

:: April 2019 ::

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Eco Education  
Music + Inspiration

April is here ~ earthy as ever.

We kicked off the month with a ground-breaking mayoral election, and kicked off this week with the Cubs 10-0 HOME OPENER WIN, on a sunny 70-degree day. Damn, it feels good to be a Chicagoan : ) Here's hoping for a winning season all around, with new policy-makers' fresh ideas and veteran players' hitting streaks.

Our city's legendary PBS station (WTTW) reached out to us recently, seeking advice for viewers looking to live an attainable 'low waste' lifestyle ...more on that below. Beyond the opportunity to share the beliefs and best practices that move me, the camera crew inspired some timely spring cleaning.

Bright Beat's [website](#) was also spruced up this month, with help from our [seriously badass](#) digital partner, Bryn McCoy of [Technofisch](#). It's a work in progress that will never showcase all the recordings, footage, interviews, world travel photos and other archived media of my past, but... 'tis the season of change.

Cheers to new beginnings ~steph

## :: LOW-WASTE LIFESTYLE PROFILE ::

If you didn't catch [Chicago Tonight](#) on Tuesday, enjoy five minutes of fun as WTTW peeks in on Steph connecting with neighbors, shop owners, and peers, with an eye on conscious choices and habits that waste less. [video](#) - [article](#)



### 10 Steps Towards Low-Waste Living

<< Click the graphic to check 'em out!

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## :: WOMEN ROCKING CHICAGO + THE WORLD ::

### Mayor Lightfoot

We could NOT be more excited about incoming Mayor, [Lori Lightfoot](#). She's bringing in the light with help from an expert team, including [Jen Walling](#) from the Illinois Environmental Council.



## ENGAGE in Sustainability

Partnering with Goldberg Kohn on their annual, women-focused educational and giving event, [ENGAGE](#), staff and clients will be presented with resources + opportunities to take small steps that lead to big change; helping the community and planet. ENAGAGE 2019 will benefit the [Chicago Creative Reuse Exchange](#) (CCRx), supporting Chicago teachers in attaining educational + art supplies through redistribution vs waste.



## 25 Badass Women Shaking up the Corporate Climate Movement

These [badass women](#) from diverse sectors are shifting the corporate sustainability world, facing the climate crisis and summoning change and action. I'd add [Kim Frankovich](#) to this list too!

## THE REVIVALISTS: CHANGE



IT'S NOT JUST BECAUSE they're my friends, or the apropos name of their awesome song. If you listen - or have already heard - it will be clear why it's worth your time and boogie.

In keeping with the theme (levers of change)... [click here](#) to preview the single off [LEVER](#)'s first full-length album. Local boys, big potential!

## CSTF: LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM



The rooftop garden at McCormick Place, managed by [Windy City Harvest](#), with funding support from [Midwest Foods](#), exemplifies a sustainability storytelling mechanism with tangible operational, social, and environmental impact across a value chain. The [SAVOR...Chicago](#) tour of sustainability efforts at McCormick Place set the stage for [Chicago Sustainability Task Force](#) members to discuss best practices and partnerships in local food sourcing, waste prevention and diversion, and inspire many future collaborations. *We can already taste Goose Island's beer infused with Midwest Foods' orange peels!*

## FAMILYFARMED + BRIGHT BEAT

Third time's a charm! As FamilyFarmed and Bright Beat continue to align success at the Good Food EXPO, our event planning and sustainability strategy expertise have led to our greatest Zero Waste efforts to date, and fostered partnership on the new non-profit, Naturally Chicago...

## GOOD FOOD EXPO'S ZERO WASTE SUCCESS

Through the dedicated work of our invaluable volunteers, staff & partners, thousands were educated and **97% (2.7 TONS) of event materials were diverted from landfill through beneficial distribution, recycling, and composting.**



Bright Beat was delighted to partner with [Family Farmed](#) and [UIC's Office of Sustainability](#) to further the development and implementation of our refined resource recovery strategy for the [Good Food EXPO](#) at the UIC Forum. From eco-educating attendees and recovering valuable materials, to engaging vendors and streamlining serveware, and donating ample food and goods to neighbors in need, we once again achieved our Zero Waste goal. High fives all around!

## THE FUTURE OF FOOD: NATURALLY CHICAGO

It's all happening May 23rd, as we help [Naturally Chicago](#) kick off their quarterly keynote event series with former Whole Foods CEO, Walter Robb, who has added a [focus on food waste](#) to his everyday work as an investor, mentor and advisor to the next generation of American food companies. Got a feeling their weekly/monthly/quarterly events will become a key hub for the natural products community, at the intersection of innovation, investing and inspiration. Mark your calendar and follow Naturally Chicago on [Facebook](#) for event updates.



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### KEEP THE BEAT!

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**Looking for help achieving your sustainability goals? [Drop us a line](#)**



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Bright Beat  
By Appointment Only  
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