

# BLUE HILL COOP

COMMUNITY MARKET & CAFE



THE HARVEST HERALD the goods. the news. free.

**MARCH 2018** We've made it to the month in which spring officially begins. Good job, everybody! The winter months at the Co-op have not been dull, but we welcome turning the corner into spring with more daylight and softer ground, which makes us think of planting. In March we celebrate two full moons and two Full Moon Sale days--just like January 2018. Co-op members, mark your calendars, **March 1 and March 31st** to save 10%. If you're not already a Co-op owner-member, this month is a terrific time to sign up. We welcomed 317 new members in 2017. We also welcomed one new cashier, **Sarah Juster**, a new apprentice at Clayfield Farm.



We're stocking 69 different seeds from Hudson Valley Seeds (Accord, NY). Gorgeous selection of vegetables, flowers and herbs in artful packs. Get ready now! Above: Art from the Tiger Aster seed pack

grow, shape, shop



**WE ARE HAPPY + PROUD TO CARRY PRODUCTS FROM THESE LOCAL MAINE PRODUCERS:** 44 North Coffee, 5-Star Nursery & Orchard, Anne Walker Bags, Atlantic Holdfast, Avena Botanicals, Backstage Farm, Bagaduce Farm, Bagel Central, Betsy Grossman Bags, Bianco Provisions, Inc., Blue Hill Berry Co., Blue-Zee Farm, Borealis Bread, Borealis Press, Brooklin Candy Co., buggleblue, Carrie Gray Strawberries, Carrie Marks Jewelry, Cecil Linscott, Central Distributions, Chai Wallahs of Maine, Chicken Ranch, Chip Wadsworth, Chow Maine, Clayfield Farm, Coastsides Bio Resources, Craft Beer Guild of Maine, Crossroad Farm, Crown 'O Maine, Crush Distributors, Daily Bread, Daryl DeJoy, Dennis Paper, Devenish Wines, Downeast Audubon, Downeast Magazine, Down to Earth Pottery, Ellsworth American, Four Season Farm, Linda Freimuth Hats, Fuzzy Udder Creamery, Grandy Oats Granola, Barbara Hare, Holly Farms, Horsepower Farm, Hudson Distributors, Indian Meadow Herbals, Ironwood Farm, Island Soap, Jackman Maple Syrup, Jolly's Mushroom Farm, Joyful Spirit, Kennebec Cheesery, King Hill Farm, Lakin's Gorges Cheese, Linden Ridge Farms, Little Lad's, Lucys Granola, Maine Maple Products, Maine Medicinals, Maine Shellfish Co., Carrie Marks Jewelry, Marshall Wharf Brewing, Meristem Herb Co., Mil's Farm, Misty Brook Farm, Mom's Organic Munchies, Monicas Chocolates, Moonflower Waxworks, Morgan Bay Farm, Morse's Sauerkraut, Mount Desert Spring Water, North Branch Farm, North Spore, Northeast Coffee Company, Nova Foods, Old Ackley Farm, Pins State Beverage, Poland Family Farm, Quill's End Farm, Rainbow Farm, River Wind Woolies, Salt Run Farm, Elizabeth Sawyer, Shalom Orchards, Smith Family Farm Dairy, Sonnentel Dairy, South Portland Wine Company, Sow's Ear Winery, Sterling Threads, Stonington Seafood Express, Strawberry Hill Farms, Swan's Honey, Tara Mason Cards, Tide Mill Organics Tinder Hearth Bread, Tortilleria Pachanga, Union Bagel Company, Wicked Wines, Windy Hill Farm, Wooden Boat Publications, Wreal Wreath Works, Yellow Birch Farm, York Hill Farm.



Indoor Growing Begins!

Think seeds & sowing this March.

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension is a great resource for helping you get going on indoor growing.

Source for chart & Guidelines: <https://extension.umaine.edu/gardening/manual/propagation/plant-from-spring-to-fall/>



Maine Vegetable Gardening: Keep Your Garden Growing ~Plant from Spring to Fall

Early Spring	Midspring	Early Summer	Midsummer to Fall
Plant as soon as the ground can be worked.	Plant two weeks before the average last frost date.	Plant when soil and sun are warm.	Plant in late June-early July
PLANTS	PLANTS	PLANTS	PLANTS
Broccoli Cabbage	Cauliflower	Eggplant Pepper Tomato	Beet Broccoli Carrot Cauliflower Lettuce Radish
SEEDS	SEEDS	SEEDS	SEEDS
Endive Lettuce Onion Sets Pea Radish Spinach Turnip	Beet Carrot Onion Sets Parsnips Swiss Chard	Cucumber Lima Beans Melon Okra Pumpkin Squash Winter Potatoes	Beet Broccoli Carrot Cauliflower Lettuce Radish
	Plant 1 week later: Bean Corn Early Potatoes		Plant in early August: Broccoli* Cabbage* Cauliflower* SEEDS: Lettuce Spinach Turnip
*Plants are set out later than seeds as sown because hot weather is not favorable for growth.			Plant 10 weeks before last frost: SEEDS: Beet Carrot

Guidelines for Using Manure on Vegetable Gardens

To reduce the risk of disease transmission, food safety experts suggest that you follow these safe gardening practices:

- Use composted manure. Composting manure with your yard and garden waste helps reduce the risk of contaminating your garden vegetables with pathogens.
- Never use cat, dog, or pig manure in vegetable gardens or compost piles.Parasites that may be in these types of manure are more likely to survive and infect people than those in other types of manure.
- Use water that meets safe drinking standards to irrigate your vegetables (for water testing information, contact your UMaine Extension county office). This is most important within one month of harvest.



