

Updates for 2010

Institutions

Bethel School District

Bethel School District renews its commitment to purchase local produce both directly from farms and through Emerald Fruit and Produce Company during the 2010-2011 school year.

Jennie Henschon, *Nutrition Services Director*

Eugene 4J School District

Eugene 4J Nutrition Services will continue to look for opportunities to purchase from Lane County farms for the 2010-2011 school year.

Nicole Zammit, RDL, *Food Service Manager*

Sacred Heart Medical Center

Sacred Heart Medical Center food service management team will continue to work with our produce suppliers to identify locally and regionally grown products and purchase them when appropriate.

Mary Maude, *Manager, Food Service Department, University District*

University of Oregon

Housing Food Services will continue to pursue opportunities to expand our use of locally and regionally produced products in our dining and catering program. As we evaluate products in terms of quality, cost and availability we will also take into consideration the place of origin as an additional factor in making purchasing decisions.

Tom Driscoll, *Director of Food Services, University Housing*

Lane Community College

Lane Community College renews all of its earlier commitments for the 2010-2011 school year, will incorporate Eugene Local Foods in its standard ordering procedure, and will explore possibilities of supporting FoodHub.

Brian Kelly, *Dean, Conference and Culinary Services*

Project Tomato

Our project for 2010 has yet to be confirmed and may involve a different produce item.

Sara Quinn, *Project Leader*

Farms

River Bend Farm

River Bend Farm renews its commitment to provide fruits and vegetables to local schools.

Annette Pershern, *Owner/ Manager*

Wintergreen Farm

Wintergreen Farm renews its earlier commitments for 2010 and will host a school field trip again this year.

Jabrila Via, *Owner/ Manager*

Groundwork Organics

In 2009 Groundwork Organics renews its commitment to grow transitional crops for local school districts for 2010.

Gabe Cox, *Owner*

Cattail Creek Lamb

Cattail Creek Lamb renews its commitment to work to increase direct sales of our products to institutional buyers in 2010.

John Neumeister, *Owner*

Thistledown Farm

Thistledown Farm renews its commitment to sell to local school districts directly or through Emerald Fruit and Produce as long as the quantities needed make it profitable.

Randy Henderson, *Owner*

Detering Orchards

Detering Orchards renews its commitment to make our apples and other crops available to schools and any other interested institutions.

Roger Detering, *Owner*

Lochmead Dairy

Lochmead Dairy is proud to assist the Oregon Solutions Lane County Food Distribution Project. The forward thinking goals are aligned with those of Lochmead Dairy to take care of our communities.

Lochmead Dairy will continue to supply dairy products to local institutions. All fluid milk and ice cream products are supplied by Lochmead's own herd, fed by acres of surrounding farmland that are harvested for 90% of their feed. Our herd has always been, and will always be, growth hormone free. Lochmead is committed to a sustainable system that keeps the entire product lifecycle close to home, ensuring quality and freshness. In addition to the standards of our products, by 2010 we hope to have fully implemented a methane digester at the dairy.

Stephanie Gibson, *General Manager and Co-Owner*

Youth Farm, FOOD for Lane County

FOOD for Lane County's Youth Farm renews its intention to work with Springfield Public School Nutrition Services, Emerald Fruit and Produce, and Willamette Farm and Food Coalition to plan for and to grow at least one vegetable crop for Springfield Public Schools for use in their school lunch program in 2010.

Ted Purdy, *Youth Farm Coordinator*

Distributors

Emerald Fruit and Produce Company

Emerald Fruit renews its past commitments for 2010. In addition, Emerald Fruit will assist the growth of local produce by communicating more with local farmers on industry requirements and guidelines for box sizes, pack sizes and grading and will respond to questions regarding these matters.

Dennis Herbert, *President*

Hummingbird Wholesale

Hummingbird Wholesale will continue to work with farmers in the Willamette Valley to grow organic commodities and distribute them to customers in Oregon, Washington and California. A specific goal for 2010 is to source all of our organic garbanzo, pinto and black beans, honey, brown and gold flax, filberts and wheat from Oregon sources.

Hummingbird Wholesale continues to be willing to share information on their successes and challenges in contracting and sourcing beans, grains, and seeds in Oregon.

Hummingbird Wholesale will continue to explore ways to feature and promote Oregon grown commodities in its products and sales efforts, including point of origin labeling of locally produced products.

Hummingbird Wholesale will continue to align itself with and offer resources to local organizations active in promoting local foods.

Hummingbird Wholesale will seek grant funding for farmers transitioning to growing food crops to marginalize their risks.

Charlie Tilt, *Co-Owner*

Eugene Local Foods

Eugene Local Foods renews its commitment to encourage and help new and existing local growers and processors to grow their businesses and to meet the needs of institutional buyers.

