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WHOLE QUEENS CATALOG



Letter from the Editor : Whole Queens for a Whole Earth?  
Queens, New York

If you're reading this and thinking *Wet ?*

Whole Earth Catalog was an American counterculture magazine and product catalog published by Stewart Brand between 1968 and 1972, and on more occasional schedules, until 1998. The magazine contained essays and articles, including product reviews. The focus was on self-sufficiency, ecology, alternative education, and DIY workarounds. It prominently featured the slogan "access to tools."

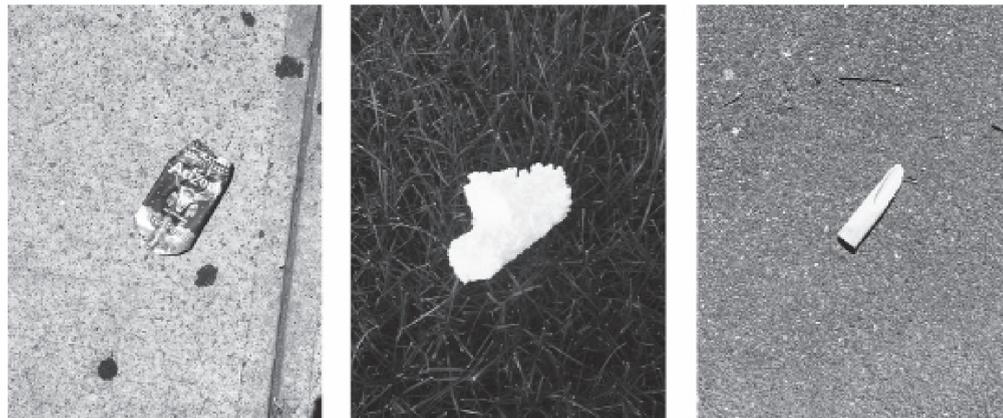
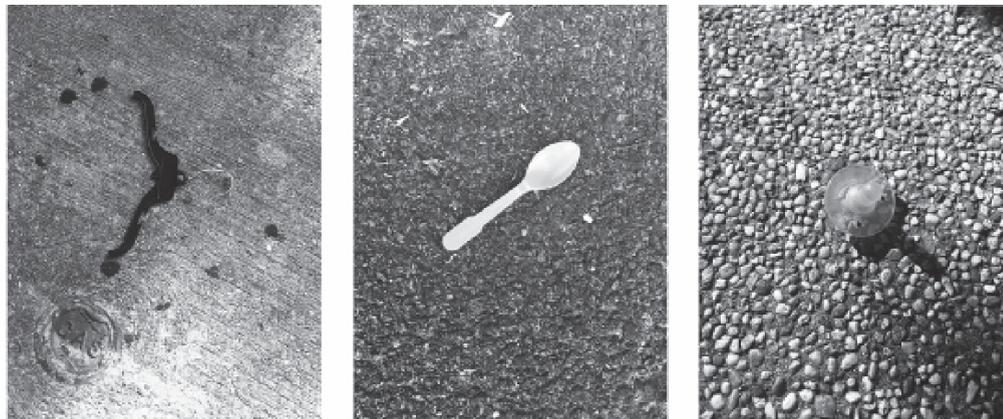
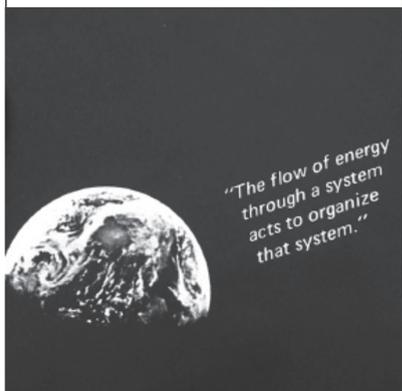
"The operational word on the cover of the CATALOG is access. Ultimately, that means giving the reader access from where he is to where he wants to be. Which takes work, work takes tools, tools need finding, and that's where we come in." Stewart Brand, 1971

STEW-MAP is a tool, a guide to further accessing the information needed to take communal care of the city of New York. Stewardship is the process of stewarding or caring for one's surroundings. In a city of over eight million people it can be overwhelming just finding a spot to start. Steve Jobs referred to Whole Earth Catalog as a precursor to Google, everything and anything was found between its covers. Today we have more access to information than ever before but what exactly are we doing with it? How are we sharing it? Once shared, then what? A push for self-sufficiency is an incredibly American desire but how often we do overlook the community that makes that possible? In a digital world in which person-to-person contact often feels to be on the wane, how do we combat isolation and reconnect to not only community but nature as well? In a world experiencing a climate emergency with governments unwilling to confront crisis head on, how do we stay afloat, sane, involved?

