

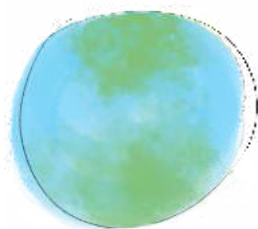
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bluedotliving™

AT HOME ON EARTH



Every other week, Bluedot Living will share stories about local changemakers, Islanders' sustainable homes and yards, planet-healthy recipes and tips, along with advice from Dear Dot. Did your friend send you this? [Sign up for yourself here](#). Not interested? No problem — [click here](#) to be removed from Bluedot Living emails.

Distributed by [The Martha's Vineyard Times](#)
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SIMPLE / SMART / SUSTAINABLE / STORIES



By now we hope that our Bluedot readers recognize [Dot](#), dispensing advice from a perch on her porch. Islander [Elissa Turnbull](#), a former winner of the Ag Fair poster contest, created this illustration for us. We're enjoying getting questions from Vineyarders both on-Island and off. Do you have some? Write Dot at deardot@bluedotliving.com.

Quick Links

Tired of scrolling? Here's what you'll find in this edition of the Bluedot Newsletter:

- [Recipe: Easy Crab Cakes made from planet-saving kelp](#)
- [Buy Less/Buy Better: Sylvie Bags from recycled barkcloth](#)
- [The Masters of Carbon at Woods Hole's Woodwell Climate Research Center](#)
- [Kelp is on the Way! Can Savory Seaweed Save the World?](#)
- [From Bluedot National: It's so long King Coal, hello tourism in West Virginia](#)

Saving Birds, Saving More

Our Bluedot email was active this weekend when co-editor Jamie sought advice on what to do regarding a Belted Kingfisher that had flown into a glass door. Should she move the bird? Leave it alone? Move it out of the blazing sun and into the protected



shade of a shrub while it recovered? (Answer to that last one was yes.) Biodiversity Works’ Luanne Johnson (that’s her in the photo, with Angela Luckey) responded with [this handy info](#). We all want to do what’s right and kind, to protect what we can.

As we continue to absorb what feels like a firehose of bad news (we’ll have more to say about [the SCOTUS ruling on West Virginia vs. the EPA](#), which paves the way for lots of anti-climate litigation), I take comfort in the work being done by so many of us. Not just save-one-Belted-

Kingfisher work, but work that is broad and focused on systemic change. Work on building out EV infrastructure, like the woman I spoke with this week at Union of Concerned Scientists. The Oak Bluffs Planning Board finally killing artificial turf. The work of the two women in Oregon’s depavement movement, featured in an upcoming “What’s so bad about...?” story. Work that reflects the Think Global, Act Local ethos.

That ethos will be celebrated on July 19 at the MV Museum in “Crafting Equitable Solutions to the Climate Crisis,” sponsored by MV Bank and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and featuring Cheryl Andrews-Maltais, chairwoman of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head/Aquinnah, among others. The event is available to all via Zoom; [info is here](#). Happy Independence Day. —Leslie Garrett and Jamie Kageleiry

This issue of the Bluedot newsletter is sponsored by [The Natural Neighbors Program](#).



Interested in making your yard a haven for pollinators, birds, and other wildlife? Join the Natural Neighbors network! Angela Luckey will work with you to develop manageable strategies to contribute to the ecological health of the island and encourage a greater sense of community around creating backyard habitat. To sign up for this free program email Angela at angelal@biodiversityworksmv.org



What. On. Earth.



But good news! One year later, barnacles are thriving, which [one researcher said](#), lays the foundation for recovery of other species.



Accounting for Carbon

Making your way down the Woods Hole road from Falmouth to the ferry, you've probably seen the wind turbine spinning next to a building that some of us might have assumed was part of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. It's not a WHOI building, but instead an internationally renowned center for climate research that George Woodwell started almost 40 years

ago in his basement. “Today,” Sam Moore writes, Woodwell “employs nearly 100 scientists and staff, whose work on everything from permafrost to wildfires is shaping our understanding of the world we live in — and what we’re doing to it.”

[READ MORE HERE.](#)

BUY LESS/BUY BETTER



Bags from Barkcloth (Thanks, Sylvie!)

I met Sylvie Farrington more than 20 years ago on an expedition to the Brimfield Flea Market, where she ran around for three days buying vintage barkcloth — the mid-century fabric featuring lush summery tropicals and florals straight out of the Garden of Eden. She’s been creating bags, pillows, and other Made-on-MV delights ever since. [More info here.](#) -J.K.

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Felix Neck Summer Events

Tuesday, July 19
Sanctuary Supper
 An Evening Eating for the Planet

Sunday, August 28
Amity Shark Race
 Wooden Shark Fin Race

Saturday, September 3
Foot It For Felix
 5K Trail Run / Walk



Compost Query: What to do with waste meat and dairy?

Dear Dot,

Why can't you compost cheese, yogurt, or meat?

—*Nina Maruca, via email*

Dear Nina,

I am meticulous about clearing my plate. Even so, the occasional meat scrap or piece of cheese evades my stomach. And I feel guilty about tossing those morsels in the trash to rot in a landfill.

While you technically can compost meat and dairy products, a lot can go wrong along the way. The Environmental Protection Agency places meat and dairy on its "[What Not to Compost](#)" list along with pet waste, charcoal ash, and diseased plants among other items.

But why? Meat, to start, can attract rodents or pests to your compost bin. Raw meat also could be infected with E.coli or salmonella, which would allow bacteria to spread to the crops you're putting compost on and ruin them.

Dairy products also attract pests. And they can cause the food scraps to clump together, creating anaerobic digestion, which results in foul smells.

While there are a few options to compost such items at home, the process is a lot more difficult to get right, especially for the beginner composter. I chatted with Roxanne Kapitan from Garden Wisdom to get her two cents...

[Read the rest of Dot's response here.](#)

Got a question for Dot? Ask her at deardot@bluedotliving.com.

RIGHT AT HOME



HOME

Laura Silber's Salvage

Laura Silber is a chef, woodworker, mother, advocate, artist, and community organizer. And, [Mollie Doyle writes](#), she has made a life on the Island making gorgeous furniture from found objects and salvaged wood, in whimsical styles and often a delightful mid-century palette.

FOOD

Kelp Crab Cakes

MV's Martino brothers are taking the gamble that there's an appetite for the [sugar kelp they're harvesting right off our shores](#). We think this crab cake recipe will firmly establish that appetite. Contributing editor Catherine Walthers suggests doubling the recipe right out of the gate.



The Nature Conservancy 

TOGETHER WE'RE TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

Over the past 35 years, The Nature Conservancy has helped protect more than 1,500 acres on Martha's Vineyard. We're restoring unique habitats like rare sandplain grasslands for the survival of animals and plants.

[NATURE.ORG/MARTHASVINEYARD](https://www.nature.org/marthasvineyard)

How energy efficient is your home?



FIND OUT >>







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What statement best describes your recent at-home menu:

- I eat much less meat than I used to because I know it makes an impact on climate health.
- I eat more meat than I used to.
- I eat the same amount of meat as I always did.

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BY HOME ON EARTH

ADVICE

At Bluedot, we're big fans of Project Drawdown, which has quantified the impact of 82 ambitious climate solutions. Drawdown researchers have now [added 11 more](#), including seaweed farming and macroalgae protection and restoration. Our reporter Catherine Walthers already checked out the kelp farming undertaken by the Martino Brothers right off our Vineyard coast (and offered up some yummy ways to eat it). [Read more about this model of sustainability.](#)

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