



bi-monthly eBlast for followers and supporters of the Food Shed Co-op - May 7, 2021



We hit a major milestone of 1000+ owners! Join today to help us reach our goal of 1200 owners and open our community-owned grocery store by the fall of 2022! Click [HERE](#) or on any Become an Owner button!

1000 Owners and Growing!

By Rusty Foszcz, Board President

I am VERY PROUD to say that the Food Shed signed up its 1000th owner on Thursday, April 29! Why do we dwell on the owner count? Quite simply, it's all a number's game! Start-up co-ops estimate that a certain percentage of owners will participate in the funding stage of a building project. Therefore, the MORE owners we sign up – the easier it is to raise the money necessary to open the doors of our community-owned grocery store. Hitting 1000 owners proves to us that the community WANTS this grocery store!

I've shared the fact that I'm a beekeeper with our owners. Bees are fascinating little workers. Each has a job – and each does it very well. Ultimately, they work in harmony for the betterment of the hive. That's exactly what "community" is all about. Just as my bees work toward the good of the hive, we need YOU to work toward OUR ultimate goal and help us with our Mission: *To build a local food cooperative promoting a healthy, ethical and resilient community.* We need you to join with us as we make the push to 1200 owners by July 3rd – International Food Cooperative Day! [Join today](#) and tell your



friends! Working together (like my girls do!) – we can get the co-op built in 2022!

Sustainably Yours, The Food Shed

By Cynthia Kanner, Director

It may come as no surprise that our Food Shed Co-op plans to be as sustainable as possible. What you may not be aware of is that a group of community experts (and Owners) in water resources, green infrastructure, and sustainability are already meeting monthly to evaluate how we can do our part at the Food Shed. So, what does sustainability mean to us?

Food Shed Co-op Sustainability Statement

“Taking care of our LAND and COMMUNITY is at the heart of the Food Shed Co-op’s [Mission and Core Values](#). As we thoughtfully design and build our future member-owned cooperative, we are dedicated to exploring and incorporating environmental best practices in all that we do. Our goal of growing a RESILIENT and SUSTAINABLE business is intertwined with our commitment to CONNECTING with and PRESERVING the vitality of the places and people beyond our walls. At the Food Shed Co-op, sustainability means protecting our environment, supporting local, sustainable farms and businesses, and creating an EQUITABLE and ENJOYABLE place to work for generations to come.”

Sustainability is long term, which is why we wanted to buy land and build. We’re not just planning our store, we’re also considering what surrounds the structure itself – the land...our land. For one, did you know that McHenry County relies on groundwater for its drinking source? That’s why we’ll be reducing wasteful stormwater runoff, and allowing the rain to actually reach the ground by installing permeable pavement in the parking areas. We’ll also be restoring our surrounding land to native plants, designing all areas to function together in a healthy way.

Sustainable can also mean relying on renewable resources to power our store – such as the sun and wind. We’re looking at that, too. It means reducing energy consumption by including refrigeration systems with doors, reducing trucking miles by buying local, and reducing manufacturing waste by incorporating reclaimed building materials. Of course, we’ll be composting our food waste, and there will certainly be no plastic bags! And, importantly, sustainable means having folks return to shop, learn, and mingle. The Food Shed is a place to be, not just a “run to the store.” *Now that’s sustainable!*

What’s truly unique about this co-operative experience, a first for McHenry County, is that it will have the capacity to cross many sectors of society –

from supporting local farmers and soil health, to considering access by bicycles and buses, to offering *not* a limitless hoard of product, but instead quality items at varying costs to recognize income disparities within our community. The Food Shed will be a store that honors local products, social well-being, and the environment for generations to come. We're proud to join this growing, sustainable cooperative movement.

Upcoming Events

May Plant Sale

When: Order now!

Pick-up: Saturday, May 22 12-3pm

Where: [Terra Vitae Farms](#)

2719 Greenwood Rd,

Woodstock, IL



This is the Food Shed's first annual Plant Sale! It is a *pre-sale only* event. Emily's Garden of Woodstock and Natural Farm Stand of Richmond are growing the fruits and veggies from seed on their properties right now! Blazing Star is providing the native plants. Terra Vitae will be selling their meat via pre-order and on site. Check out the [ORDER FORM](#) for more details!

FOOD SHED: 2nd Thursday/Sunday Info Sessions

When: Thursday, May 9, 2021 at 7:00pm

Sunday, May 13, 2021 at 11:00am

Where: Online, ZOOM

If you'd like more information about the Food Shed, please join us for one of these information sessions. They're online and FREE!

Thursday and Sunday sessions will occur the 2nd Thursday and Sunday of each month from April through September. Join us to get the scoop on YOUR community owned grocery store. Click [HERE to RSVP](#).

WPPC May Garden Walk

When: Saturday, May 15, 2021 at 1pm & 3pm
Sunday, May 16, 2021 at 1pm & 3pm

Where: [Chris and Paul Rechten Property](#)
McHenry, IL



The WPPC (Wildflower Propagation & Preservation Committee) is hosting a series of free garden walks to promote the use of native plants, shrubs, and trees.

For more information, visit our [EVENTS PAGE](#).

Crystal Lake Home and Business Expo

When: Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 10:00am

Where: Twin Ponds Marketplace - OfficeMax and Home Depot

Join us at the Crystal Lake Home and Business Expo! The Expo will be located at the Twin Ponds Marketplace in Crystal Lake (where the OfficeMax and Home Depot are located).

For more information, please visit: <https://www.clchamber.com/home-business-expo/>.

Volunteer Opportunities

Spreading the word to potential owners is our #1 volunteer priority right now and we are grateful for everyone's help so we can open our community owned grocery store as soon as possible. We ask that all Food Shed Co-op supporters follow and share our social media posts on any of your favorite social media platforms listed below.





Help us spread the word about our community owned grocery store by sharing our posts with your followers on social media. And why not [BECOME AN OWNER](#) now?

Mission

Our mission is to build a LOCAL food COOPERATIVE promoting a HEALTHY, ETHICAL and RESILIENT COMMUNITY.

Core Values

- Promote and foster better food choices
- Cultivate and strengthen our local economy
- Inspire and empower community
- Champion environmentally responsible practices

Food Shed Outreach

<http://www.foodshed.coop/>



Food Shed Co-op · PO Box 1663, Woodstock, IL 60098 · 815.315.1541
info@foodshed.coop · <http://www.foodshed.coop/>



This email was sent to admin@foodshed.coop. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#).
Created with [NationBuilder](#).