



Happy November!

Thanksgiving season is the busiest time of year for your neighborhood co-op, and we're hard at work to ensure you have what you need for your family gatherings. We hope you've opted to pre-order your holiday turkey through Bloomingfoods so you can enjoy an extra 20% off the rest of your shopping with us Nov 21-23.

Read on for some interesting tidbits about our store's shelf tags. Enjoy important information about election results, some great new programs we're rolling out, and details of all the ways in which you're helping us help our community.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours!

Natascha B Jacob

Marketing, Board Member



The results are in!

Congratulations to our newly elected board members:

Angela Babb (term ends 2020)

Pam Weaver (term ends 2020)

Jacob Schumacher (term ends 2020)

Corbin Baird (term ends 2019)

Susan Tanney (term ends 2018)

The new bylaws passed by a landslide and the 2018 Positive Change schedule has been finalized. We're thrilled to welcome two new organizations to our 2018 roster! Click the link below to find out more.

2017 Election Results



Thanksgiving and December Holiday Pre-Orders

It's not too late to pre-order meats and sides for your Thanksgiving dinner! We're still accepting Thanksgiving pre-orders through November 9, so don't delay! All pre-orders come with a coupon for 20% off the rest of your basket on November 20, 21, 22.

Pre-order your December holiday meats by December 11 and receive 20% off the rest of your basket on December 22, 23, and 24.

Offer excludes member equity, gift cards, and pre-ordered holiday meats.

Pre-order Here!

Thanksgiving SOS!

Did your green bean casserole not quite turn out? Do you need a little break from too much “family togetherness?” Well have no fear, because Bloomingfoods is here to help! Our Near West store will be open on Thanksgiving morning from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. for your last minute Thanksgiving needs. Stop on by for those replacement green beans or a hot cup of coffee and a scone to start off your day. Please note that there will be no deli counter, hot bar or salad bar service on Thanksgiving day, but the rest of the store will be there for your shopping pleasure! (East and Ivy Tech stores will be closed on Thanksgiving day.)



Community Partners Program

Dollars spent at locally-owned businesses have a multiplier effect on the local economy, and everyone benefits. For this reason, Bloomingfoods is thrilled to give you one more reason to shop LOCAL!

Starting Wednesday, November 1, Bloomingfoods is launching our Community Partners Program. Are you an owner-member of the co-op? Show your owner-member card at participating business to receive exclusive discounts and goodies!

Read on to learn more about which businesses are participating and how you can enjoy these exclusive deals.

[Learn More](#)



October Positive Change: Bloomingfoods Cooperative Community Fund

In the month of October, Bloomingfoods shoppers gave \$8,353.33 for the Bloomingfoods Cooperative Community Fund. These funds will be paid into an endowment that focuses on cooperative development in our region. The more Bloomingfoods participates in the endowment, the more investment income we receive in return. The Bloomingfoods Cooperative Community Fund Committee then chooses a local non-profit organization to receive a \$1000 annual gift paid by the investment income we receive.

Positive Change raises funds by giving shoppers the opportunity to round their purchase up to the nearest dollar, or donate more if they wish. Each month, Bloomingfoods has a new recipient organization, and 100% of the proceeds go directly to the organization.

The campaign continues at all three Bloomingfoods locations. This month, the co-op is raising funds for [Mother Hubbard's Cupboard](#).



Mother Hubbard's Cupboard exists to ensure that all people have access to healthy, whole foods and to provide opportunities to build self-reliance. Their programs include a client-choice food pantry and free educational programs on nutrition and gardening.



Give Where You Live BCCF Committee Now Accepting Applications

As you read above, Bloomingfoods is giving \$1000 each year to a local non-profit paid for with investment income we receive for participating in the BCCF endowment. The BCCF committee is now accepting applications from local non-profits whose focus is on increasing access to food for members of our community. The application period for the 2018 gift will end on November 31. Click below to learn more and apply!

[**Apply Now**](#)



Bloomingfoods for EARTH Sustainability Program

You can now save money by shopping more sustainably! Pick up a stamp booklet at any location and receive stamps for sustainable shopping habits. Once you've filled the booklet, redeem it for \$5 off your purchase!

How to get your stamps:

- Bring your own reusable bag
- Reuse a cardboard box
- Refill a container/use your own bulk containers
- Pay with cash
- Walk, bus, or bike to the store

\$5 off not stackable with other discounts and not eligible for gift card purchase, equity payments, beer & wine, or \$3 dinners. Maximum 1 stamp for each activity, 5 stamps total per day.



