

## Cherrywood Film Nights ~ End of Suburbia

Panel – John Botti, Terry Dyke, Jason Burroughs

### Issues brought up in film

- Historical information of suburbia growth, post WWII, auto and oil influence
- Suburbia very wasteful in energy usage, coming to an end
- Pesticides and fertilizers made with oil & natural gas respectively
- Our food production uses 10 cal per 1 cal of food, poor ratio
- World peak oil is likely in the present, therefore energy cost will increase
- Many alternative fuels have low net energy value, therefore society will need to learn to use less fuel in general
- Mixed use communities will be the future, less energy consumption
- Economy will become local, more community based
- Communities need to create solutions for local fuel, food, employment

### New technology

- 2009 new diesel engines will be 90% cleaner, very efficient engines
- Hybrid cars, very efficient in city, expensive battery technology
- Higher efficiency solar panels will be available in the future, but the technology has progressed far enough to be a sound investment presently

### Local Solutions

- Energy production, household solar cells, city utility purchase of wind power
- Farming, backyard and community farms, Community Supported Agriculture
- Re-use oil for biofuels, higher net energy, DieselGreenFuels.com
- Commuting line in Austin will use diesel; rail is most efficient for moving people
- Attend CAMPO meetings and influence decisions on transportation

### Discussion

Question: How will energy crisis affect the population growth?

Answer: We eat oil for food production, pesticides and fertilizers plus the fuel to harvest. Less fuel will mean less food / more expensive food. Excessive fuel has pushed our population growth. We need to create a sustainable "carrying capacity" appropriate for our ecosystem. Therefore economically, we could see a drop off in population growth in the states much like most of Europe and Japan.

Comment: Although the film at some points portrayed rich elitist moving to the suburbs, in our current reality suburbia is "the" cost effective solution to living while people of higher wealth can afford to live in the city. Austin needs more affordable housing to attract the small families living and moving to the suburbs.

## Panel Bios

Jason Burroughs, Co-Founder of Austin Biodiesel Cooperative and DieselGreen Fuels  
512-391-0569 [www.DieselGreenFuels.com](http://www.DieselGreenFuels.com)

After working with biodiesel and vegetable oil in a co-op environment in 2005-2006, Jason turned his hobby into a business by helping to form DieselGreen Fuels with two fellow co-op members. Together, they collect waste vegetable oil from local restaurants (including many of the restaurants in the Cherrywood area), and turn this trash into fuel.

John Botti, Organizer of Crude Awakening Austin, has been concerned about environmental justice, peace and ecology since his teenage years in the Houston suburbs. In his spare time he likes to garden and to spread the word about global warming and energy depletion.

Terry Dyke is currently a senior research analyst in telecommunications policy at the City of Austin., having worked variously as a computer programmer, cable television executive and media consultant. He has been following peak oil and energy issues since 2001. He and his wife Marilyn have lived in the neighborhood since 2002.

## Local Solutions

[www.dieselgreenfuels.com](http://www.dieselgreenfuels.com)

[www.austinev.org](http://www.austinev.org)

<http://www.austinenergy.com> – Rebates Solar PV Systems

## Peak Oil

\* Association for the Study of Peak Oil (ASPO) <http://www.peakoil.net>

\* Energy Bulletin <http://www.energybulletin.net/>

\* Crude Awakening <http://www.crudeawakening.org/>

\* Hirsch Report (US Gov't study on the impact of peak oil):

<http://www.hilltoplancers.org/stories/hirsch0502.pdf>

## Adaptation and Relocalization

\* Portland Task Force report on relocalization

<http://www.portlandonline.com/osd/index.cfm?c=42894>

\* Post Carbon Institute <http://postcarbon.org/>

\* Oil Depletion Protocol <http://www.oildepletionprotocol.org/>

\* Powerswitch <http://www.powerswitch.org.uk/>

\* The Community Solution <http://www.communitysolution.org/>

## People in the movie

\* Richard Heinberg <http://www.richardheinberg.com/>

\* James H. Kunstler <http://www.kunstler.com/>

\* Julian Darley <http://www.postcarbon.org/blog/253>

\* Matthew Simmons [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matthew\\_Simmons](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matthew_Simmons)

\* Colin Campbell [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colin\\_Campbell\\_%28geologist%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colin_Campbell_%28geologist%29)

\* Kenneth Deffeyes <http://www.princeton.edu/hubbert/index.html>

\* End of Suburbia site <http://www.endofsuburbia.com/>