

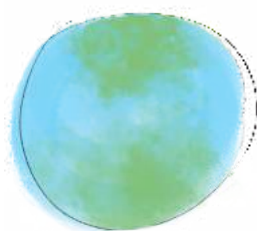
- [f Share](#)
- [t Tweet](#)
- [in Share](#)

⊗
📧 Share

- [f](#)
- [t](#)
- [in](#)

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](#)
[Click here to see a web copy of this email](#)

SIMPLE / SMART / SUSTAINABLE / STORIES



“Eating local honey supports your local beekeeper and the local bee population, which is in decline worldwide because of habitat loss,” says Brent Brown, owner of [Ginny Bee Honey](#). Brown credits Martha’s Vineyard as inspiration for his apiary aspirations. “I fell in love with nature and the beautiful landscaping and uncultivated areas all around us. Beekeeping ... gets me out in nature.” Great shot by Chappy photographer Sheny Leon.

“Our younger generation realizes we’ve got to do something about the climate because our lives literally depend on it. And there’s a willingness to do whatever it takes to address the problem.”

—Jed Katch, Island educator and [driver of an EV](#).



Policy Matters

Our early summer issue is headed for newsstands in the next week! That’s beekeeper Brent Brown on the cover, and the issue is full of gems, some of which we’re highlighting here.

In 1963, Congress passed the Clean Air Act, which gave the federal government the authority to reduce air pollution, regulate emissions standards, and invest in technologies to remove sulfur from coal and oil. In 1965, the Clean Water Act passed, creating federal standards for

statewide water quality. Also in 1965, the Motor Vehicle Air Pollution Control Act established federal car emission standards. In 1968, the National Trails System Act protected U.S. trails.

The list goes on: The National Environmental Policy Act in 1970 required federal agencies to prepare Environmental Impact Statements for all legislation. Manufacturing technology kept pace with legislation, removing lead from gasoline and adding catalytic converters to car engines to eliminate lethal emissions.

Depending on who we've elected, the pace of environmental legislation has ebbed and flowed. But all of it transforms the country and how we live our lives.

It's not just legislation but lawsuits that bring about change. Just last week, the Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' lawsuit against oil company Exxon Mobil can move ahead, thwarting Exxon's attempts to have it thrown out. The suit accuses Exxon of lying about the climate crisis and covering up its role in worsening its impact. Earlier in May, a federal appeals court ruled that a lawsuit by Rhode Island against 21 fossil fuel companies can move ahead in state court. Similar rulings have been made in Colorado, Maryland, and California.

While we can only be spectators in the legal proceedings, we have some power to push our politicians to pass powerful and crucial climate legislation. Visit [#Call4Climate](#) for a script of what to say. Closer to home, learn who to contact [here](#), under Representatives.

And to see promising developments and interesting innovators beyond our little Island and our state, check out [Bluedot Living's new national site](#). —*Leslie Garrett and Jamie Kageleiry*

This issue of the Bluedot newsletter is sponsored by [Geese Partners Goose Control](#).



Residential, Commercial & Event Goose Control
on Martha's Vineyard

We are a local, year-round company



Take Back Your Turf

Safe & Eco-Friendly Goose Control



CONTACT US TODAY!