Whole Queens Catalog won't answer these questions in any kind of totality but it might make you a friend or teach you a trick, help you plant a tree, turn off your AC, or use all of those CSA zucchinis or maybe just help you understand what CSA stands for and where to drop off your coffee grounds.

Whole Queens Catalog isn't whole as much as varied, it isn't a catalog as much as it is an introduction to forms of care.

< - - In 1965 Stewart Brand started his "Why haven't we seen the whole Earth yet?" campaign. NASA released an image of the whole Earth in 1967 and Brand subsequently used it on the debut cover of his catalog published in 1968.



W E T T I P ! D R I P

On a rainy day in NYC do NOT: shower, do your laundry, or run excessive water. In the city's split sewage system, rising water levels cause sewage to flow into our rivers.

\* from Climate Urban Systems Partnerships

STEWARDSHIP : PURPOSE & FUNCTION

Stewardship is an ethic that embodies the responsible planning and the management of resources. The concepts of stewardship can be applied to the environment and nature, economics, health, property, information, theology.

The word stewardship comes from the Middle English stiwardshepe, which is the combination of steward + ship, meaning steward, housekeeper, caretaker, one who has the superintendence of household affair. Steward from the Old English stiward, stigward from stig meaning house or hall plus weard for ward, guard, guardian, keeper. Ship from the Old English -sciepe, and the Proto Germanic -skapiz, modern German -schaft, meaning shape, form, state, added to the end of a noun to create a new one, denoting property or state of being, the time spent in a role, or a specialized union

If we can trace the roots of stewardship back to the Old English, pre-Norman conquest (1066) then what do we make of stewardship in a contemporary context? Is an uptick in interest in stewardship a response to our current political moment? Is it a reaction to the isolation of the internet and community as we see it reflected, through the screen? Is it an uptick at all or is the uptick just in attention? In defining stewardship we speak of an ethic, one in which responsibility represents care, for one's environment and fellow citizens. This is demonstrated by groups on STEW MAP that focus on climate justice, food access, city greening, swimming lessons, community radio, and historical societies.

The importance of stewardship feels more pressing today because of the failings of our political system, because of the threat of climate change, because of increasing partisanship and income inequality. In a world in which "selfcare" has become a marketing buzz word and a byword for conspicuous consumption, how do we realign the emphasis of communal care as a facet of a necessary self care? How do we show that in stewarding our resources we are caring for ourselves and our communities? Perhaps the first step is in shining a light on the process of stewardship and the means to involvement.

FULL MOON CALENDAR

Date of Full Moon	Name of Full Moon	Time of Full Moon
September 14th	Full Harvest Moon	12 : 33 AM
October 13th	Full Hunters Moon	5 : 08 PM
November 12th	Full Beaver Moon	8 : 34 AM
December 12th	Full Cold Moon	12 : 12 AM



The Editor's Eastern Redbud prior to transportation upon the Queens bound F train. The tree was planted in the Forest Hills backyard of Joan Igoe.

