

# **EARTH REPAIR INSTITUTE**

A prospectus. Version #1, January 2, 2015  
Prepared by Michael Pilarski, Friends of the Trees Society

[Note that everywhere the words 'earth repair' are used here, the words 'ecological restoration' could be substituted.]

## **Goals:**

- 1) Produce a website that brings information together from around the world on how to do earth restoration and who is doing it, news, reviews, and useful information. This will be an interactive website.
- 2) Produce an in-print and on-line book which addresses the current state of the art, the current state of the worldwide movement and best models, completed and ongoing.
- 3) Set up a training center to teach earth repair techniques (such as tree planting, erosion control, etc) as well as permaculture, wildcrafting, and wild seed collection.
- 4) The center would include offices, library, greenhouses, and production of seeds and nursery stock and food for the staff and students. There would be lots of hands on components.
- 5) Attract staff members and funding to do the above.

## **The body of information in the book and on the website would include the following:**

Introduction to the work of John D. Liu.

Introduce the most successful examples of large-scale earth repair in recent history including South Korea, Rwanda, Kenya's Green Belt movement, Kerala, India, Burkina Faso and others.

A directory to youtubes, videos and documentaries addressing earth repair.

An appeal to the Millenials generation about their role in repairing the Earth's ecosystems.

Book review of Storm Cunningham's 2002 book *The Restoration Economy: The Greatest New Growth Frontier*.

The history of the ecological restoration movement/industry/scientific discipline.

The role of earth repair in carbon sequestration and climate amelioration.

The economic dimension of earth repair. Financing. Full ecological cost accounting.

The practical, how-to methods, techniques and strategies of earth repair.

The tools and equipment of earth repair.

Current training centers: grass roots, NGOs, universities and government programs.

The integration of permaculture and earth repair.

An updated chapter of Michel Pilarski's *Resource Guide to Sustainable Land Use in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands*.

The esoteric side of earth repair. Cooperation with nature spirits and earth intelligences.

### **Goals in 2015**

- 1) Create a website, restoration wiki, Facebook and interactive on-line database.
- 2) Set up an office, library and initial gardens at a rural location. Our target area is Spokane County or Stevens County in northeast Washington.
- 3) Attract initial funding and staff.
- 4) Host an Earth Repair Conference in the winter of 2015/2016, probably in Spokane, Washington.

Funding for the Earth Repair Institute will come from a variety of sources: bootstrap funding from Friends of the Trees Society's activities; Slow Money sources, Kickstarter (or Indiegogo) crowd funding; grants; training and education income; other sources to be discovered.

### **Why me? A history of Michael Pilarski's involvement in earth repair and related disciplines.**

Involvement in the organic agriculture movement since 1972. I have been farming and/or gardening most years since 1972.

Founded Friends of the Trees Society (FTS) in 1978 with the goal to double the world's forest cover. Been the Director of FTS since 1978.

Founded and ran the Travelers Earth Repair Network from 1989 to 1999. During those years TERN amassed over 400 hosts worldwide and worked with over 500 travelers.

Conducted tree sales and plant exchanges in over 30 towns and cities in the Pacific Northwest with over 175,000 trees and shrubs distributed since 1978.

Produced and published the 1988 *International Green Front Report* which reported on a host of earth repair topics.

Produced and published the *Third World Resource Guide* in 1993 for people working in the Global South. It reviews 425 organizations, 95 periodicals and over 275 other useful references.

Edited the book *Restoration Forestry, an International Guide to Sustainable Forestry Practices*. Published in 1994.

Co-organized the 1<sup>st</sup> Inland Northwest Restoration Conference at the University of Washington, Pullman in 2005.

Started and ran Friends of the Trees Seed Service from 1978 to 1988, which specialized in seed of medicinal plants and native plants of eastern Washington. The retail seed business ended but I put out a wholesale seed list annually.

Starting in 1988, Michael has taught 36 permaculture design courses in Washington, Oregon, California, Montana, Wisconsin, British Columbia, Nova Scotia, Hawaii, Kauai, Molokai, Belize and Nepal.

Organized over 100 major events since 1974 involving over 100,000 people including restoration, herbs, barter fairs, agriculture, permaculture, agroforestry and others.

Taught hundreds of workshops on these and related topics to thousands of people over the years starting in 1972.

As a result of all these activities (and more) I have built up a large network of friends, people and organizations. I am embedded in these grass roots movements. My main 2015 goal is to focalize the birth of an Earth Repair Institute.

I was inspired to start Friends of the Trees Society in 1978 by Richard St. Barbe Baker, and his organization, Men of the Trees. I am still following in his footsteps.

Michael Pilarski  
Friends of the Trees Society  
PO Box 165  
Hot Springs, MT 59845  
406-741-5809. [friendsofthetrees@yahoo.com](mailto:friendsofthetrees@yahoo.com)

A brief internet search does not reveal anyone using the name Earth Repair Institute.

Related names are

*[planetrepair.wordpress.com/](http://planetrepair.wordpress.com/)*

*City Repair connected, mark lakeman et al.*

Welcome to the Planet Repair Institute – a living, breathing node for Neighborhood Repair, embedded in the neighborhood of Sellwood, Portland OR!

Earth repair Foundation, Australia, franklin Scarf

Earth Repair, title of a book by New society Pub, A Grassroots Guide to Healing Toxic and Damaged Landscapes

<https://edgeecology.wordpress.com/bios/>

After working together under Geoff Lawton in Australia, Lindsay Dailey and Christian Douglas joined forces in the summer of 2010 to found Earth Repair, a regenerative design and education firm based in California. Their focus is on retrofitting farms, ranches and open spaces to provide ecosystem services that benefit all living beings.

Earth Repair Ecology, Australia

<http://www.outdoordesign.com.au/landscape-supplies/Earth-Repair-Ecology/006140/6156>

The director, Christopher Brogan, is a member of the Australian Association of Bush Regenerators

PO Box 232

Panania New South Wales 2213

Ph: 02 9774 3200

Email: [office@earthrepair ecology.com.au](mailto:office@earthrepair ecology.com.au)

Web: [www.earthrepair.com.au](http://www.earthrepair.com.au)

Earth Repair & Care Organisations

<https://www.oceania.org.au/wwwlinks/earth.html>

Extensive list of Links. , Australia based by worldwide links.

The World Guide to Voluntary Work in Nature Conservation.

The World's Number One Source of Conservation Volunteering Opportunities!

<http://greenvolunteers.com/>

*Worldwide wildlife & conservation voluntary work. 400 projects listed: long or short-term, marine or terrestrial, many free or low cost... to protect a variety of habitats and species*