

# TEDx Talk connects soil conservation and women's rights

from the Care for Creation Network

Women: Be inspired by Luther College professor's TEDx Talk, "Power of the Unseen."

Below is the online description given for a fascinating TEDx talk given by Dr. Jodi Enos-Berlage, professor in the Biology Department at Luther College, that has special interest for women who farm or own farmland and why it is so important to protect soil, the precious resource we have been given for growing food. To view the talk, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cbEeugqrnWA>.

"In this captivating TEDx talk, Dr. Jodi Enos-Berlage shines a spotlight on the remarkable connection between microbes, soil erosion prevention, and women's rights in Iowa. Drawing from her extensive research and personal experiences, she explores the often-unseen world beneath our feet and the crucial role that microbes play in maintaining healthy soil.

"Through the lens of her own family history, she shares the inspiring story of her mother's journey in overcoming societal barriers to own land and represent their family. By intertwining the narratives of microbial ecosystems and women's empowerment,

Dr. Jodi Enos-Berlage unveils the hidden power that lies within both the natural world and individuals who challenge conventions. Prepare to be captivated as she unveils the profound link between soil resilience and societal progress, leaving you with a newfound appreciation for the invisible forces that shape our environment and human rights.

"Jodi Enos-Berlage has served as a professor in the Luther College Biology Department for over 20 years, with primary areas in microbiology, immunology, and introductory cell biology. Her 10-plus years of student-centered research on water quality in Northeast Iowa have resulted in the Dry Run Creek Watershed being one of the most monitored watersheds of its size in the state.

"More recently, her teaching and research has integrated student-sourcing antibiotic discovery from microbes in Northeast Iowa soils. In the last five years, Dr. Enos-Berlage has also focused attention on student career and life design development, having co-developed, launched, and implemented a new



high impact, immersion internship program in Rochester, Minn., and served a three-year term as associate dean for Integrating Academic and Career Development, partnering with Luther's Career Center Director to lead career and life design efforts on campus."

"Dr. Enos-Berlage grew up and was actively involved in her family's Northwest Illinois cow-calf beef and crop farm and currently owns and operates a direct sale beef and hog farm outside of Ridgeway with husband John and family. She finds peace in flowing water, energy from walking in the wild, and joy in dancing and storytelling. Her most treasured moments have been reading out loud to her children after dinner for over two decades. People who know her well describe her as a "relentless advocate for positive change".