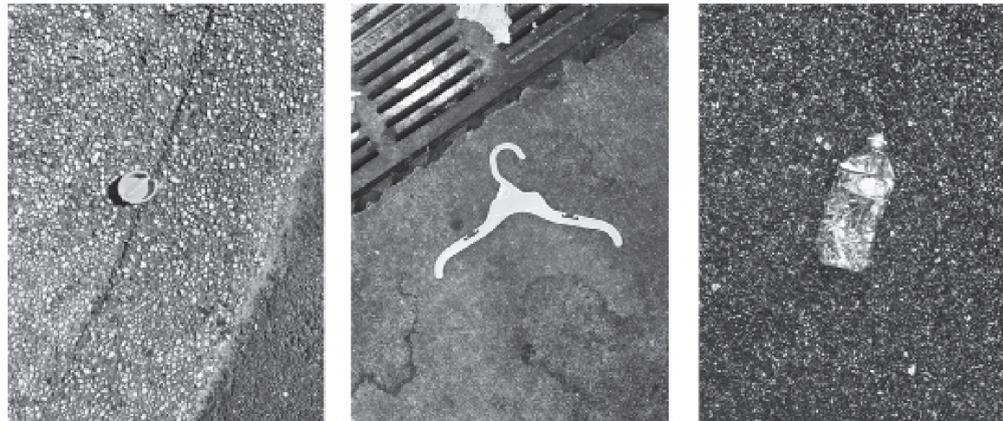
NYC's Million Trees program planted a million trees throughout the city to green our spaces. Access to cleaner air and greater connections to our environment are just two of the noted benefits. A recent study out of ETH Zurich posits that planting 1 trillion trees could remove 2/3 of all emissions produced by humans. Back in NY Bette Midler's Restoration Project partnered with NYC Parks to give out trees to those who agreed to take care of them. The project has continued past the original partnership's goal of 1 million trees; to get a tree look out for NYRP's spring and fall giveaways. www.nyrp.org

Commonly planted trees in NYC :

- Ginkgo Biloba
- Honeylocust
- Servicetree
- Eastern Redbud
- Black Gum
- Scholar Tree



West 10th and 9th streets have among the highest density of street tree dedications in the city, both official and unofficial. Leonard Seelig was a labor organizer.



\* All items above collected on various plogging journeys across Brooklyn and Queens in the summer of 2019

Stewarding..... Alone

Plogging refers to an activity that combines jogging with picking up litter (Swedish: plocka upp). It began in Sweden around 2016 and spread to other countries by 2018, following increased awareness and concern about plastic pollution[1]. As exercise, it provides the added benefits of bending, squatting and stretching to the regular action of running, hiking, or walking.

According to Wikipedia, author David Sedaris often plogs in areas of West Sussex, covering 60,000 steps a day in pursuit of local rubbish. His efforts in keeping his neighbourhood clean were so impressive that the local authority named a waste vehicle in his honour. The Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex, Susan Pyper, said "The sign on this truck is a very fitting way to say a huge 'thank you' to David for his tireless efforts. [...] he is a real local hero." [2]

Recently, Megan Thee Stallion organized her "hotties" [3] on a beach clean up expedition in Santa Monica, California.

There is currently no stewardship group for Ploggers in Queens on STEW MAP, but there is a group on Facebook called Plogging NYC.

[1] Not Fun Fact! Only 9% of all plastic is recycled.

[2] Sedaris wrote about this hobby in a June 2014 New Yorker article

[3] Stallion's most ardent fans

Snow peas harvested at Hellgate Farm in northwestern Queens in June 2019. Hellgate is a network of residential and rooftop gardens. They run a small scale CSA, sell produce and small batch products at Socrates Sculpture Park's farmers market and other local places, as well as provide design, contracting, and consulting services.

Kohlrabi is also called German turnip and is a low, stout cultivar of wild cabbage. It is often pale green or purple. It has a mild, sweet flavor with a crunchy texture. -->

HEARD ON THE STREET

"you know they say the tomatoes taste better when they're left on the vine for the whole time"

"they do, i'm just cleaning them up"

"you should leave them on the vine"

"I am, I'm just cleaning them up"

"I don't know why you're taking them off, you should leave them all on"

"ok ok why am i even having this conversation, you're just going to eat 9 tomatoes and go"

"thank you"

Recipe for Kohlrabi and Chickpea Curry

From the Flushing CSA

Prep Time 15 min  
Cook Time 20 - 30 min  
Serves 4

1 large or 2 small kohlrabies ( 1 pound total )  
1 medium yellow onion, thinly sliced  
3 cloves of garlic, minced  
1/4 cup dry white wine  
1 (14 oz) can of diced tomatoes, with juice  
Kosher salt  
1 (14 oz) can of full fat coconut milk  
2 Tbsp Thai red curry paste + extra to taste  
1 Tbsp honey  
2 Tbsp coconut oil  
1 (14 oz) can chickpeas, drained and rinsed

White rice + parsley for serving

Cut off and discard the leaves and stems from the kohlrabi. With a sharp knife peel the kohlrabi and cut into 1/2 inch cubes. Set aside.

