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NEWS FROM THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SOIL AND PLANTS

By John Ferguson

Additional research keeps being published on the importance of trace and micronutrients in the soil and how it affects our lives.

In this week's journals of Crop, Soil, and Agronomy newsletter, there was an article on climate change and carbon storage in the soil. They called this technique of using rock dusts "enhanced weathering" or EW.

Field studies by geologists and soil scientists have estimated that the weathering of rock minerals removes about half a billion tons of carbon from the atmosphere annually. *It is estimated that using EW could quadruple that amount!*

Several research studies have found that applying basalt sand to trees at planting time greatly increased their carbon capturing power. Additionally, they found that applying basalt significantly decreased nitrogen leaching which helps protect our streams and bays.

I have talked many times about how a lack of trace and micro-nutrients in the soil are the source of many plant and animal health problems and why applying re-mineralizer promotes healthier gardens.

The power of rock dusts (ground up rocks) benefits the entire world-wide ecosystem hence an organization has been formed to help educate folks on the benefits of rock dusts and the minerals they contain called "**Remineralize The Earth.**"

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From their website:

Joanna Campe, founder & executive director of RTE

“Remineralization is one of the most important missions on the planet at this time. Together, we can remineralize gardens, farms, landscapes, and forests. We can grow nutrient-dense food and improve the nutrition and well-being of all life. And in the larger picture, it’s a key strategy to stabilize the climate!”

Through our education, outreach, research, and advocacy, Remineralize the Earth facilitates a worldwide movement that brings together gardeners and farmers, scientists and policymakers and the public to create better soils, better food, and a better planet.

We can now add carbon sequestration and reduces nitrogen leaching to the list of benefits. Using locally produced **Re-mineralizer** is a great way to start re-mineralizing

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one's soil, help fight climate change, have healthier plants and better tasting fruits and vegetables.

Re-Mineralizer -The Benefits of Remineralization

- Provides slow, natural release of elements and trace minerals.
- Increases a plants resistance to insects, disease, frost, and drought.
- Increase the nutrient intake of plants.
- Increase yields and increases Brix reading.
- Increases growth rate and diversity of microorganisms.
- Increases earthworm activity.
- Speeds up formation of the humus complex in soil.
- Prevents soil erosion.
- Increases the storage capacity of soils.
- Increases nutrient density of food crops.
- Enhances flavor of crops.
- Reduces weed problems.
- Rebalances soil pH.
- Makes organic fertilizers work more efficiently.
- **Reduces nitrogen leaching**
- **Sequesters carbon**

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In addition to having a larger variety of elements in it, and since Re-mineralizer is locally produced, it is a lot cheaper than other products shipped from mines in the northern states.

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