

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Website: <http://metroeast.theclimateeconomy.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/233579727656577/>

CLimate Economy Action Network (CLEAN): <https://clean.ideagist.com/>

Community Resilience Through Local Food and Farming the Focus of Metro East Event May 13

3-Part event series starts with Regenerative Organic Agriculture

In St. Louis's Metro East area, a group of organizations are teaming up to help build community resilience and improve food security through local food, farmers and regenerative organic agriculture. An online event is taking place on May 13 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. The event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. Registration and event details are available online at <http://metroeast.theclimateeconomy.com/>.

People interested in building a vision of the future where business models and lifestyles are good for humanity, the climate and the economy are encouraged to participate. Speakers and panelists for Part 1 of this 3-part kickoff event will discuss the potential, current status and challenges of local regenerative agriculture, "a conservation and rehabilitation approach to food and farming systems." A concurrent launch of the Metro East's CLimate Economy Action Network (CLEAN) will help individuals to get involved with existing activities and to find their niche for their passions and expertise. This event is being held online to keep people safe and healthy while helping to build an attainable and realistic vision of the future where everyone thrives authentically.

Key personalities for the event include a keynote presentation by [L. Hunter Lovins](#), founder and president of Natural Capitalism Solutions and author of many books including [A Finer Future: Creating an Economy in Service to Life](#). She will discuss the current status, challenges and benefits of regenerative agriculture. [Dr. Kristine Lang](#), extension scientist for Rodale Institute, will also present regarding regenerative organic farming in the Midwest. A discussion with the presenters and additional panelists will follow the presentations. Panelists include Cindy Windland of the Just Transition Fund regarding development and resources, and three Metro East area producers: Jackie Mills of [The Family Garden](#), Michael Turley of [Rolling Lawns Farm](#), and Dave Ernst of [Ernst Family Farms](#).

This event is sponsored by the Just Transition Fund (<https://www.justtransitionfund.org/>), a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping coal-affected communities build strong, resilient, and diversified new energy economies. Cindy Winland of the Just Transition Fund, said "The need

for economic resiliency is clearer now than ever before, so the Just Transition Fund is proud to support this timely learning opportunity that will help equip communities to spur equitable and inclusive growth across the Metro East region.”

The lead organizer is [The Climate Economy Education Inc](#), which aims to educate people about business models and lifestyles that are good for the climate, economy and humanity. Other organizers include [Citizens Utility Board](#), [Piasa Palisades Sierra Club](#), [Sustainability at SIUe](#), [Metro East Green Alliance](#), and [Confluence Climate Collaborative](#).

The event will also include a brief tutorial on the [CLimate Economy Action Network \(CLEAN\)](#), an online community to build new climate ventures. CLEAN aims to educate people about creating ideas and to get people taking target actions that are good for the climate, economy and humanity.

This is the first of three events in a series. The following events will focus on clean energy and local community investment strategies. For more information contact Amy McMorrow Hunter at theclimateeconomy@gmail.com or 618 713 2896.

About the Just Transition Fund

The Just Transition Fund (JTF) was established in 2015 by the Rockefeller Family Fund and partners in response to President Obama’s POWER Initiative, which provided the first-ever federal funding to help communities impacted by the changing coal economy and power sector. The JTF’s direct investments are improving the effectiveness of the field and accelerating communities’ ability to respond to the energy transition. In addition, direct technical assistance is helping high-level stakeholder groups create innovative funding streams for transition projects and helping communities understand core transition strategies. To date, JTF grants have helped inject nearly \$19 million in federal funds to support and scale community-driven transition projects. Based on input from partners and stakeholders, the Fund expanded its mission and scope to more broadly address the coal community transition movement. More information is available online at www.JustTransitionFund.com.

About The Climate Economy

The Climate Economy is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established to help guide students and entrepreneurs towards the new business models of The Climate Economy. New business models including clean energy, natural conservation strategies and circular resource flows are necessary to mitigate and adapt to climate change. They are profitable through efficiency improvements and waste reductions, and lead to better human and environmental health. Visit www.theclimateeconomy.com for more information.