

Remineralization of Soil with Rock Dust

#4 in a series of

Climate Restoration Solutions

A partnership of the Moral Action on Climate
and Biodiversity for a Livable Climate

(see www.bio4climate.org/solutions for others)



Remineralization is the re-introduction of vital minerals and trace elements into our agricultural soils, gardens and forests, as well. It is being looked at to address 3 major issues:

1. Regenerating our soils and forests;
2. Increasing the nutritional quality and flavor of food; and
3. Stabilizing climate.

With our dependence in recent years on large scale industrial agriculture, many of the minerals have been "farmed out" of the soil, resulting in less nutritional and flavorful food and depleted soil. On average you need to eat 5 apples today, to gain the nutritional value of one apple from 1965.

Remineralization can be looked at as co-partnering with composting to create healthy soil. The average person can remineralize their gardens and soils; it can be added directly to the soil, sprayed on plants and added to compost to speed up the decomposition of organic matter and reduce odor.



Remineralization not only helps create healthy soil, but helps soil retain more water which is critical in times of drought. It can help strengthen forests; this is critical as their ability to store carbon becomes more important daily.

“Remineralization is nature's way to regenerate soils.”
 -- Quote from the REMINERALIZE THE EARTH website

Here is a list of benefits of soil remineralization from REMINERALIZE THE EARTH:

1. Provides the slow, natural release of elements and trace minerals.
2. Increases the nutrient intake of plants.
3. Rebalances soil PH.
4. Increases earthworm activity and the growth of micro-organisms.
5. Builds the humus complex.
6. Prevents soil erosion.
7. Increases the water storage capacity of soil.
8. Increases the resistance to insects, disease, and drought.
9. Produces more nutritious crops.
10. Enhances flavor in crops.
11. Decreases dependence on fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides.

Websites:

- Remineralize the Earth - A Rock Dust Primer: <http://remineralize.org/a-rock-dust-primer/>
- Remineralize the Earth on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/remineralize>
- Remineralize the Earth at the Bionutrient Food Association: <https://bionutrient.org/sponsors/remineralize-earth>
- Remineralize the Earth at Ibiblio: <http://www.ibiblio.org/london/orgfarm/remineralization/remineralization.selected-writings>
- Rock Dusts Remineralize the Earth: Fertility and Health: <http://www.nantahala-farm.com/rock-dust-remineralize-earth-s.shtml>

The Remineralize the Earth website also has important videos from Biodiversity for a Livable Climate’s 2014 conference at Tufts University.

Important Publications and Books:

1. *The Survival of Civilization*, by John Hamaker and Don Weaver
2. *To Love and Regenerate the Earth: Further Perspectives on the Future of Civilization*, by Don Weaver and John Hamaker
3. *Remineralization the Earth Magazine* (1991-1997)
4. *Rocks for Crops*, by Peter Van Straaten, from the University of Guelph (this is on-line free from the Remineralize the Earth website)

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