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Subject: News from the Food System Collaborative  
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Sacramento/Capital Region

## food system collaborative

- access
- agriculture
- education

# Good Food News

The Newsletter of the Sacramento Region Food System Collaborative

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### Tell Us What You Think!

Click [here](#) to take a brief four-question survey about our newsletter content.

We will use the responses to improve the quality and content of our communications.

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### Issue #7

August 2011

Dear Adriane,

We are excited to announce our panel for the September 6th meeting of the Food System Collaborative! Our panelists for the Farm Bill discussion include: Julie Manes from the [United Fresh Produce Association](#), Carolyn Ramirez from the [Office of Congresswoman Doris Matsui](#), Armando Nieto from the [California Food & Justice Coalition](#), and Tim Johnson from the [California Rice Commission](#). This exceptional panel will certainly provide a great discussion about the changes to the Farm Bill and how they may affect our region. If you have not registered yet, it's not too late! Click [here](#) to reserve your spot.

In this month's newsletter, we highlight UC-Davis' recently-released report about [Community Supported Agriculture in and around the Central Valley](#). We also provide a little more information about the [community garden ordinance](#) that was passed by the Sacramento City Council just one day before our last newsletter was sent. We continue our FSC partner profiles with an article about the [West Sacramento Youth Resource Coalition](#), an organization doing great work for youth in West Sac. Finally, there is a reminder about the new [Action Alert System](#); be sure you sign up!

Also, please complete the [newsletter content survey](#)! It is **very** short (only four questions) and we will use the responses to improve the quality & content of our newsletter.

Don't forget to check out the [Upcoming Events](#) section! Our partners have a lot of exciting things going on as fall draws near.

Cheers,  
Robyn

### UC-Davis Releases CSA Report

A recently released UC Davis report highlights [Community](#)



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[Supported Agriculture \(CSA\) in and around California's Central Valley: Farm and Farmer Characteristics, Farm-Member Relationships, Economic Viability, Information Sources, and Emerging Issues.](#)



The report encompasses findings from 54 interviews and 48 survey responses from farmers involved in CSAs, as well as two interviews with CSA organizers (non-farmers). To read the report, click [here](#). To learn more about UC-Davis and the Agricultural Sustainability Institute, click [here](#).

UC-Davis graduate students also recently completed a report regarding the viability of a food hub in Yolo & Solano County. To review *Context Matters: Visioning a Food Hub in Yolo and Solano Counties*, click [here](#).

Community Garden Ordinance Adopted

The Community Garden ordinance was passed by the Sacramento City Council on July 26th. The passage of this ordinance is an exciting step forward for increasing access to fresh, healthy food for Sacramento residents. This ordinance will allow private lots to be used as community garden spaces with proper arrangements with the property owners.



Bill Maynard of the [Sacramento Area Community Garden Coalition](#) (SACGC) says, "the ordinance is something that has been needed for a few years, as the interest in community gardens has grown. SACGC has been helping start community gardens for over 15 years; now we can assist those who want to start community gardens on private property parcels as well."

According to the [Sacramento News & Review](#), "gardening progress in the coming year will include a feasibility study, led by Councilmembers [Robert Fong](#) and [Jay Schenirer](#), as to whether city-owned lots are ripe for community gardens."

To read the article from the Sacramento News & Review, click [here](#). To review the content of the ordinance, click [here](#).

*Note: See the "Upcoming Events" section for information on a community garden opening in Oak Park.*

West Sacramento Youth Resource Coalition

As a part of our newest effort to profile FSC partners, this month we are highlighting the [West Sacramento Youth Resource Coalition](#) (WSYRC). This organization was formed in 2006 to equip middle and high school age youth with the skills to emerge as community change leaders in partnership with adults. WSYRC brings together their family, culture and community settings, the systems and services of their daily lives and the policy, advocacy and practice arenas affecting youth. Their goal is to create the climate in West Sacramento for a youth-friendly community through genuine youth/adult partnership for leadership toward lasting community change.



To read more about the WSYRC and its work, please click [here](#) to read an article by Jim Rodgers, Co-Coordinator of the WSYRC, highlighting the successes of the Sactown Heroes.

WSYRC is recruiting board members. If you are interested in learning more about or engaging with the WSYRC, please contact [Jim Rodgers](#) or click [here](#).

