

What is Local Routes News?

Local Routes News is a monthly on-line newsletter highlighting UConn's Department of Dining Services' commitment to supporting local and organic foods. Written in a quick, easy-to-read format, Local Routes News will be sent monthly during the academic year (September through May).

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Local Routes News

The University of Connecticut Department of Dining Services

LOCAL FLAVOR

Local, sustainable, and organic foods

October is Fair Trade Month!

Fair Trade is an innovative, market-based approach to sustainable development. Fair Trade helps family farmers in developing countries gain access to international markets, and assists in establishing the business capacity necessary to compete in the global marketplace. By learning how to market their own harvests, Fair Trade farmers are able to grow their own businesses and receive a fair price for their products. This leads to higher family living standards, thriving communities and more sustainable farming practices. Fair Trade empowers farming families to take care of themselves – without developing a dependency on foreign aid.

Join UCONN's Department of Dining Services in supporting Fair Trade. Fair Trade coffee is available for the month of October in all UCONN Dining Facilities. Giveaways of Fair Trade buttons and

magnets as well! If your journey takes you to the east side of campus, stop by Whitney Dining Hall for Fair Trade varietal coffees that may include Peruvian, Nicaraguan, Mexican or Costa Rican. Whitney also serves Organic or Fair Trade Bananas exclusively. Drink and dine with a conscience...choose Fair Trade!



► More Info: www.transfairusa.org

Did You Know?

More than 600,000 producers and their families in 32 countries benefit from selling their coffee, tea and cocoa on Fair Trade Certified terms.



Contact Us:

Local Routes information:
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LOCAL HEROES

People or organizations making a difference

Are you Oké?

Oké USA Fair Trade, headquartered in Watertown, Massachusetts, is partially owned by the farmers who grow the fruit. Their voices are heard at shareholders meetings and the farmer/owners take a share of the profits. *Oké* owners include *Red Tomato*, a Boston based nonprofit that helps family farmers in New England get their produce to

market; *AgroFair*, the pioneer of Fair Trade fruit in Europe-half owned by farmers and half owned by 4 nonprofits; and *Equal Exchange*, the pioneer of Fair Trade in the United States. Whitney Dining at UCONN purchases *Oké* Fair Trade bananas whenever availability permits.

► More Info: www.okeusa.com

Wisdom

“Fair Trade supports some of the most bio-diverse farming systems in the world. When you visit a Fair Trade coffee grower’s fields, with the forest canopy overhead and the sound of migratory songbirds in the air, it feels like you’re standing in the rainforest.”

- **Professor Miguel Altieri**
Leading expert and author on agroecology



Local Routes Mission Statement

The goal of the Local Routes program is to develop interest in locally produced foods among the university community.

By holding Local Routes Fairs and encouraging the use of local foods in on-campus food service operations, the Department of Dining Services will highlight its focus on supporting and promoting the use of local and organic foods.

Through education and interaction, the Local Routes Program will encourage the support of local food producers and the businesses that sell Locally grown foods.

LOCAL MOTION

Directory of upcoming local events

Now through November 4, 2007

Merrow Corn Maze

Noon - 5pm weekends and holidays. Connecticut Farms is the theme of this four acre corn maze. Enjoy the New England autumn, while making your way through this educational and fun-filled maze and scavenger hunt. For the whole family!

More Info: www.merrowmaze.com

Saturdays through November 17, 2007

Storrs Farmers Market

3pm - 6pm, with shortened hours as weather cools. Route 195 in front of EO Smith High School, Storrs, CT. CT farmer vendors from around the area sell their produce and wares.

More Info: www.geocities.com/storrsfarmers

October 12 - 14

Walking Weekends

Enjoy the *Last Green Valley* from a unique perspective. Many different walks for various hiking abilities and ages.

More Info: www.thelastgreenvalley.org

October 13, 2007

Connecticut Tour des Farms Guilford Ride

Pedal through Connecticut’s beautiful farmland. Rides options are a 10-mile ride; a 25-mile ride; and a metric century 62-mile ride with stops at flower, vegetable and a lobster farm.

More info: www.tourdesfarms.org