

Ocean Arks are involved in a number of new initiatives around the globe. In South China, the first phase of a huge project to clean up 80 kilometers of canals has been started. Using Ocean Arks Restorer treatment technologies, the canals are being transformed into beautiful floating gardens (a Restorer is a floating structure that provides the substrate and foundation to support a diversity of life forms that become living, water-filtering ecosystems).

They're also going to continue their work in Hawaii. "We've just signed an agreement to do a new slaughterhouse facility in Hawaii," said Todd. "It's grown out of a small project we've had there for the last few years, experimenting with endangered plant species for water treatment."

In Maryland, Ocean Arks has just completed a large-scale water treatment project for Tyson Foods, Inc., processing a million gallons of effluent a day from their poultry processing operation. Other projects include installing small Restorers for a pond at the Maine summer home of

former President George H. W. Bush and for the golf course at the Four Seasons Resort in Hawaii.

At the University of Vermont, Todd is looking into ways to integrate nature into building design, retrofitting buildings so they become living systems that remove toxins from the air. "Buildings need to have new partnerships with the natural world," said Todd. "We've been nibbling at the edges on this issue for a while and now it's time to step up to the plate." As well as turning buildings into sustainable living systems and cleaning up waterways with raft Restorer technologies, Todd's goal is to bring a level of seriousness to healthy food production to the urban environment.

"It's happening," he said, with an optimistic edge to his delivery. "Just look at *The Growing Edge* magazine. I think it's one of the most interesting examples of how things are moving. None of this is official agriculture at all, but it is happening despite official agriculture. It takes someone like you to write about all this. People then realize that these are not isolated

phenomenon but rather signposts to the future."

Thanks, John. 🍀

*Michael Spillane is a freelance writer presently based in Toronto and a regular contributor to The Growing Edge.*

## Resource

Ocean Arks International  
176 Battery Street  
Burlington, Vermont 05401  
(802) 860-0011  
Fax: (802) 860-0022  
<http://www.oceanarks.org/>

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