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MEMBER NEWS



CULTIVATING RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH COMMUNITY

Mulch Much?

Volunteer Garden Crew

Update - The tomatoes, squash, beans, basil and pepper beds have all been cleared and transitioned into a cover crop or mulched. The hedgerow has been sheet mulched for spring planting and the sunflowers have been left for the birds to enjoy. Our compost pile is heating up and the three winter green beds of kale, lettuce, spinach, mustard and beets are growing. At our first Community Work Party held on Sunday, October 9, we transitioned five beds, harvested and weeded. It was a very successful day, which brought lots of new faces to [Luscher Farm](#). Stay tuned for the 2012 schedule of weekend volunteer opportunities.



Garden News

The potatoes have been dug and donated along with our winter squash; bringing us up to 900 lbs of produce donated to the food bank this year. The raspberries planted in April are fruiting and our new favorite kale is extra tasty and nutritious this season. This kale is from Wild Garden Seed in Philomath, Oregon and is grown at Gathering Together Farm. It is one of the most vigorous and healthy kales we have experienced. Now is the time to spot-check your beds for a hungry pest that will desiccate your Brassica plants: kale, cabbage, collards and broccoli. These Cabbage Moth Larvae nibble and crawl around the leaves of your greens and can quickly destroy your plants. We recommend monitoring them daily; a quick five-minute check could save your precious crop - simply remove with your hands and discard.

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!

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Putting Your Garden to Bed Portland, OR

Do you have a community garden plot in Portland? Check out these [Putting Your Garden to Bed](#) classes located in various community gardens throughout Portland in October and November. The Organic Education Center is happy to partner with the City



The wondrous Kale – sure to get us through the winter while providing fresh, organic greens to the Tualatin School House Pantry food bank - And look closely to see the pesky cabbage moth larvae desiccating a kale leaf.

We would like to officially thank the many supportive and generous businesses who contributed to our Plate & Pitchfork summer dinners. The silent auction and raffle items allowed the Organic Education Center to raise over \$3,000 to support organic education programs in 2012. And many thanks to Plate & Pitchfork for selecting the OEC as a beneficiary for another season and for donating a portion of the proceeds from these wonderful farm dinners to support Tilth's work. [Click here](#) to check out all of the wonderful local businesses that sponsored such amazing items for our raffle and auction.

of Portland and East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District to offer these fun, hands-on, educational, and [FREE classes](#).

Don't forget to check out these other tilth-worthy [events](#)...



Oregon Tilth Accredited Organic Land Care

Oregon Tilth Accredited Organic Land Care is getting ready to present its third annual accreditation training for professional landscapers. We are teaching comprehensive organic landscaping in an intensive, 5-day format at Clackamas Community College, January 23rd - 27th. Topics include soil health, plant selection, water conservation, stormwater management, IPM and ecological design. The keynote presentation will be by Jeff Lowndels, an award-winning garden writer, international leader in the soil food web movement and author of "Teaming with Microbes, A Gardener's Guide to The Soil Food Web."

Participants in the training will be eligible for accreditation, which gives professionals the opportunity to market themselves as Organic Land Care Practitioners. We hope that accreditation will help consumers identify organic landscapers.

Please visit tilth.org for more information or to register. Or contact the OLC Program Manager, Dave Alba, for more information: [davealba \(at\) tilth \(dot\) org](mailto:davealba@tilth.org) or 541-908-1194. Please help spread the word to anyone you think may be interested, including landscapers, groundskeepers, and landscape designers.

<p>Just Label It! We Have a Right To Know</p>	<p>Oregon Tilth Annual Meeting</p>	<p>USDA Listening Session Report</p>
<p>The Just Label It: We Have a Right To Know campaign was created to advocate for the labeling of genetically engineered foods - also known as GM</p>	<p>Come celebrate with us! Join us for a special night with our members, staff, board and new friends.</p>	<p>Jim Pierce, Oregon Tilth's Global Certification Program Manager, represented OTCO at the USDA Listening Session held on</p>

or GMO foods.

Without labeling of genetically engineered (GE) foods, we cannot make informed choices about the food we eat.

We need to flood the FDA with comments from Americans from coast to coast to let them know that we care.

Find out how to voice your support for the petition and stay up to date on the [Just Label It! initiative...](#)

Sip fresh organic beer, connect with friends and learn about how organic beer is made. **Join us on Thursday, October 27th at the 2011 Oregon Tilth Annual Meeting & Beer Tasting hosted by Laurelwood Brewery.**

The event will also serve as a benefit for Oregon Tilth Education and Research Programs. Find out more about the [Annual Meeting...](#)



Tuesday, September 20th.

Themes included the success of the organic industry, appreciation and encouragement of cost share programs, regulation of GMO technology, and more!

Read his comments and thoughts for the [USDA Listening Session...](#)

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