

The Lord has declared, "It is my purpose to provide for my saints" (D&C 104:15). This revelation is a promise that the Lord will provide temporal blessings and open the door of self-reliance. He has also declared that "it must needs be done in [His] way" (D&C 104:16).

Introduction: **Appropriate Technology**

This Issue will focus on what appropriate technology is and where to find it.

What it is –

Appropriate technology can be defined as how to do much with a minimal input of materials without a huge infrastructure to accomplish it. The ultimate of the do-it-yourself mindset.

Hugelkultur – a growing bed constructed with soil over wood buried in the ground.

Oil Press - An example of this would be using a hydraulic jack or hand ram press to extract peanut or sunflower oil at home.

Producer Gas Generator - Another would be to make a producer gas generator made from an old water heater tank, to convert a solid, carbonaceous material, such as wood chips, straw, etc., into a fuel gas to power a gasoline engine. (Note: during WWII, half of the vehicles in Europe ran on charcoal as their fuel.) If you tap into the waste heat from the exhaust and cylinder jacket of a stationary engine, you can easily heat your home, while supplying it with electricity, all from the same fuel input.

Induction Generator - With an induction generator (a washing machine motor), one can actually turn an electric meter backwards with the same voltage, frequency and phase synchronization as the excitation source.

Rotary phases converter - Run a 3 phase motor on 1 phase power - You can actually run several 3 phase motors from one converter.

Rocket Mass Heater - heat a building with little ash and no smoke from a wood fire.

Bokashi bucket - An in-home composting system that will also handle meat and other hard to handle waste, with relatively little smell.

Biogas generator - turning waste carbon material and manure (human, animal or both) anaerobically into a methane base fuel gas for cooking or running an engine.

Composting Toilet - low-tech method of disposing of a potentially dangerous material.

Gas Lighting - A long time ago, before electricity, most houses were illuminated with gas lights. Acetylene was generated and piped into the home and provided wonderful lighting. This same gas is used in the welding industry and can also be used to run a gasoline engine. Portable, head mounted miner lamps were run on self-generated acetylene gas. It smells like garlic, can detonate above 15psig and is used to make MAPP gas, blended with propane. Half a century ago, I purchased a Big Bang carbide cannon using calcium carbide and water as the fuel.

Black Soldier Fly Larvae – great compost eaters

Solitary Pollinators – Orchard Mason Bees, Leaf Cutter Bees, Bumble Bees, etc.
Check out Bumblebee conservation and Xerces Society for more info.

Where to find it –

Villageearth.org

<http://www.villageearth.org/appropriate-technology/appropriate-technology-sourcebook>

AT Library on a memory stick – 1150+ books. I have this if you are interested in looking at it.

See the book listing at the end of this document – **Practical Answers Index**.

More AT information available free here: <https://answers.practicalaction.org/>

FM's – US Government Field Manuals, everything from homemade explosives and detonators to rigging and emergency rescue.

TM's - US Government Technical Manuals

National Center for Appropriate Technology – NCAT (attar.ncat.org)

Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (sare.org)

SARE: Downloadable books -

How to Manage the Blue Orchard Bee

Managing Alternative Pollinators

Cover Cropping for Pollinators and Beneficial Insects

Other topics to explore:

Steam power: tinypower.com, [mikebrownsolutions](http://mikebrownsolutions.com), reliable steam

Vista America

Lindsey Publications

Jade Mountain – Real Goods

Journey to Forever

Blacksmithing

Herbology – grow your own medicine

small farms

Storey Publications – Country Wisdom Booklets

Timberline Press

Summary:

As you can see, appropriate technology spans many disciplines and facets of life.

If you have your own sources for AT and wish to share with the world, please let me know.

If you are interested in increasing your knowledge and skills or sharing on these subjects of gardening, seed saving, etc., please contact me. Let's get started now so we can be confidently prepared for an unpredictable future. Heavenly Father loves us and will help us to be self-reliant

Self-Reliance Club Information:

The Tuesday January SRC Meeting will be Jan 9 2018, 6:00 at the Goodwin Home, 610 N Alpine Road, Rockford.

Topic: to be announced

The Saturday January SRC Meeting will be Saturday, Jan

Topic and Venue to be announced.

Wishing you a joyous Christmas Season and a prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Goodwin, Agrarian

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All newsletters are archived at : <http://selfrelianceclub.com/srp.html>

If you wish to opt out of this email list, reply with "Remove my name" in the subject line. Also, if you know of anyone else who might be interested, let me know.

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