

Hello everyone!

This is the first Co-op update--yay! Of course, we don't have much to update you on yet, as we're only barely getting started. But I wanted to get something out to let everyone know that (1) yes, you are on the email list; and (2) your input and attention are VERY VERY appreciated! I'm gratified to see so many people on the update list already (over 30!), and we're just getting started. As usual, please pass these messages along to anyone you think might be interested--the more, the merrier!

As far as what is happening now, we are slowly forming our "core group", or perhaps a steering committee, depending on your preferred terminology. As many of this group as possible will be meeting with one of the directors of Bloomingfoods within the next few weeks to start to really get a handle on the upcoming process of actually forming a co-op. We are plodding our way through an incredible array of resources available to us for starting up a food co-op. A particularly helpful resource, if you are interested, can be found at <http://www.cgin.coop/manual.pdf>.

While we have nothing like an official timeline right now, please understand that the formation of a co-op typically takes about 2 years from inception of idea to doors opening. That's a long time. I hope everyone here will stick it out with us. The payoff--local and organic produce, bulk dry goods, natural foods & home products, and who knows what else?--will be worth it, and will be of real value to Terre Haute!

In Cooperation,

Robyn