

Sustainable Connections' Food & Farming Program 2018 Calendar

Events		Opportunities
January		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fill out your Listing & Ads in <i>Whatcom Food & Farm Finder</i> and <i>Culinary Agritourism Map</i> • 1/19 Early bird registration ends for Farm-to-Table Trade Meeting • 1/12 Listings for Wholesale Directory and CSA Guide DUE
February	2/20 Farm-to-Table Trade Meeting at Bellingham Technical College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2/9 Listings for <i>Whatcom Food & Farm Finder and Culinary Agritourism Map</i> DUE • 2/9 Fill out Food & Farming Member Survey
March	3/7 – CSA Member Lunch 3/13 – Chefs Steering Committee Meeting 3/17 - CSA Fair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For farmers offering CSA: be featured at CSA Fair & CSA Member Lunch
April	4/7 NEW! Eat Local First campaign AND Whatcom Food & Farm Finder launch 4/18 F&F Business Development Happy Hour 4/21 Chef Market Mob	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4/20 Sign up for Downtown Market Walk participation
May	5/9 Farmer Chef Meetup 5/19 Chef in the Market 5/24 Farmer Mixer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5/9 Farmer Chef Mixer for Eat Local Month pairings • 5/18 Deadline for signing up for Eat Local Month and Farm Tour participation • Place an Ad in the Eat Local Month guide: 50,000 copies and affordable!
June	6/12 Chefs Steering Committee Meeting 6/16 Chef in the Market	
July	7/16 Chef Farm Tour 7/17 F&F Business Development Happy Hour 7/21 Downtown Market Walk 7/21 Chef in the Market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/6 Register for Chef Farm Tour
August	8/18 Chef in the Market	
September	<u>September Eat Local Month</u> 9/2 Farm Fund Hootenanny 9/8-9 Whatcom County Farm Tour 9/11 Chefs Steering Committee Meeting 9/15 Shop with the Chef	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9/1 2019 Food To Bank On applications available
October	10/17 F&F Business Development Happy Hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10/19 2019 Food to Bank On applications due
November	11/7 Farmer Chef Meet-up	
December	12/6 Farmer Mixer to celebrate Food to Bank On 12/11 Chefs Steering Committee Meeting	

Event & Opportunity Details

Chef in the Market The 3rd Saturday from May-September, two chefs have the opportunity to showcase local ingredients and provide an educational cooking demo at the Bellingham Farmers Market.

Chefs Market Mob A gaggle of chefs touring the Bellingham Farmers Markets, sampling, meeting the makers, and making new connections. Free for all chefs and food buyers.

Chef Farm Tour We load up a bunch of grocery buyers and chefs in a van for a tour of the hottest new farms and local products. An event we look forward to every year! Cost: \$20

Chefs Collective Steering Committee We are looking for new members for our Chefs Collective Steering Committee! These individuals help guide and shape much of our public education around eating local and promotion of local businesses. We meet quarterly and it's a great group. Contact Sara if interested!

CSA Promotions Sustainable Connections helps promote CSA farms through producing the annual CSA list, and promoting the CSA model to the public and businesses. The CSA Fair is an opportunity to connect with consumers, and the CSA Member Lunch to connect with businesses. Participation is free.

Culinary Agritourism Map A guide focused on drawing regional visitors from the Seattle area and lower B.C. to discover culinary and agritourism experiences and businesses in Bellingham and Whatcom County, 15,000 copies printed and distributed in high traffic areas in 8 counties.

Downtown Market Walk A downtown walk-about featuring businesses that sell grocery-type items (grocery stores, bread, wine and meat shops, etc.), Business member participation cost: \$40.

Eat Local Month In September we celebrate Eat Local Month, featuring restaurants, markets, farms and food businesses throughout the month. Get involved by hosting a featured event we can promote, or by offering a special throughout the month.

Farmer Chef Meet-ups Facilitated networking, aimed at making more producer/wholesale relationships. Good food and valuable connections.

Farm-to-Table Trade Meeting An annual one-day conference and connections event bringing together around 200 food and farming businesses of all kinds for a day of networking and education. Find local products, new markets, get inspired and grow your business!

Food & Farming Business Development Happy Hour Leaders and supporters of growing local food businesses come together 3x in 2018 to stay connected and dive into important issues.

Shop With the Chef A local chef has the opportunity to lead a small group through the market, let them get to know you & your business, showcase local ingredients, share tips and why local matters!

Whatcom County Farm Tour This annual, free, self-guided tour educates our community by creating opportunity to experience and learn more about where their food comes from. 2018 will be our 2nd year offering a 2-day tour in partnership with Whatcom Family Farmers and Dairy Farmers of WA.

Whatcom Food & Farm Finder A well-used annually printed guide for all things local food: farms, markets, restaurants, locally-made products, and more. Listing and ad opportunities for great rates, 30,000 copies printed and distributed each year – our most popular publication!