(508) 627-2454

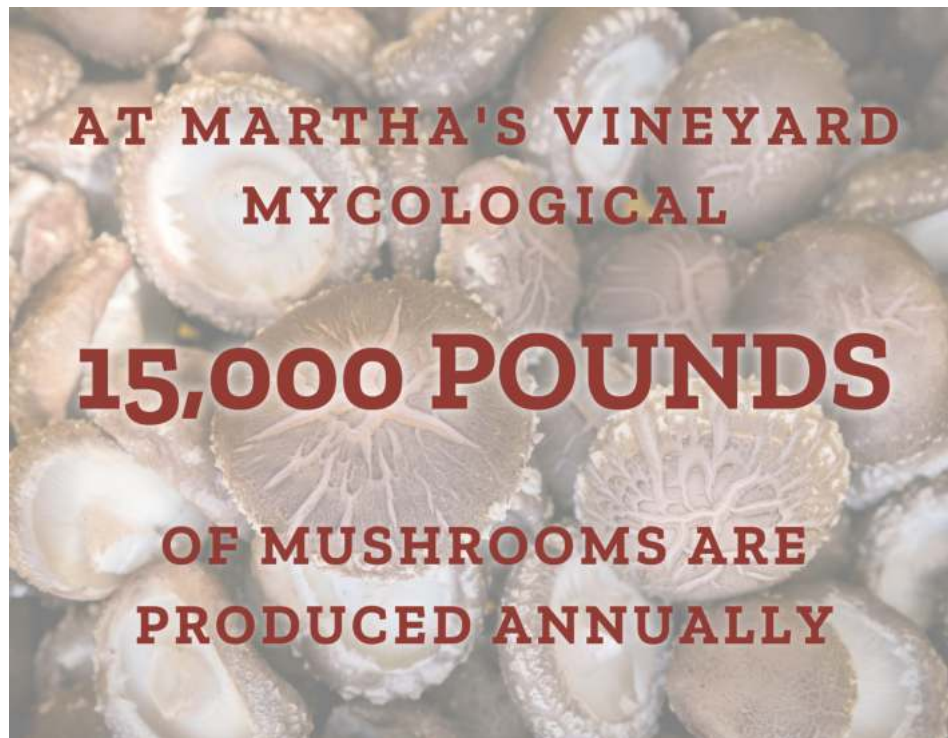
MV@GeesePartners.com

GeesePartners.com



Climate Quick Tip

Cook up a Mushroom Monday. Mushrooms have about 15 vitamins and minerals, including vitamin B6, folate magnesium, zinc and potassium. They're chock full of antioxidants, they have vitamin D, and they have particularly potent phytochemicals, linked to combating aging and some cancers. See our story on some of the nation's best mushrooms, [MV Mycological's shiitakes](#), grown right here on Martha's Vineyard.



All of these mushrooms are produced on 45,000 logs.

[Read more about Martha's Vineyard Mycological here.](#)



What's So Bad about GMOs?

Are they all bad? Opinions run the gamut from considering them “Frankenfood” to crediting them with eradicating disease (including a study being done here on the Island with genetically modified mice who may help us get ahead of Lyme disease). What’s key is to learn when GMOs do good and when they don’t. “It’s not about completely reversing people’s opinion,” professor of psychology Jon McPhetres said in our story. “But I think we can shift people to being slightly more positive, or at least less negative toward [GMOs].” McPhetres himself is fascinated by gene editing though he says he can “understand why people might be scared of it.” The answer, he insists, is talking about it.

[READ THE STORY.](#)

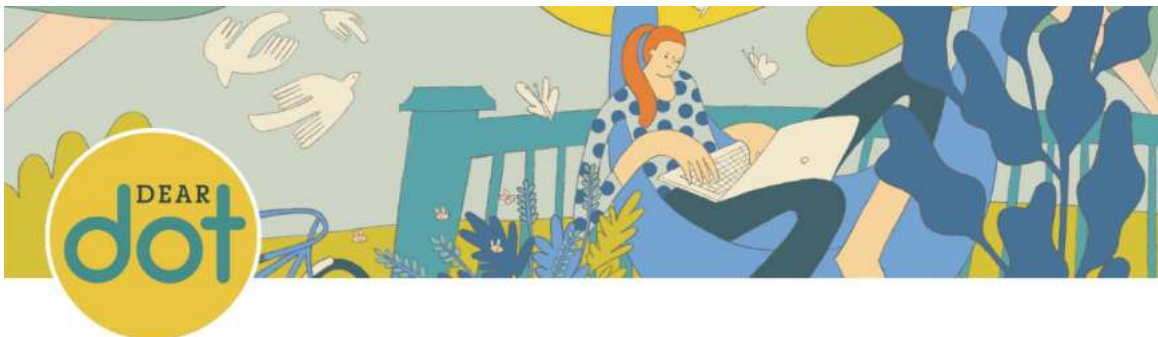
BUY LESS/BUY BETTER

Kelp “Everything” Seasoning



Barnacle Alaskan Kelp Seasoning comes from a 3,000-square-foot facility that also makes kelp salsa, kelp pickles, hot sauces, BBQ sauce, and their furikake blends. Even better, Barnacle Foods uses certified organic ingredients and Alaskan kelp that is responsibly harvested and farmed. Kelp serves as a carbon sink, buffering the effects of ocean acidification.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Dear Dot: Is It Time to Ditch Diamond Engagement Rings?