*If you are interested in having your organization highlighted in our newsletter, please email [Adriane Lepage](#).*

### NEW! FSC Action Alert System

We all know there are a lot of things happening in the six-county region that are important to the FSC. To keep everyone informed, we have created the **Action Alert System**.



The system works like this:

- If something is happening that you would like support on, email [Adriane Lepage](#). Include **what is happening and what action you would like others to take**.
- Adriane will send it out to the relevant mailing list(s) with you as the contact person.

To get this system up and running, we need to know which geographic areas are important to you and your work. We'll then add you to a mailing list so you receive Action Alerts that are most relevant to you. At this point we anticipate this to be no more than 1-2 emails per month.

Click [here](#) to let us know which Action Alert mailing list(s) you would like to receive.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **Slow Food Sacramento Mixer**

**Date & Time:** August 25th, 6PM

**Location:** Co-op Community Learning Center

**Focus:** Watch Chef Dionisio Esperas create some of his favorite tapas. Tickets are \$20/person and include appetizers, cooking demonstration and a glass of local wine. Pre-register for this event at [www.sacfoodcoop.com](http://www.sacfoodcoop.com)

#### **Community Garden Grand Opening**

**Date & Time:** August 27th, 9AM-11AM

**Location:** NW Corner of MLK & old 12th Ave in Oak Park

**Focus:** Contact [Bill Maynard](#) for more information.

#### **Sunday Supper to Support Soil Born Farms**

**Date & Time:** August 28th, 5PM-7PM

**Location:** Co-op Community Learning Center

**Focus:** \$30 per person. More information and a menu at <http://www.soilborn.org/events.html>.

#### **REGISTER NOW! FSC Quarterly Meeting**

**Date & Time:** September 6th, 1PM-4PM

**Location:** Sierra Health Foundation, 1321 Garden Highway

**Focus:** We will be focusing on changes to the Farm Bill and how those changes may affect our region. Please click [here](#) to register.

#### **Heirloom Bean Tour, Talk, & Picnic with Paolo di Croce**

**Date & Time:** September 11th, 11AM-2PM

**Location:** Mohr-Fry Ranch, New Hope Road, Thornton, CA

**Focus:** Paolo di Croce, president of Slow Food International, is visiting Northern California for four days, one of which will be spent at this event in the Central Valley. \$10 suggested donation; limited to first 125 RSVPs. Click [here](#) for more information.

#### **Managing Food Plots Seminar**

**Date & Time:** September 17th, 10AM-12PM & 1PM-3PM

**Location:** Fresh Spin Farms, Davis, CA

**Focus:** The Seminar focuses food plot planners and managers on maximizing food value. There is a choice of [morning](#) or [afternoon](#) session.

**Day of Action \$5 Meal**

**Date & Time:** September 17th, 11AM-2PM

**Location:** Waldorf School, Fair Oaks

**Focus:** The goal of this event is to show attendees that it doesn't cost a lot of money to eat the "Slow Food way." Visit [www.slowfoodsacramento.com](http://www.slowfoodsacramento.com) for more information.

**Autumn Equinox Festival**

**Date & Time:** September 17th, 4:30PM-8:30PM

**Location:** Soil Born Farms, 3000 Hurley Way

**Focus:** Fundraiser to benefit Soil Born Farms. \$60/person. Fine food, wine tasting, music, & silent auction. Tickets available in advance at the [Sacramento Food Co-op](#) or at Soil Born Farms, (916) 363-9685. This event does sell out!

**Sunday Supper to Support Soil Born Farms**

**Date & Time:** September 25th, 5PM-7PM

**Location:** Co-op Community Learning Center

**Focus:** \$30 per person. More information and a menu at <http://www.soilborn.org/events.html>.

**Save the Date! Hoes Down Harvest Festival**

**Date & Time:** October 1st & 2nd

**Location:** Full Belly Farm, Guinda, CA

**Focus:** For more information, including event schedule and tickets, visit <http://www.hoesdown.org/>.

**Slow Ride through Oak Park**

**Date & Time:** October 1st, 11AM-2PM

**Location:** Oak Park (meeting location TBD)

**Focus:** Cost is \$10. For more information and to RSVP, visit [www.slowfoodsacramento.com](http://www.slowfoodsacramento.com).

**For event updates, visit our [online calendar](#).**

**Want your events listed here? Email [Adriane Lepage](#) and we'll add it to our calendar so FSC members know about it!**

[Forward email](#)



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