Heat the coconut oil in a large dutch oven or pot over medium-high heat. Add the onion and cook, stirring often until fragrant and translucent, roughly 5-6 minutes.

Stir in the kohlrabi cubes and sautee for 3-5 minutes until softened. If you prefer it softer, cover, reduce heat and simmer for 5-10 minutes.

Add the garlic and stir until fragrant. Add wine and continue to cook for another 5 minutes.

Mix in the tomatoes with their juices, reduce heat to medium-low and season with salt.

In a small bowl, stir together the coconut milk, curry paste and honey. Mix well. Add the mixture to the pot along with the chickpeas and simmer until everything is heated through.

Taste and adjust seasoning with more salt or curry paste if needed.

Serve with rice and minced parsley.

Compost Constellation

Compost is decayed organic material (food scraps) used as plant fertilizer. Compost pick up is available in some NYC neighborhoods but not all. Food scrap drop off points are found around the city, before bringing your drop offs, check hours and days, as well as guidelines. Grow NYC has a list, some of the following included:

- Queens Botanical Garden 42-80 Crommelin Ave
- Jackson Heights Greenmarket, 34th Ave b/w 79th & 80th St
- JH Scraps, 35-20 69th St
- Corona Greenmarket, Corona Plaza, Roosevelt Ave at 103rd St
- Forest Hills Greenmarket, South side of Queens Blvd at 70th Ave
- The Compost Collective, 73-24 Yellowstone Blvd
- Commuter Composting, 86-55 Broadway
- St. James Compost, 86-02 Broadway
- Commuter Composting, Kew Gardens Road and 81st Ave
- Commuter Composting, Briarwood E/F Subway N Side of Queens Blvd
- Ditmars Blvd N/W Commuter Drop-Off, 22-75 31st Street
- Sunny Compost, 38-63 50th St
- Brooklyn Grange, 37-19 Northern Blvd (roof)
- Sunnyside Greenmarket, Skillman Ave at 43rd St
- Smiling Hoghead Ranch, 25-30 Skillman Ave
- Commuter Composting, Vernon Jackson 7 Subway, Vernon Blvd & 50th St
- Commuter Composting, 21st St F Subway, NW Corner of 21st St at 41st Ave
- Queens Library at Broadway, 40-20 Broadway
- Commuter Composting, Broadway N/W, 32-15 31st St
- Socrates Sculpture Park, Broadway & Vernon Blvd
- Hellgate Farm, 14-33 30th Drive
- Astoria Library, 14-01 Astoria Blvd

**HOT TAKE ! \***

On a hot day, consider leaving your home, head to a community cooling center, a library, a museum, the movies. Saving electricity by running one less AC is a huge help but checking in on neighbors and enlivening community centers also strengthens communities and helps build relationships in general.

\* from Climate & Urban Systems Partnerships is a group of informal science educators, climate scientists, learning scientists and community partners in New York, DC, Pittsburgh, and Philadelphia funded by the National Science Foundation to explore innovative ways to educate city residents about climate change.

We can't put it together.  
It is together.

**How to Bait a Hook**

- Find some worms, any worms
- Pass the hook thru the end of the worm
- Push the worm to the top of the hook
- Grab the long end of the worm, spear it
- Pull the worm down toward the hook
- Cast away

Sources : Climate Urban Systems Partnership : [www.cusproject.org](http://www.cusproject.org) / Hellgate Farm : [www.hellgatefarm.com](http://www.hellgatefarm.com) / SwimStrong Foundation : [www.swimstrongfoundation.org](http://www.swimstrongfoundation.org) / Flushing CSA : [www.flushingcsa.com](http://www.flushingcsa.com) / Queens County Bird Club : [www.qcbirdclub.org](http://www.qcbirdclub.org) / NY Restoration Project : [www.nyrp.org](http://www.nyrp.org)  
American Littoral Society : [www.littoralsociety.org](http://www.littoralsociety.org) / Grow NYC : [www.grownyc.org](http://www.grownyc.org) / Amateur Astronomers Association NYC : [www.aaa.org](http://www.aaa.org) / Million Trees NYC : [www.milliontreesnyc.org](http://www.milliontreesnyc.org) / Brooklyn Queens Land Trust : [www.bqilt.org](http://www.bqilt.org) / USDA Forest Service & New York City STEW-MAP NYC : [www.nrs.fs.fed.us/STEW-MAP/nyc/](http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/STEW-MAP/nyc/)

Concerned Citizen wants to know what is that bird?