Dear Dot,

My longtime partner and I are planning to get married. I don't usually go for a lot of the conventional stuff but we have decided to give each other rings. I've heard some nasty stuff about diamonds and gold mining. How can we show our love for each other without harming anyone else?

—Kate, Aquinnah

Dear Kate,

There was a juncture in time that my then-boyfriend and I were auditioning each other for the role of Dots for Life. I mentioned that if he was considering an engagement ring, I'd like one with history. Specifically, my family's history, in the form of my grandmother's ring. The rest is, umm, history.

Unfortunately any diamond, including the one that was shortly thereafter installed on my finger, comes with a whole lot of history that most of us would prefer to remain ignorant of.

Conflict, corruption, war, abuse, environmental degradation. The story of diamond mining holds all of those things. Ukrainian President Zelensky recently blamed Russian diamonds that were circumventing sanctions and being sold in the U.S. for helping fund Putin's invasion...

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

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



RIGHT AT HOME



HOME

Cut Out All that Kitchen Clutter!

You're outfitting your kitchen and you think you need the knife sets, the sets of 24 pans, all the gear, right? Nope. The Island's best cooks stick to very few (but very good) basics. Less stuff = less waste = healthier planet.

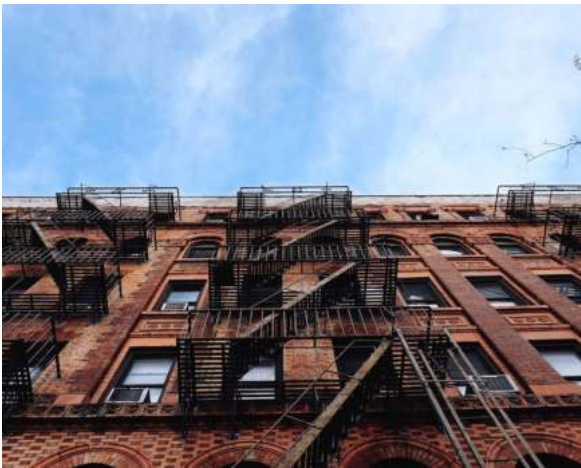
[Read how.](#)

FOOD

Mushroom Stir Fry

Contributing Editor Catherine Walthers says the MV Mycological shiitakes are the best she's ever eaten. This stir-fry is packed with protein and medicinal qualities thanks to the mushrooms.

We're planning to have ours with sautéed tempeh and asparagus. [Check out the recipe here.](#)



TECH

An Eco Retrofit

A Brooklyn-based startup is retrofitting 1,200 old buildings in New York City with green energy. BlocPower, the startup funded by Jeff Bezos and other top investors, came up with [groundbreaking solutions to "green" already existing homes.](#)



bluedotTMliving
AT HOME OR EARTH

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 >>

ADVICE

Want to contact your elected officials and insist that they push for climate legislation? Find their contact info via our [Ultimate Simple, Smart, Sustainable Handbook to Martha's Vineyard](#).

SPOTLIGHT



Think Global, Act Local

Love take-out but hate the trash? Check out [MV Island Eats](#), which has created a pilot program to supply reusable stainless-steel take-out containers at five Island eateries. Jessica Mason launched the closed-loop reusable container system as a trial run through September to reduce the landfill-bound waste created by to-go containers. Read more about her initiative [here](#). And

go get takeout at the Pawnee House, MV Salads, Bobby B's, Black Sheep, and the Katama General Store.

FOLLOW US



Bluedot Living magazine and marthasvineyard.bluedotliving.com are published quarterly by Bluedot, LLC, and distributed by The Martha's Vineyard Times. Subscribe to this newsletter [here](#).

To opt out of all Bluedot newsletters, please [click here](#).

The Martha's Vineyard Times, 30 Beach Road, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568, United States

To unsubscribe from all Martha's Vineyard Times communications, [click here](#).

Email Marketing by ActiveCampaign