indiana, John took intensive classes in building energy efficient structures, solar energy, organic farming methods and composting in the late 1970's and early 80's. He moved to Virginia Beach in 1979. John started his own composting business, New Earth Compost when he moved to a five acre farm in Virginia Beach in 1995, and worked a ten acre piece of land nearby for six years, providing fresh organic produce for the community.

New Earth Farm produces vegetables, fruits and pasture raised eggs using organic methods. The farm's produce is sold locally at Virginia Garden at the Va. Beach Farmer's Market and at the Five Points Farmer's market, The Heritage Store, several farm markets (this summer- at the JCC in Virginia Beach on Fridays and The Old Beach Farmer's Market at Croc's on Saturdays) and through the farm's CSA program which runs from May- September. John is also a distributor for organic soil amendments and animal feed for lawns, organic gardens and small farms, and works with area schools who are setting up garden programs. (i.e., Cooke Elementary, Linkhorn Park Elementary, and Larkspur Middle in Virginia Beach, Norview High School and Larchmont Elementary in Norfolk)

"Farmer John" is a long time member of the Virginia Association for Biological Farming. He offers small group farm visits to area schools, believing that education is one of the missions of organic farmers. At present, John is forming a non-profit called New Earth Education to focus attention on sustainable teaching in schools and in the community. John has recently purchased another larger farm (21 acres) in Pungo, and is in the process of remediating the soil with organic practices and plantings for National Organic Certification.

Farmer John Wilson's Resource Page

**John D. Wilson, Owner, New Earth Farm, 2280 London Bridge Rd. and 1885 Indian River Road Virginia Beach, Va., our Pungo location, currently in transition for organic certification
757-427 -6515**

New Earth Farm produce is sold at:

Five Points Community Farm Market, www.5ptsfarmmarket.org, 2500 Church Street, Norfolk, VA. 640-0300

The Heritage Store, <http://heritagestore.com>, **984** Laskin Road, Virginia Beach 428-0500

The Old Beach Farmer's Market Saturdays 8 am to noon, Memorial Day-Labor Day, and in the fall: October 15, November 19 and December 17

Virginia Garden 3640 Dam Neck Road at the Virginia Beach Farmer's Market, 427- 0378

Saturday "Markets on the farm" at New Earth Farm, September-November Saturdays (except 10/15, 11/17) 8:30 to 1:00p.m.

Local Community Garden

Knitting Mill Creek Community Garden, Colonial Place, behind Fellini's Restaurant, opened in May, 2000, contact: Rev. Becky Kiser, 627-7007, or Pete Bergstrom, 440-7840 , not certified organic, but no pesticide use

Virginia Resources

VABF-The Virginia Association for Biological Farming, P.O Box 1003, Lexington, Va. 24450, web address: www.vabf.org, yearly conferences, quarterly newsletter

VICFA: Virginia Independent Consumers and Farmers Association, P.O. Box 915, Charlottesville, Va. 22902, www.vicfa.net

Beekeepers Guild of Southeast Virginia, beekeepersguild.org, newest beekeeper's organization focusing on promoting local bees and organic practices

Tidewater Beekeepers Association, www.tidewaterbeekeepers.org.

North Carolina Resources

North Carolina Cooperative Extension: Chatham County Center Debbie Roos (re: beneficial insects, organic farming, etc) debbie-roos@ncsu.edu
www.ces.ncsu.edu/chatham/ag/SustAg

National Resources/Publications

ACRES USA: a monthly magazine/newspaper :“a Voice for Eco-Agriculture”, P.O.Box 91299, Austin, Texas, 78709, (512)892-4400, e-mail: info@acresusa.com, web address: www.acresusa.com

The Carbon Catcher Program: A project of The Water Foundation, send \$5 for booklet to: 9121 County Road, Brainerd, Minnesota, att: Jan Carner, 1-800-944-3764

More Resources from Farmer John Wilson

Beneficial Insects(Good Bugs): The Beneficial Insect Co., P.O. Box 119, Glendale Springs, N.C. 28629, 336-973-8490, www.thebeneficialinsectco.com

Green Roofs: www.greenroofs.org, 177 Danforth Avenue, Suite 304, Toronto, Ontario, M4K 1N2, 416-971-4494, yearly training courses, demonstration projects

Save Our Seeds Project, contact Cricket Rakita, SOS Project Coordinator, 706-788-0017, or Ira Wallace, Southern Exposure Seed Exchange 540-894-0595 www.savingourseed.org

American Solar Energy Society, 2400 Central Avenue, Suite A, Boulder, Co.80301, www.ases.org

The New Farm: www.newfarm.org, from the Rodale Institute, excellent resource for home gardeners and farmers

The Rodale Institute, www.rodaleinstitute.org, Pioneers in American Organic farming

The Solar Living Institute, Real Goods Solar Living Institute, P.O.Box 836, Hopland. CA 95449, 707-744-2017, www.solarliving.org

Soil Foodweb, Inc., Dr. Elaine Ingham, 1128, NW 2nd Avenue, Corvallis, Oregon, 97330, Compost tea methods and research, www.soilfoodweb.com

Worm Digest, vermiculture, P.O.Box 544, Eugene, Oregon, 97440-0544, 541-485-0456, www.wormdigest.org