

Richfield Springs Community Food Cooperative Membership Agreement

Your contribution and continued participation in the Richfield Springs Community Food Cooperative is a valuable investment for you individually. It is also an effective economic and social tool for our community. Equity contributions help the Co-op support local farmers, producers, and artisans; the local economy; food education; community outreach programs; community building initiatives; thoughtful, responsible consumerism and the cooperative economy.

Co-ops are owned and democratically controlled by the people they serve. Being an owner is the best way to ensure that your Co-op continues to meet your needs. There are other benefits to becoming an owner of Richfield Springs Community Food Co-op. Those benefits include:

- 10% Discount on Cafe Purchases
- Discounted membership for Coworking and/or CoKitchen use
- Quarterly issues of Our Newsletter: Small Town Food
- Voting rights on community decisions
- Eligibility to run for Board of Directors
- Eligibility to participate in committees
- Eligibility to be a Vendor
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Access to special owner events
- Patronage Dividends*

* Patronage Dividends:

A mechanism for equitably sharing profits in cooperatives. The mechanism is widely used in Co-ops around the world: patronage dividends. Through patronage dividends, Cooperatives return to their members a percentage of net profit from owner activity. These dividends are distributed based on the total amount each individual owner spends at the Co-op throughout the fiscal year. It is simple for an owner to take advantage: just shop using your member number, and your return will be calculated upon your annual total patronage. At the close of the fiscal year, the Board of Directors votes on the General Manager's recommendation for patronage dividends, and dividends are then distributed to members based on the previous year's results. Some years the Co-op will have enough net profit to return a portion to owners, some years it might not.

Becoming an Owner:

Your ownership is paid for with an equity investment of \$100.00 (\$50.00 for seniors (65+)). You may pay it in full or you may pay \$20 with your application and \$10 monthly until the balance is paid (Voting, Board of Directors and Dividends are restricted until membership is paid in full) Becoming an owner is easy! Just fill out the information below

Name _____

Address _____

Address 2 _____

City/Town _____

State _____

Zip _____

Email _____

Do you want to receive the Co-op E-newsletter? Yes No

Phone Number _____

How did you hear about the Co-op? _____

Payment

Please choose payment arrangement

(Circle One)

Regular Capital Investment \$100

Minimum Capital Investment \$20.00 with payment plan

Senior (65+)/ Disabled \$50

Form of Payment: Cash Check Credit/Debit Card

What skills can you contribute? What are your hobbies and/or profession that you would like to contribute to see our Community Cooperative Grow?

Some examples: (circle any of these or add your own!)

- I love hosting events/planning events
- I love making and serving coffee
- I'm an administrative pro and love doing backend books!
- I'm a writer and want to help get the word out with marketing, press releases etc...
- Art, multimedia, or graphic design - I have the know how!
- I've got relationships with business owners and community leaders.
- Photography? That's my dream, let me get behind the shutter!

Other

What Hours are you available to contribute you amazing skills? _____

I'm also interested in : (circle all that apply) Coworking CoKitchen Joining a Committee

Complete and email or mail to

rscommunityfoods@gmail.com

P.O. Box 283, Richfield Springs, NY 13439