



Clear Choices Clean Water
October 2020

The pledge of the month for October is Soil.

- October 13th is International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction and this year's focus centers on governance. In a time when climate change and natural disasters have been at the forefront, use this as an opportunity to learn about disaster reduction and risk awareness – and discover how other communities across the world are taking action. Visit <https://bit.ly/3jDDfQc> for more information.



- For the month of October, we are focusing on healthy soils and its connection to water, the food we eat, and much more. Watch this fun video to learn more <https://bit.ly/2SJNwy9>



- Healthy soils are critical to sustaining life – from food production, water filtration, replenishing groundwater supplies, to breaking down and recycling many important nutrients needed in the overall food chain. You can do your part by growing and protecting healthy soils in your own backyard!



- Soil and water bear an important relationship. Healthy soils absorb and retain more water, which is vital for crops in times of drought. Healthy soils also mean less need for fertilizer and pesticides, which in turn keeps pollutants from our lakes, rivers, and streams. And fewer pollutants mean cleaner water!



- Want to know how healthy your soil is? Have your soil tested! Simply send a sample of your lawn to a laboratory and they'll tell you what nutrients exist in your lawn, and provide recommendations on what your lawn needs to be healthy. At about \$20 per test, this is an inexpensive way to get your lawn treatments 'just right' - for your grass and our waterways! Visit www.clearchoicescleanwater.org to learn more.



- As much as we don't want to admit it, winter is right around the corner. Even though cold temps are on the way, there are steps you can take to prepare your garden soil so that it's ready to go for next spring. Visit this link for tips and to learn more <https://bit.ly/3d8hICb>.

