

### **Consent to Participate in a Research Study**

**Title of the Project:** “Farm-scale Urine Fertilizer Implementation: Refining Application Methods, Gathering Buyer and Consumer Perspectives, and Producing Farmer Guide.”

**Principle Investigator:** Abe Noe-Hays, Research Director, Rich Earth Institute

**Co-Investigator:** Tatiana Schreiber, Social Research Director, Rich Earth Institute

### **Invitation to Participate in a Research Study**

We invite you to be part of a research study about the use of human urine, diverted from the waste-stream, as a fertilizer in agriculture. This research project focuses on understanding consumer and buyer perspectives, ideas and recommendations regarding this topic. The project also involves developing new application methods and producing a farmer guide. The study is funded by United States Dept. of Agriculture Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program (USDA SARE). Compensation of \$40.00 will be provided to each participant.

### **Description of Your Involvement**

If you agree to be part of the study, we will ask you to participate in a group conversation that will take approximately one hour to 90 minutes. Your participation will help provide valuable insight based on your own background and experience, which will inform our ongoing research. Participation in this group discussion does not obligate you to participate in any future activity related to this research.

### **Benefits of Participation**

You may directly benefit from being in this study because you will become informed about possibilities associated with recycling human waste into fertilizer, and will be contributing to important research concerning both the benefits and risks of this process.

### **Risks and Discomforts of Participation**

There may be some discomfort from your participation in this research because some questions ask about personal experiences with the use of human urine as a fertilizer. All responses will be kept confidential, unless we ask and receive your consent to be identified.

### **Confidentiality**

We plan to publish the results of this study. We will not include any information that would identify you without your consent. Your privacy will be protected and the records of your participation will be confidential. It is possible that other people may need to see the information you give us as part of the study, such as the study sponsor, the SARE program. If we publish any papers or articles based on this study we will contact you to determine if you would prefer to remain anonymous or whether you consent to be identified.

**Storage and Future Use of Data**

Upon completion of this group conversation, your name and any other identifying information will be stored separately from the transcript of this conversation. Only members of our research team will have access to notes and transcripts from these interviews, and will keep all information private.

**Voluntary Nature of the Study**

Participating in this study is completely voluntary. Even if you decide to participate now, you may change your mind and stop at any time. If you decide to withdraw before the conversation is completed, your responses will not be used for the study.

**Contact Information for the Study Team**

If you have questions about this research, you may contact Abe Noe-Hays, Principal Investigator, [abe@richearthinstitute.org](mailto:abe@richearthinstitute.org)

**Consent**

By signing this document, you are agreeing to be in the study. If you would like a copy of this consent form, please let the facilitator know, and we will mail or email you a copy. (Please provide your contact information below.) Be sure that we have answered any questions you have about the study and that you understand what you are being asked to do. You may contact the researcher if you think of a question later.

*I agree to participate in the study.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Email or Mailing Adress if you would like to receive a copy of this form:

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