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[Organic Growers School](#)



**OGS**  
*wishes you  
happy  
holidays  
full of  
family,  
friends,  
and  
fabulous  
local food*  
★

## Conference Registration is OPEN!

**Our Holiday gift to you! The 2011 Organic Growers School Conference schedule is now online** (and in the mail to you if you are on our post-mail list). **Registration is NOW OPEN**, just in time for you to gift your favorite farmer or gardener with a ticket to the Southeast's best sustainability convergence.

Early Bird rates are effective until January 17, 2011, so register now and SAVE \$\$\$.

Make sure to check out our NEW **FarmSoiree Benefit Concert**, to be held at the Orange Peel in Asheville, NC following the conference on Saturday March 5th. It's sure to be a rollicking, signing, dancing, inspiring good time, and it's all\*about\*food. You can get your ticket for just \$12 if you buy with a Conference registration.

**Calling all Volunteers:** You can now apply for a work exchange position for the Spring Conference. [Click here to apply now.](#)

See you there, Green Thumb.

## What the New Year Brings

**This holiday season, the Organic Growers School wishes to salute everyone who has committed to local, sustainable food systems** through hard work on the farm, time volunteering to raise awareness, or through the generous extension of financial resources, **you are the community of committed citizens that make our common goals attainable.**

**How will your voice be heard in the year to come?** Your continued participation in the fight for real food, whether it takes the form of a tailgate market shopping list, calls to your senator, or volunteer work in your community, you are an integral part of our crusade. As we approach a new year in local and organic food,



the Organic Growers School charges you to think critically about the needs we face. Despite successes over the life of our organization, there is hard work ahead. As the current generation of farmers ages and we face the largest transfer of land in many, many years, how do we ensure this land is placed responsibly **within the ethic that seeks to preserve natural resources for future generations?** farmers face threatening regulation, how do we assist all community members in understanding how these regulations threaten the **sustainability of our economy as a whole?** In addition to shopping lists and victory gardens, **how do we make real change?** What is a realistic way for us to band together and display the cohesiveness and perseverance we so need?

Through our work, the Organic Growers School attempts to tackle these questions every day. Our partnerships with other non profits and our expansion into underserved regions are keys to unified success in the campaign for sustainable food. **Will you join us?** As you give this holiday season, please consider the Organic Growers School. **Aside from personal action, your support** charitable non-profits such as ours serves as an extension of your choices at home— and **broadens the impact of our grassroots efforts** consider that:

**\$50 would enable a beginning farmer** receive training through our farmer mentoring program

**\$100 would allow our staff to reach out** ten more farmers seeking assistance in understanding current regulation that affects their business

**\$500 would pay a farmer** record their knowledge and conduct farm research for the benefit of current and future organic growers

**\$1000 would allow a class of school children** to receive hands-on learning about our agricultural heritage, and help instill in them a sense of ownership over the future of food.

Please give as you are inspired, and know that



as you assist us in our mission, you create ripple effects in the food movement that will touch us all. [Donate Now!](#)



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<http://www.organicgrowersschool.org>

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