A Recap of Four Amazing Years!

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What Is Industrial Agriculture?

Industrial agriculture is the large-scale, intensive production of crops and animals, often involving chemical fertilizers on crops or the routine, harmful use of antibiotics in animals.
Average Farm Life

82,000 Hens
1000 Beef Cattle
2,500 Large Pigs
How It Hurts Us

- Pesticide toxicity.
  Herbicides and insecticides commonly used in agriculture have been associated with both acute poisoning and long-term chronic illness.

- Water pollution
  Fertilizer runoff contaminates downstream drinking water supplies, requiring costly cleanup measures with an annual price tag of almost $2 billion.
How It Hurts Us

- **Junk food**
  Industrial agriculture, especially in the central United States, mostly produces commodity crops like corn and soybeans. These crops are used to make the processed foods that dominate the US diet, with serious—and enormously costly—health impacts.

- **Antibiotic resistance**
  The overuse of antibiotics in these farms has accelerated the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, which has taken a toll both in lives and health care dollars.
Environmental Impacts

- **Depletion.**
  Monoculture exhausts soil fertility, requiring costly applications of chemical fertilizers.

- **Irrigation.**
  Soils used to grow annual row crops and then left bare for much of the year have poor drought resistance, increasing irrigation costs.
Environmental Impacts

- **Erosion.**
  
  Monoculture degrades soil structure and leaves it more vulnerable to erosion, resulting in costs for soil replacement, cleanup, and lost farmland value.

- **Lost biodiversity.**

  Industrial farms don’t support the rich range of life that more diverse farms do. As a result, the land suffers from a shortage of the ecosystem services, such as pollination, that a more diverse landscape offers.
The Social and Economic Impacts

Loss of mid-sized farms.
Once the backbone of US agriculture, medium-sized farms are a dwindling breed, which means that fewer and fewer people make their living as farmers—a trend that has been bad for the economies of rural communities and farm states.
People who make their living from fisheries or tourism on the Gulf of Mexico and elsewhere, where “dead zones” and toxic algae blooms caused by farm runoff do damage with an annual price tag in the billions. CAFOs, too, create pollution problems that reduce livability and depress property values in surrounding communities.
With a loss of self-reliance and sustainable living methods, people need a educational hands on learning experience.
After making his documentary “King Corn” Ian Cheney moved to New York City he wanted to be able to grow his own food after seeing first hand the effects of industrial farming. Taking a good long look at the 1986 Dodge his grandfather Fayette Rumsey Plumb II had given him upon college graduation, Ian decided to give truck farming a whirl.
City Farm Chicago

Located at 550 W. Division St. in Chicago. They sell farm fresh crops weekly and are available to lower income families. The funds they raise from the sale of their crops go back into the community and run on volunteers.
The Survey

“Lots of space and security to make sure nobody steals my stuff”

“A variety of tools available for the community’s use. Clear rules. A fair designation of space so people can grow their own vegetables separately.”

“A greenhouse so produce can be grown year round. Community plots and also individual plots where people can grow their own things. Community tools”
Inspiration

Honeycomb Beehives  🌿 Interesting Seating  🌿 Hanging Herb Pots
Materials

Lots of Plants  Color Pops  Texture
Possible Space

Home developments 🌿 Senior Living 🌿 Main Roadways
Floor Plan

Indoor Grow Boxes & Sinks
Community & Learning Space
Indoor Planting & Learning Space
Back Patio Space
Thank You!