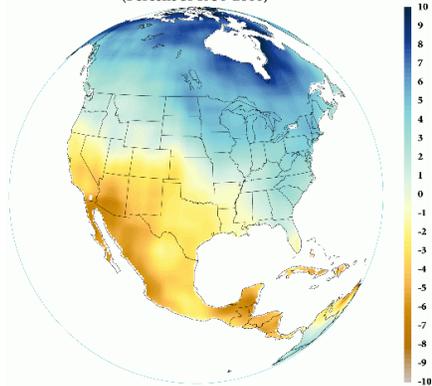


CLIMATE CHANGE IN TEXAS = A PERPETUAL DROUGHT

Projected Change in Precipitation 1950-2000 to 2021-2040
(Percent of 1950-2000)



In Southwestern North America, according to 19 different climate models conducted by scientists around the world, “the levels of aridity seen in the 1950s multiyear drought or the 1930s Dust Bowl become the new climatology by mid-century: a perpetual drought. In contrast to historical droughts, future drying is not linked to any particular pattern of change in sea surface temperature but seem to be the result of an overall surface warming driven by rising greenhouse gases....

Besides Southwestern North America, other land regions to be hard hit by subtropical drying include Southern Europe, North Africa, Middle East, and parts of South America.”¹

PRACTICES AT SANTUARIO SISTERFARM TO REDUCE CARBON FOOTPRINT & SAVE WATER

Mulch: Conserve moisture in soil and enrich it.

Compost: Recycle kitchen scraps, building nutrient-rich soil.

Vermi-Compost: Grow worms with kitchen scraps and harvest their castings (“black gold”).

Berms & Swales: Capture rainwater in soil (“cheapest place to store it”).

Rain Catchment Barrels & Tank: Capture rainwater falling on rooftops of house and sheds.

Drip Irrigation: Reduce evaporation and direct water to plants that need it.

Cover Crops: Enrich soil, adding nutrients while preventing erosion and parching.

Gray Water: Recycle all water used (except toilets) in house to water garden.

Low-flush Toilets: Use 1.2-1.6 gallons instead of 5 gallons.

Low-flow Showers: Use under 2 gallons per minute instead of over 5 gallons per minute.

Front-loading Washing Machine: Use 14 gallons instead of 40 gallons.

Composting Toilets: Use no water, composting “humanure” as mulch (“no waste in nature”).

Grow Food Organically: Keep poisons out of Earth, yourself, and your family.

Use Heirloom Seeds: Preserve biodiversity (and flavor) and safeguard food supply.

Buy Food at Farmer’s Market: Support local family-owned farmers, lower fossil-fuel use.

Fair Trade: When buying from afar, support fair-trade products for sustainable livelihoods.

Raise Chickens: Enjoy fresh eggs from happy free-range chickens. Awaken to rooster’s crow.

Plant Fruit Trees & Edible Landscapes: Enjoy food and shade from carbon absorbers.

Solatubes: Bring natural light into house, use less electricity.

Dual-Pane, Low-E Windows: Save on electric bill and reduce carbon emissions.

Geothermal Heating/Cooling: Use Earth as heat exchange to save energy and money.

Photovoltaic Panels: Use energy of sun to power water pumps, lights.

Reuse & Recycle: Reduce carbon emissions and impact on landfills. Buy 100% post-consumer.

Compact Fluorescent Bulbs: Save energy and money.

Clothesline: Reduce carbon emissions and save money with “solar dryer.”

Cold/Cold: Use less energy and save money by washing clothes on cold/cold cycle.

Non-Toxic Personal/Household Cleaners: Keep yourself and Earth clean and toxin-free.

Adjust Thermostat: Save energy and money by adjusting 2° colder/warmer.

Hybrid Car: Save energy and money driving 50 mpg.

Carbon Offset: Mitigate remaining carbon footprint with investment in clean renewable energy (see www.nativeenergy.com, for example).

¹ See Richard Seager, “An Imminent Transition to a More Arid Climate in Southwestern North America,” Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, The Earth Institute at Columbia University (2007) at <http://www.ideo.columbia.edu/res/div/ocp/people/seager/> (accessed June 11, 2009).