



THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY *for* KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS

Founder-Acharya: His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

Eco-Farms

ECO-FARMS:

The founder of ISKCON, Srila Prabhupada, included in his seven purposes for the society to teach “a simpler and more natural way of life.” In the past 50 years, ISKCON has grown to include many farming communities and eco-villages around the world. All are dedicated to promoting what Prabhupada called “simple living and higher thinking.”

Today, as the world grapples with global warming, unprecedented pollution of our land, air and water, and serious questions how modern modes of consumption can continue, these Hare Krishna communities offer alternative models of development. All Krishna eco-communities welcome visitors, and many have guest facilities and/or vegetarian restaurants for those seeking a spiritual retreat, or to experience a few hours or days of simple, environmentally centered living.

A LEADING EUROPEAN ECO-COMMUNITY:

One of Europe’s best-known eco-communities is Krishna Valley, a 270-hectare property, which is a two hour drive from Budapest, Hungary. This farming community is celebrated as a highly sustainable example of a dedicated eco-village. Established in 1993, Krishna Valley draws 30,000 visitors annually.

Krishna Valley has developed multiple aspects of the sustainable paradigm, including a recognized cow protection center, organic agriculture, and efficient water and waste management. The community is also self-reliant in grains, vegetables, and fruits. It has also become an educational center where university and other students visit to see sustainable economics in practice.



Gita Nagari – United States of America



Krishna Valley - Hungary



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AMERICA'S FIRST CRUELTY FREE DAIRY:

Gita Nagari, a 350-acre eco-farm in Port Royal, Pennsylvania, USA, is the country's first certified slaughter-free dairy. In 2014, Gita Nagari's Creamery was Grade B (raw milk) certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. As such, they are legally allowed to sell raw milk for public consumption. Also called the Gita Nagari Yoga Farm, the community hosts many yoga retreats and other seminars.



Govardhan Eco Village – India

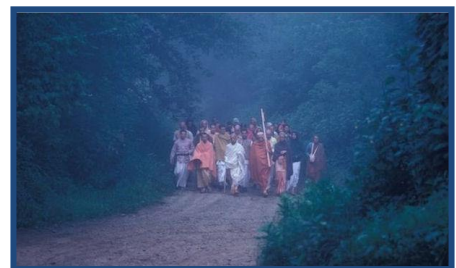
ECO-VILLAGE IN INDIA WINS GLOBAL AWARD:

Govardhan Eco Village is one of ISKCON's eco-farms in India (ecovillage.org.in). Located in central Maharashtra, the one-hundred acre property lies at the foothills of the Sahyadri Mountains, approximately seventy miles from Mumbai.

Govardhan Eco Village (GEV) focuses on a broad range of eco-projects including organic farming, alternative energy, green building construction, cow protection, and waste treatment. GEV recently drew international attention when it was honored with the Green Apple Environment Award, which is presented to the greenest companies, councils and communities in the world and was selected from among 500 nominations for Environmental Best Practice. GEV was presented with a trophy at a ceremony in the House of Parliament, London in November 2015. The Govardhan Eco Village has also helped two hundred local farmers to improve their standard of living by teaching them how to be autonomous through the practices of organic farming.

RURAL COMMUNITY IN WEST VIRGINIA:

New Vrindavan, outside of Moundsville, West Virginia is a 1200-acre community. It was the first rural community established by Srila Prabhupada. Today New Vrindavana has a large cow-protection program, and has become a pilgrimage site for many thousands of Krishna devotees and American Hindus of many persuasions, who visit its green hills and famed Palace of Gold, a memorial built to our founder.



New Vrindavan – United States

This material is available online at <http://communications.iskcon.org>

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