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At Bloomingfoods, we think every day is a great day to be mindful of our impact on the planet. We strive to make environmentally responsible choices in-store and to regularly offer sustainable shopping solutions to our customers. Let's make a positive difference together on April 22 and every other day, too!

For the week leading up to and including Earth Day (4/15 - 4/22), we'll be raising awareness by offering the following to our shoppers:

- 20% off all bulk purchases when you bring your own reusable container. This includes full case bulk purchases! (check out [this great video](#) on how to shop in bulk from BriarPatch Food Co-op!)
- Great deals and discounts on select zero-waste kitchen & shopping supplies throughout the store
- Free reusable canvas bag with \$75+ purchase (while supplies last)
- Zero Waste Kitchen Kit giveaways!



Take a break from Record Store Day and Little 5 to join us as we celebrate our beloved co-op community with our [Spring Co-op Day](#)! On Saturday, April 13 from 11-1 pm, our East store will feature baby chickens visiting from Rhodes Family Farm and a seed-starting demo with Ramsay of [Deep Roots Garden Center](#) (yes, they're open for the season!).

PLUS: We're giving away a free Garden Tower worth \$389 courtesy of the [Garden Tower Project](#) and one annual drop-off subscription to [Green Camino](#) composting service! Don't miss this event!



Another amazing turnout for Positive Change! Our shoppers raised an incredible \$8,916.09 in the month of March for Shalom Community Center, which will help them reach their fundraising goal for their Hunger Relief campaign. This brings our 2019 total to \$25,951.24. We couldn't support our community in this way without the generosity of our shoppers, so THANK YOU!

\$8,916.09 IN MARCH!



**COMMUNITY KITCHEN
OF MONROE COUNTY, INC.**

For the month of April, round up for Community Kitchen of Monroe County! We love the Community Kitchen because they provide warm, nutritious meals to individuals in need Monday through Saturday, free of

charge, with no questions asked. They also distribute meals through several programs like Feed our Future, Summer Food Service, Backpack Buddies, Head Start, and to chronically ill and home bound seniors through Nutrition Links and Senior Links.

Bloomingfoods has been nominated for 4 Herald Times Readers' Choice awards! We'd love your votes for Best Salad Bar, Best Natural/Organic Store, Best Health Food Store, and Best Grocery Store!



Place your vote [here](#) by April 7.

A promotional banner for National Beer Day. The background is a close-up of golden beer with white foam. At the top center is a blue circular logo with a white wheat stalk. The text is white and bold. It reads: "SUNDAY IS NATIONAL BEER DAY!" in the largest font, followed by "20% off all beer" in a slightly smaller font. Below that, it says "PLUS, enter to win an assortment of beer gear at Bloomingfoods East" and "(Winner announced Monday 4/8)" in a smaller font.

SUNDAY IS NATIONAL BEER DAY!
20% off all beer
PLUS, enter to win an assortment of beer gear at Bloomingfoods East
(Winner announced Monday 4/8)



LOCAL FOCUS

Every Saturday in April, enjoy 30% off all [Alchemie Botanicals](#) products! Based out of Bloomington, Indiana, Victoria Bledsoe hand-crafts tinctures, salves, and soaps using herbs that she grows herself.



Local favorite [Sober Joe Coffee](#) from Bloomington, IN has a new Organic blend! Come meet the Sober Joe crew, try their amazing brews, and enter to win this lot of swag:

Friday 4/5 - East - 4-7pm

Saturday 4/6 - Near West 8-11am



[Finally Feeling Better: A Holistic Approach to Wellness](#)

Wednesday, April 10 | Bloomingfoods East Patio Room | 6-7pm

We all struggle with emotional issues from time to time, in varying degrees. Join Marce' Villanueva of Radical Roots Health Coaching as we consider the events those emotions stem from and the science of how emotional stress affects the body. Use the "Circle of Life" exercise to identify imbalances in different areas of your life and how to regain balance. Learn about other holistic means for supporting emotional well being, including the use of essential oils. At the end of the workshop, make your own customized roller bottle of essential oils to take home.

Interested in offering a future class? Contact Maggie at maggie@bloomingfoods.coop

Click [here](#) for the full schedule.



From your Board President

The Board has been busy this month, with our annual two-day retreat and multiple projects in the works. Here are a few highlights and opportunities to share your thoughts:

- We will be holding an Owner-Member Forum at 7:00pm on Tuesday May 21 at St Thomas Lutheran Church (3800 E 3rd St). Please join us for a financial update, results from the ongoing [owner-member survey](#) and a

discussion of possible Bloomingfoods futures that are currently under consideration by the Board. Come and share your ideas.

- We would love member input on our proposed new Bloomingfoods Product Policy. A small committee of owner-members, staff, and board have created a draft. The draft is posted on the website [here](#). Do you want to comment on the policy? Please e-mail committee chair Bobbi Boos at bobbi@bloomingfoods.coop.
- You can also talk to members of the Board at [Co-op Day](#). Board members will be available at both the East and Near West stores on Saturday April 13 from 11:00 to 1:00, to take comments and answer questions. Drop by and say hi!
- Are you interested in running for the Board? Candidate packets will be available in mid-April and applications will be due mid-June. Owner-members are always welcome at our board meetings (last Thursday of the month at 6:30pm in Dimension Mill) and our Perpetuation Chair Jacob Schumacher is also happy to answer questions - jacobs@bloomingfoods.coop.
- Last but not least, the Board recently reached out to our Elm Heights investors with the message that Bloomingfoods is unlikely to be financially healthy enough to repay their debt in full for at least a decade. For lenders who are interested in closure, we offered a one-time payment of 10% of the value of their loan in exchange for loan forgiveness; however, all lenders continue to have the option of allowing their loans to remain on hold. We appreciate the patience and support of our lenders as we continue to explore options and refine our future plans and financial forecasts.

While this has been an extremely challenging year (and many challenges remain), it is gratifying to see how much progress can be made when we all work together. I hope you'll join us at our upcoming forum to discuss our future options and add your input!

Thank you again for your support of Bloomingfoods.

Maggie Sullivan, Board President

Upcoming Board of Directors Meetings

Regularly scheduled monthly board meetings are held the last Thursday of the month at 6:30pm unless otherwise noted. 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.

Meetings will be held at Dimension Mill (624 N Madison St) unless otherwise noted.

- Thursday, April 25
- Thursday, May 30
- Thursday, June 27

Share your voice!



The deadline to fill out the Bloomingfoods Board of Directors/IU survey is approaching! Bloomingfoods wants to hear about your experience in our stores and your opinions about the future of our East store. If you haven't yet, please take a few minutes to complete a short survey which will enter you into a drawing for a \$100 Bloomingfoods gift card! The deadline to complete the survey is Friday, April 5.

Please click the link below (or copy and paste it into your browser) to begin the study:

<http://tinyurl.com/BfoodsCustomerStudy>



Parks & Recreation Gardening Classes

Bloomington Community Farmer's Market: Saturdays at Showers Commons, April - November; Tuesdays on North Madison near Bloomingfoods Near West, June - April



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