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# MEMBER NEWS



## CULTIVATING RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH COMMUNITY

### Fall is upon us and the OEC is winding down after another fantastic year...

The Oregon Tilth Organic Education Center at Luscher Farm saw a record number of attendees in their Urban Agriculture series this year. Thank you to all who participated, donated their time in the garden, fulfilled a wish list item or just came by to say "hi". We couldn't have done it without you!



Classes will start up again in February, so stay tuned!

In the meantime, check out these other tilth-worthy [events](#)...

### Registration is now open for Organicology 2011!

With intensive training sessions, workshops, world class keynote speakers, amazing entertainment and much celebration and networking, Organicology is a conference of its own class. We strive to bring you the newest research and education tracks, while offering ample time to celebrate and network. We look forward to seeing you there! [Check it out!](#)



### Invite a Friend

Do you know someone who is interested in food systems that are healthy for people as well as the environment? Invite them to [become a supporting member](#) of

Oregon Tilth! Members of Oregon Tilth receive the bi-monthly In Good Tilth Magazine, discounts to events and classes and more!

### Become a Fan!



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**Oregon Organic Coalition Awards**

**Oregon's Organic Ag Solidifies It's Place**

**USDA Cost Share Reimbursement**



The Oregon Organic Coalition bestowed awards upon individuals and organizations that demonstrated innovation in organic practices in the state's organic industry. Oregon Tilth was given the Certifier Award for its leadership in the region's organic movement for supporting and promoting biologically sound and socially equitable agriculture through education, research, advocacy and certification for more than 30 years. Also among the list of recipients was Oregon Tilth Certified Organic Springfield Creamery, who won the Processor award for their long history of environmental responsibility. [Find out more...](#)

Once upon a time, organics were considered by most to be a fringe sector in agriculture, but not anymore. Oregon has played a major part in organic food going mainstream and continues to be a contributing force. Oregon has been acknowledged as such with things like "Organically Grown in Oregon Week" and the "Oregon Organic Agriculture Letter of Intent on Cooperation", which is significant in recognizing Oregon's contributions to the organic sector as well as setting up the framework for efforts to conserve natural resources, expand economic opportunity, and respond to consumer demand for products grown and processed organically in Oregon. [Read more...](#)

The USDA recently announced the availability of \$6.37 million in federal grants for organic certification reimbursements for the 2010 fiscal year. The funds will be divided among state's agriculture departments through two cost-share programs. Recipients must currently be certified through a USDA accredited certifying agent, such as Oregon Tilth, and may be entitled to up to 75% of certification costs, not exceeding \$750 per year. The designated funds will be available to producers and handlers who obtain organic certification from Oct. 1, 2010, through Sept. 30, 2011. Contact Amanda Meredith with questions at [amanda@tilth.org](mailto:amanda@tilth.org) or by calling our main number at 503-378-0690. [Learn more...](#)

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