Amy McCann, *Partner*

Organically Grown Company

OGC will continue to coordinate production with and provide marketing and other support services to the dozens of Oregon-based organic farms that it has developed relationships with over the past 27 years.

Mike Newberg, *Buyer*

State Agencies

Oregon Department of Education

The Farm to School Program in the Oregon Department of Education assists school districts and partnering organizations in utilizing and promoting Oregon food and serves as a central organization for related activities throughout the state. The Farm to School Coordinator will continue to provide training and technical assistance to Lane County school districts and partner organizations.

Joan Ottinger, MS, RD, *Farm to School and School Garden Coordinator*

Organizations

Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation and Development

Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation and Development, Inc., will continue to hold the Local Food Connection event at Lane Community College, provide assistance on grants that support the development, marketing and distribution of local food, and provide assistance on energy efficiency and renewable energy projects for agricultural producers and rural businesses.

Karl Morgenstern, *President*

Oregon State University Extension Service in Lane County

The OSU Extension Service will continue to work with local farms in food production and with local gardeners and community gardens to produce food, plus provide input into the local food security and sustainability Committees.

Ross Penhallegon, *Extension Horticulturalist*

Cascadia Longboards

I will continue my active membership with the Saturday Market Board of Directors, the Lane County Fair Board and the OSU Extension Service Master Gardeners and represent the goal of the Oregon Solutions Lane County Food Distribution Project in my discussions concerning growing, processing, distributing and advocating for an efficient local food system.

Eric Myers, *Owner*

Mud City Press

I will continue to assess the capacity and viability of the food system infrastructure in the Willamette Valley with a focus on facilitating the use of locally grown food products in institutional cafeterias in Lane County. In addition, I will write a follow-up article on the progress of this project for local media.

Dan Armstrong, editor Mud City Press, member Lane County Food Policy Council

Ecotrust

Ecotrust has developed FoodHub as a web-based wholesale direct trading platform to facilitate the consumption of regional food by providing a suite of tools to buyers and sellers allowing them to conduct business efficiently and effectively. Ecotrust will work to help the members of the Lane County Food Distribution Project take advantage of FoodHub.

Deborah J. Kane, *Vice President, Food & Farms*

Willamette Farm and Feed Coalition

Willamette Farm and Food Coalition will:

- Continue to facilitate transactions and act as benevolent broker between Lane County farms and institutions in 2010
- Continue to track purchases for the 2010 growing season
- Assist Lane County farms and institutions in signing up for and trial use of **FoodHub** (Ecotrust's just launched web-based regional marketplace for institutional purchasers)
- Compile "Local Food Opportunities" information packets for other institutions (such as city and county offices), including a list of regional products, along with caterers and wholesale distributors who source from local farms

- Work with members of the Oregon Farm to School and School Garden Network to identify funding opportunities for Lane County schools sourcing from Oregon farms
- Publish a series of six opinion pieces throughout the year on local food self-sufficiency, our regional food economy, and identified infrastructure needs
- Facilitate public discussion on food system infrastructure needs in the context of the proposed Agricultural Resource Center at the Lane County Fairgrounds

Lynne Fessenden, *Executive Director*

Eugene Water and Electric Board

For the reasons outlined in the background section of this Declaration of Cooperation, the Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) commits to taking the following steps in 2010 as part of the Lane County Food Distribution Project:

Donate \$10,000 to the Willamette Farm and Food Coalition (WFFC) to support their commitments as outlined in this Declaration of Cooperation.

Donate \$20,000 to Ecotrust to be used to develop the Food Hub on-line tool to connect local food buyers and local growers.

Donate \$10,000 to the University of Oregon Community Planning Workshop to conduct an economic market analysis of local food to be used to justify and support future infrastructure projects relating to more efficiently getting locally grown foods to local markets.

Continue sponsorship of the Local Food Connection event held annually at Lane Community College in coordination with Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation and Development for 2010.

Assist in determining the process and feasibility of setting up a community fund for getting healthy local foods for schools (i.e., funding pool that allows schools to pay the true price of locally grown food so farmers can get adequately compensated for their product).

Assuming receipt of NFWF grant funds in 2010, EWEB will conduct a pilot project in the McKenzie Watershed to engage farmers around a menu of opportunities including accessing local markets and transitioning to Organic certification in a way that minimizes the farmers risk for participating.

Make available research and information collected to date associated with food buyer interest and barriers to buying local.

Provide meeting space at EWEB, as available and needed, for projects related to local food initiatives.

Promote and encourage support for finding solutions to increasing the economic viability of farmers through gaining access to local food markets among the organizations where EWEB has a board presence, including:

- The Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District
- Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation and Development
- Oregon Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils

Randy Bergren, *General Manager*