< - - Downy Woodpecker at Oakland Lake, part of Alley Pond Park, photo by Nancy Tongan, 2016

**THE UNIVERSAL LAWS OF BIRDING**

**THE SACRIFICIAL LAMB LAW.** On a stake out for a rarity, the bird will only show up after the "sacrificial lamb" needs to use the restroom, get hot chocolate, or has to leave. The "lamb" should be spared the bad news, and instead be presented with a jar of mint jelly. {See YSHBH Constant}

**THE SPITEFUL AVOIDANCE LAW.** If you don't see the bird within a certain amount of tries, it becomes insulted and deliberately avoids you from then on, becoming your "Nemesis Bird" or Oiseau de Malheur. {Arie Gilbert}

**THE LAW OF IRONIC ABUNDANCE.** You may look for a particular bird for 20 years without finding it, but once you do find it, they will be everywhere and robin-like in their numbers. {Carolyn Hoffman}

**THE LUCK OF THE DISINTERESTED LAW.** At any stakeout for a rare bird at which a large number of birders have assembled, one birder will usually have dragged along an uninterested, non-birding friend or relative. The non-birder almost inevitably will be the one who looks the other way or wanders off and finds the sought after bird. {Joe DiCostanzo}

**THE METEOROLOGICAL PARADOX.** Whenever the weather is unseasonably nice, the birds you are seeking are also enjoying the good weather. Elsewhere. {Ian Resnick}

**THE LAW OF REQUISITE COSTA RICAN INQUIRY.** If you tell someone you are going on or have just returned from a birding trip, they will enthusiastically ask: "Have you been to Costa Rica?" {Arie Gilbert}

**THE OUT OF TOWN LAW.** Whenever you travel away from your local patch (usually on some exotic, expensive birding trip), the local Rare Bird Report has observation submissions - the entire time you are away - of State Firsts or Seconds, of any number of species. And they all take wing, never to be seen again, one day before your return. {Eileen Schwinn}

Universal Laws of Birding provided by the kind folks at the Queens County Bird Club.

**HEARD ON THE STREET!**

Urban Garden Center Tree Pick Up, May 2019

"what tree did you reserve?"

"oh I didn't I just was walking by and thought I'd see if any were still free"

"there are some dogwoods left in fact"

"can I grow that one on the fire escape?"

"um no, not really"

Osprey in Mecox Bay, Suffolk County  
Photographer Donna Schulman

**How to get out of a Rip Tide**

- Remain calm. If you get caught in a rip current, don't panic
- Call for **HELP!** if you're not a strong swimmer.
- Float or tread water until you can swim out of the current.
- Swim parallel to shore to escape the current.
- Swim diagonally to the shore after you're out of the current.

SwimStrong Foundation, is located in Elmhurst Queens

The SwimStrong Foundation has taught over 8700 people how to swim, nearly 2500 of them for free. The organization recognizes the importance of swimming for health, safety, and opportunities. On an island facing a future of rising sea levels, swimming is a matter of survival.

AN ASTRONOMY ASIDE

The science fiction writer Ray Bradbury said in a 1971 conversation with Carl Sagan and Arthur C. Clarke, "It's part of the nature of man to start with romance and build to a reality." Looking into the night sky serves the two, romance and reality, narrative and nature, sight and science. Many parks have free stargazing nights, telescopes pointed to the sky.

No one would mistake NYC as a great star gazing destination but that doesn't mean you can't give it a try. Amateur and professional astronomers can be found all over New York from Columbia University's rooftop to fire escapes in all five boroughs to NYC Parks. The NYC Parks website has a page for Astronomy events including those run by the Amateur Astronomers Association. Sunday, Sept 29th a Sun Gaze will take place in Riverside Park along the Hudson River.

Star Map

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