March is the perfect time to get those tomato and pepper seeds started indoors and ready for an early spring planting.

Indoor sowing in Maine:

- Broccoli, 5-7 weeks
- Brussels Sprouts, 4-6 weeks
- Cabbage, 5-8 weeks
- Cauliflower, 5-8 weeks
- Cucumbers, 2-3 weeks
- Head Lettuce, 3-5 weeks

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## Call for Cooperation

Source: Organic Farming Research Foundation

### Farm Bill for an Organic Future: Report from Eco-Farm 2018

Attendees at the 2018 Ecological Farming Conference in Pacific Grove, CA got an expert-level rundown of organic agriculture in the upcoming federal Farm Bill.

The Farm Bill is a long slog, worked out over several years and covering four or five years of agriculture program policies and spending. At this stage, agriculture interests and their Congressional champions are filing specific pieces of proposed legislation known as “marker bills”. These proposals will be considered by the agricultural committees for inclusion in the massive, assembled bills that will go from the committees to the floor of each chamber.

There are a number of organic marker bills in play now, which the panelists variously explained. Each has a life of its own, but the panel noted that ultimately all the organic-related objects exert gravity on each other and have to be navigated together. Thus, the need for cooperation among organic advocates is imperative.

All of the panelists spoke about working with current Congressional majorities and finding the path to bipartisanship. “There’s no viable scenario where we succeed without being part of the (Agriculture) Committee Chairmen’s initial bills,” said Batcha. Tencer provided the example of the Organic Agriculture Research Act. “The original champion was Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME), an organic farmer herself and a member of the House Agriculture Committee,” Tencer said. “But she would not file the bill until she had a Republican co-sponsor.” In this case, it was Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA).

Tencer continued, “Even more challenging was adding to the list of co-sponsors. We could not accept more Democratic co-sponsors until we showed additional Republican support.”

This turn in the story revealed the cooperative work with not only CCOF and OTA, but the California Farm Bureau Federation.

**Read More >** the full article: [www.ofrf.org/news/farm-bill-organic-future-report-eco-farm-2018](http://www.ofrf.org/news/farm-bill-organic-future-report-eco-farm-2018)

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FEED A FRIEND**

### Maine Agri. Facts

Number of Farms: 8,173

Land in Farms: 1.35 million acres

Average Farm Size: 167 acres

source:mainefarmbureau.us

NEXT CO-OP BOARD  
MEETING:

Tuesday, March 20

6:30 PM

Blue Hill Library

Sold from Dec. 1 , 2017 to Feb 21, 2018

2,926 lbs.  
local roots

584 lbs.  
onions & leeks

137 lbs.  
local greens



# Quick Q.& A. with John Burns

Blue Hill Community Development

Q. Blue Hill Community Development was founded just one year ago. What have been the highlights of your startup?

A. I'd say collaboration and support have been the highlights for BHCD. The organization launched around a very specific project, which was to plan and engineer safer access for citizens, with a focus on students, for walking and biking on South Street. I was impressed and pleased with how quickly and easily people came together around this initiative and how constructive and widespread the dialogue has been.

Q. BHCD is more than the Sidewalks & Pathways Initiative. Tell us where your focus lies.

A. Our intention is to be the umbrella under which community-related passion projects can develop and launch. As a 501(c)3, we are able to receive tax-deductible charitable contributions for qualifying community projects. and disburse those funds for appropriate project expenditure.

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## Mission Statement

An inclusive, community-based, non-profit organization dedicated to building and nurturing a thriving local economy and an accessible community in the Town of Blue Hill.



The Blue Hill **Sidewalks & Pathways Initiative** grew out of discussions amongst a range of South Street organizations.

We've been the fiscal sponsor of several projects in town already. We also act as an objective facilitator of forums on topics of interest related to community and or economic development

Q. What advice would you give those thinking about raising money for and launching a community-enhancing project?

A. Do it! If you have a passion project idea for Blue Hill, go for it! If it fits the mission, please reach out to me or any board member or send a note to [info@BHCD.org](mailto:info@BHCD.org). Online: [www.bhcd.org](http://www.bhcd.org)

All Blue Hill citizens pitching in constructively for positive outcomes will sustain and enhance this place we all happily call home. •

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