BLOOMINGFOODS

*** OWNER
APPRECIATION
DAY** **2 DAY
SALE!**

**10% OFF
ALL PURCHASES**

EXCLUDING BEER AND WINE

14-15 MONTHLY

EAST

WEST

**IVY
TECH**



November's Local Focus vendor is [Diamond K Sweets](#) from Spencer, IN! For the month of November, Bloomingfoods shoppers can enjoy 25% off their Fudge O'Bits®, bite sized pieces of fudge covered in decadent chocolate. Family-owned, locally made, and no artificial colors or flavorings.

Big Box Corporate Grocery Receipts – Keep ‘em Coming!

Thanks to everyone who has put their big box corporate grocery receipts into our boxes at both East

and NWS. Lots of receipts piling up! We haven't peeked yet, but will do so at the end of the month. In the meantime, keep the receipts coming. We will be leaving the boxes out and will draw a receipt from one member to receive a Bloomingfoods gift card at the end of each month!

The Exciting World of Shelf Tags!

Tony Alongi, General Manager

Health Attributes Key		
	Vegan	Vegetarian
	VG	V
Dairy Free	Organic	P6
DF	O	P6
Wheat Free	100% Organic	99-95% Organic
WF	O1	O2
94-70% Organic	Antibiotic Free	Cage Free
O3	AF	CF
Fair Trade	Gluten Free	Kosher
FT	FT	K
Low Sodium	Non GMO	Kosher
LS	NG	RW

Ever stay up at night and think about shelf tags at your favorite co-op? We do! It's an incredibly important piece of laminated paper that never gets any attention. And they are pretty much the same wherever you go. Small, hard to read, with a mysterious bar code that means nothing to anyone other than a few grocery people.

We are about to change all of that! Over the next few months (between now and year-end) our shelf tags are going to undergo a complete re-do, making them infinitely more useful to you. In addition to making the price larger and more legible, the new shelf tags will help you identify the product's attributes at a glance in the form of "bugs." No, not those kind of bugs, but little color coded circles with an indicator in it. Looking for non-GMO product? Look for the red bug with a white NG in it. Gluten Free? That would be a yellow bug with a black GF in it. All in all there are 17 possible attributes for products that will be listed and each tag will list all of the attributes for that product. The full list of attributes and bugs can be seen above.

Why are we doing this? Because we are committed to giving Bloomingfoods shoppers as much transparency as possible on the products you are purchasing. So let's give the lowly shelf tag another chance! We hope you enjoy this little additional bit of transparency in your food shopping experience.

November Board News

Maggie Sullivan, Vice President

Thank you to everyone who participated in the election and congratulations to our newest board members! We had a lovely annual meeting with an inspiring talk by guest speaker Jacqueline Hannah about the impact Bloomingfoods has had on the national cooperative movement. She reminded us of the awesome work we have done supporting other food co-ops through trainings, mentorship, and simply serving as an inspiration. She highlighted how our focus on local products has enabled the creation of food businesses and farms in our community. And she pointed out that even now we are innovating, introducing a grocery delivery service before anyone else in the region. We may not be the only place to buy organic tofu anymore but we are still relevant and we are still important.

Bloomingfoods has often struggled to tell our own story effectively. However, it is essential that we rebuild our identity and our appeal. We need more shoppers, more owner-members, and more sales. The board will be looking at how to tell our story in a way to attract new faces, which is key to our survival. It's not just the history of how Bloomingfoods was created and what we have done over the years. It's all the personal stories of people who have shopped, worked, volunteered, sold to, met friends at, and learned from Bloomingfoods. So I invite you to ask yourself this question: Why does Bloomingfoods matter to you?

Ten Reasons Bloomingfoods Matters (As Told To Me By Various Shoppers)

1. Bloomingfoods has the best produce in town.
2. This place is a Bloomington institution!

3. I love the sense of community I feel when I visit the store. I always have such great conversations here.
4. I have been shopping here for three decades; why change now?
5. This place was a lifesaver when I realized I could no longer follow the SAD (Standard American Diet).
6. I like a store that I can't get lost in.
7. I value having an option that isn't Walmart or Amazon.
8. Shopping at the co-op keeps my dollars circulating in the local economy.
9. Bloomingfoods has been a huge supporter of the local food scene and that's important to me.
10. It's the cookies. Please tell me I'm not the only addict.

Ready to share your story? I'm listening.

Upcoming Board of Directors Meetings:

Regularly scheduled monthly board meetings are held the last Thursday of the month at 6:30pm. Board Meetings are open to co-op owner-members and guests of the board. Familiarity with the Bylaws, Policies, and the Policy Governance Method will enhance your understanding of the board meeting process.

Thursday, December 7th, 2017

Thursday, January 25, 2018

Community Connections

[Bloomington Community Farmers' Market](#): Saturdays, April – November

[Bloomington Handmade Market](#) - Saturday, November 11, 2017

[Canopy of Lights](#) - Friday, November 24, 2017

[Parks & Recreation Gardening Classes](#)

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