



August 3, 2006
www.organicconsumersfund.org

ORGANIC BYTES

Food and Consumer News Tidbits with an Edge... From the Organic Consumers Fund
Please forward this publication to family and friends, websites, print it, & post it. Knowledge is power!

Organic Consumers 2006 Political Candidate Survey Launched by Organic Consumers Fund, the Political Ally of the OCA

Who are the "Organic Candidates" in the upcoming Elections?

The first step for organic consumers to make long-term positive changes, is to know where our elected public officials and their challengers stand on the key issues of health, justice, and sustainability. This Survey will help you identify candidates seeking office in 2006 who are willing to shift government resources from our current self-destructive path toward a healthy, greener and re-localized economy, a stabilized climate, a more democratic media and electoral process, and peace and justice—with organic agriculture and Fair Trade leading the way.

For a sneak preview of the OCF 2006 Candidate Survey, go to:
www.organicconsumersfund.org

If you are willing to help circulate the OCF Candidate Survey via email to the campaign organizations of politicians in your area and state (including Congressional candidates) please send an email to volunteer@organicconsumersfund.org

The Organic Consumers Fund is a 501(c)4 organization.



New Directions

Thanks to millions of conscious and ethical consumers like yourself, we are transforming the marketplace—voting with our dollars, euros, and pesos for health, justice, and sustainability. A growing army of health and eco-minded global citizens have the unprecedented potential to change the world. The sixty-year reign of chemical and energy-intensive industrial agriculture in North America and Europe appears to be drawing to a close:

- Seventy-five percent of consumers say they have begun shopping for healthier foods.
- Twelve cents of every grocery store dollar are currently being spent on products labeled as natural or organic.
- The relentless drive by transnational corporations to monopolize seeds, crops, food, drugs, and intellectual property is faltering.
- Millions of health-minded consumers are turning away from Big Pharma and patented drugs, toward traditional remedies, herbs, and ecological/preventive medicine.

The bad news is that we are all locked down passengers on a runaway train, curtains drawn, headed straight for a cliff. Those at the controls tell us not to worry about global warming, climate chaos, out-of-control technology, massive poverty, permanent war, the End of Oil, or stolen elections. It's time to wake up and stop this train—before it's too late. The OCA will not go quietly into the night. We are moving in New Directions to help build a Movement that can make a difference. But we need your volunteer participation and support more than ever. Please review this page to see the New Directions the OCA has begun to take, and send a donation if you can. Thank You.

Going Local: OCA Launching 50 State "Chapters"

Starting soon OCA's website will have 50 US state sections, as well as pages for Canada, Mexico, and Puerto Rico. These pages will provide important local and state news and opportunities to take action. We are looking for volunteer news scouts and editors who are willing to regularly email us news, Action Alerts, and upcoming events for your areas. We will also be adding state blogs and discussion forums for each area. At the same time we will start to customize *Organic Bytes*, so that at least some of the news and content in each issue will relate to your local area or state. We will also be recruiting local or state businesses as advertisers or sponsors. If you can help us build our local and state editions of *Organic Bytes*, or the state sections of our website, please email volunteer@organicconsumers.org

Broadening our Focus: Providing a Daily Alternative to the Mass Media

We have qualitatively expanded the scope and subject matter of our huge and daily updated website, OrganicConsumers.org. We now cover not only organics, farming, and Fair Trade issues better than just about anyone else on the web, but have built up new, carefully selected sections on Health, Environment, Peace, and Politics. So we invite you, for your enlightenment, as well as your mental health, to turn off your TV, cancel your subscriptions to the corporate media, and tune into our website, today and every-day. www.organicconsumers.org

Make a Donation to OCA Now and Double Your Impact

Don't have time to volunteer, but still want to support our efforts? OCA needs money to move in New Directions. You can help OCA "stop the train" and move in a positive direction. Several anonymous supporters have offered to match every dollar donated over the next two weeks week to jump-start the Organic Consumers Voter Guide and *New Directions*. OCA does not accept money from publicly traded corporations or the government, and relies on the donations of thousands of individuals like yourself. Every dollar helps, so please make a donation today online or call us at our toll-free number 888-403-1007 and donate by phone. www.organicconsumers.org/donations.htm