

Welcome to Peak Oil Information Resource CD

The purpose of the Welcome to Peak Oil CD is to provide a convenient resource for people new to the issues of Peak Oil and energy depletion to start informing themselves without being overwhelmed and misled.

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To inquire about this CD and its contents please send an email to Welcome2PeakOil@gmail.com. Suggestions and comments are welcome.

Please distribute this resource to other people.

WHAT IS PEAK OIL?

You are an intelligent person. So, consider this. Imagine, say, next week you hear on the news that Saudi Arabia's largest oil field (Gahwar) has gone into irreversible decline. You also notice that the price of gas has shot up to \$4 per gallon and keeps rising. Perhaps within another week it has gone past \$6 per gallon and is slowing only slightly. If you have been relying on the major television media for information, this will likely catch you off guard for lack of coverage. It wouldn't be inappropriate for you to wonder what in the world is going on and why isn't the government doing something about it?

In fact, the government is doing something about it. However, the government's actions are not necessarily in your best interest. It is entirely possible you could hear talk of going to war with China, Iran, and (on the outside of possibilities) even Russia. You have probably guessed by now that oil is at the heart of the issue. But you are wondering what these countries have to do with it? There's enough to go around for the next one hundred years, right? Cheap energy is at the heart of your life. It is at the heart of all our lives. From our automobiles to plastic wrap. From heating oil and natural gas to styrofoam cups, jet planes, and the trucking industry.

This CD is a compilation of high quality information to bring you up to speed about what is going on with energy in the United States and around the world. For example, you might not know that the United States consumes just over 20 million barrels of oil per day (2005). It produces just over 5 millions barrels per day of that total. As of 2005 the United States imports nearly 60% of its crude oil. We used to produce enough oil for our needs from Texas and the Gulf region. In 1971 the United States started into oil production decline (which is now a well understood

property of oil production). You are probably also not aware that of the 48 largest oil producers worldwide, 33 are now in decline.

This is the crux of the matter. The information on this CD will help you learn the rest of the problem and fill in the details. It is up to you to decide if this information is important to you, your family and your friends. It is one thing if our computer's lose track of the date (remember Y2K?). It is entirely another matter to go into energy decline. Consider the consequences. We are already witnessing unprecedented prices for gasoline and crude oil.

HOW THIS CD IS ORGANIZED

The Welcome to Peak Oil CD contains articles, audio interviews, and images of book covers as recommended reading. Each of these is divided into beginning, intermediate, and advanced folders.

Beginning folders contain material only about Peak Oil and are intended to be small so as not to overwhelm. **Intermediate** folders contain material delving deeper into Peak Oil and introduce some related topics and information. **Advanced** folders continue into territory that goes deeper into all the introduced issues and presents some information that might be considered controversial. *It is assumed that if the reader is interested in an advanced topic, then they have the wherewithal to form their own judgment about what might be worthwhile and what not.*

VERSIONING

You can tell which version of the Welcome to Peak Oil CD you have by finding the file beginning with a lowercase letter v and a date. For example, v2006.03.20. All releases of the Welcome to Peak Oil CD will have this file as the date of distribution.

WHERE TO GET THE CD

The Welcome to Peak Oil CD is distributed as a single archive on the internet. It is in Windows ZIP format and will work with Windows, Mac OS X, Linux, and FreeBSD. You can download the archive here

<http://www.mactutor.biz/w2po/downloads/w2po.zip>

You can get this document at the following URL.

<http://www.mactutor.biz/w2po/readme.pdf>

You can check the current version of the Welcome to Peak Oil CD at this URL

<http://www.mactutor.biz/w2po/w2po.version>

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR GETTING STARTED

The Welcome to Peak Oil CD is meant to be as accommodating as possible. That is why both articles and audio interviews are provided. Here are a few suggestions for getting started if you are feeling a little overwhelmed already.

Audio Interviews

Listening to audio is easier for most people than reading. Start with the beginning audio interviews. I recommend listening to Richard Heinberg first and then Matthew Simmons.

Articles

If you prefer to start by reading, start with the beginning articles. I recommend starting with Matthew Simmons' article *Energy In The New Economy--Limits To Growth.pdf* and then following with these two articles (for starters): *Representative Bartlett Proves Himself on Peak Oil.pdf* and *Peak Oil Is Not A Theory.pdf*.

GETTING STARTED WITH INTERNET RESOURCES

Another approach is to start with the internet. There are a number of websites listed below under Internet Resources. If you have never heard of Peak Oil before, you should start with the following two sites and then explore links below. The Portland Peak Oil Group FAQ and the Peak Oil Wiki page will give you a good introduction to Peak Oil and many details. As of the release date of this document the information was found to be reliable.

- **Portland Peak Oil Group / FAQ**
<http://www.portlandpeakoil.org/>
- **Peak Oil Wiki**
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peak_oil

There is an ever increasing amount of information about 'peak oil' on the internet. So much it is almost impossible to get started. That is where the Welcome to Peak Oil CD comes in. The most informative sites I have found on the internet about Peak Oil are the **EnergyBulletin**, **Financial Sense**, and Richard Heinberg's **Museletter**.

USEFUL WEB LINKS

- **EnergyBulletin.net**
<http://energybulletin.net/index.php>
- **MuseLetter**
<http://www.museletter.com/>
- **Financial Sense**
<http://www.financialsense.com/>
- **Post Carbon Institute**
<http://www.postcarbon.org/>
- **Transition Culture**
<http://www.transitionculture.org/>
- **Energy Information Agency**
<http://www.eia.doe.gov/>
- **Association for the Study of Peak Oil (ASPO)**
<http://www.peakoil.net/>
- **Hubbert Peak of Oil Production**
<http://www.hubbertpeak.com/>
- **The Oil Drum**
<http://www.theoil drum.com/>
- **Global Public Media**
<http://www.globalpublicmedia.com/>
- **Surviving Peak Oil**
<http://www.survivingpeakoil.com/>
- **Gary S. Swindell, Petroleum Engineering**
<http://oil.server4.com/>
- **Dry Dipstick**
<http://drydipstick.com/>