

First Annual Greater Everglades Community Food Summit

Intentions of the Community Food Summit

The Greater Everglades Foodshed Alliance, lead by founding member Earth Learning, will hosting seasonal Local Food Summits to shape a community vision for a vibrant, healthy local food system in South Florida and coordinate the implementation of that vision. The first Community Food Summit will be held on challenges and opportunities affecting local food consumers and producers.

The Greater Everglades Community Food Summit will be a premier event held in Miami bringing together a large number of dedicated South Florida local food advocates.

Participants from diverse backgrounds will work together to:

- Learn about many of the sustainable, local food initiatives under way in our bioregion;
- Connect and begin to collaborate with each other; and,
- Develop a shared vision of the healthy, resilient, accessible, and sustainable food system we all need.

The outcome the Summit will be a cooperatively-developed Local Foods Action Plan for strengthening and expanding the local food system within the framework of a regional foodshed. The Action Plan will serve as vehicle for forming alliances, joint venture businesses, and fund-raising strategies to enhance the production, processing, storage, distribution, marketing, and consumption of foods sustainably grown in the Greater Everglades region. A major focus of the Summits and resulting Action Plan will be to develop proven systems for providing fresh, healthy, affordable local foods to ALL residents, especially those most in need.

Logistics in Process

- Participants: All stakeholders including farmers and producers, processors, institutional and retail buyers, distributors including CSAs and farmers markets, community groups and food activists
- Potential Dates: likely be July 14th & 15th to take advantage of Vandana Shiva's talk at dinner at Sofitel hosted by the Center for Earth Jurisprudence
- Potential Location: Fairchild Tropical Botanical Gardens
- Format: Open Space Technology with break out groups and educational workshops

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Foodshed Alliance
Updated by: mmm
 Saturday, 24 October 2009

EARTH LEARNING

- Vision
- Mission
- Essential Concepts
- History
- Who We Are
- Partners
- Funders

OUR COMMUNITY

- Local Food Miami
- Transition Florida, Miami
- Forum
- Poll
- Guestbook

GROWING SUSTAINABILITY

- Foodshed Alliance
- Edible Forest Gardens
- Garden Exchange
- Guara Ki Farm
- 7 Generations Project

Foodshed Alliance

Imagine a Local Foodshed that grows healthy people, prosperous and resilient communities, thriving family farms and food-related businesses, and promises real restoration for the Greater Everglades...

We live in a totally unique region of the United States...

We are the **4th largest urban area** (Miami-Ft. Lauderdale) within the **largest subtropical wilderness** (The Greater Everglades ecosystem) whose farms are the **top exporters** of winter vegetables and a rich variety of subtropical fruits...

So Why...

Why is the vast majority of the food we eat imported ?

Why is our food making us and our children sick (obesity and diabetes)?

Why do we lack access to fruits and vegetables in many of our communities ("urban food deserts")?

Why is the use of water and chemicals for agriculture so degrading to the health of the Greater Everglades ecosystem?

We can do better...We MUST!

Not so very long ago (before 1950), all food systems were local...

Join Earth Learning in re-imagining our foodshed...

Earth Learning is partnering with stakeholders representing all aspects of the local food system and together, we are forming

The Greater Everglades Foodshed Alliance

An essential first step in building a local food system that benefits all residents and the ecosystems on which we depend.

The following are three components of the Foodshed Alliance:

Local Food Summit 2010

Bringing together many South Florida local food advocates to Learn, Connect and Collaborate

Developing a shared vision of a healthy, resilient, accessible, and sustainable food system

Greater Everglades Eco-Grown

Linking small and mid-scale sustainable farms with growing urban markets

Creating awareness and identity for local, just, sustainably-grown foods

Foodshed Council

Guiding the growth of a resilient and sustainable local food system

Representing our foodshed's interests as part of a statewide and nationwide local food strategy

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