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## Press Release

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### **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Share the Harvest Benefits Vermonters in Need** Thursday, October 2, 2008

On October 2<sup>nd</sup>, over 75 restaurants and food stores statewide will help 'Share the Harvest' with limited income Vermonters. Participating locations will donate up to 15% of the day's sales to the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont's (NOFA Vermont) Farm Share program, which helps Vermonters in need purchase fresh food from their local farmers.

"2008 has been a time of particular need," said Jean Hamilton, who coordinates the NOFA Vermont Farm Share program. "Food prices are up world-wide and we're seeing that hit Vermont: for the first time ever we have filled the program and were forced to start a waiting list of people looking for assistance."

In 2008 the Vermont Farm Share Program supported over 1,000 individuals statewide and donated 15 Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) shares to food shelves and community centers. Forty one organic farms provided shares for the program.

"I love seeing my toddler's eyes light up when we tell him it is our day to visit the farm," said Sara L. who receives a share from the Farm Share program in Brattleboro. "Thanks to our farmers and NOFA Vermont, our toddler is participating in a community where choosing healthy, local and organic foods is the norm. We would not have been able to afford our CSA share if it wasn't for our NOFA Vermont scholarship."

The Farm Share program is an innovative model which connects those in need with their local farmers. The program works like this: eligible Vermonters fill out an application and are matched with a CSA farmer in their area. The participant pays 50% of the cost of a share. The farmer asks other CSA shareholders to donate money to support the program which makes up another 25% of the cost. NOFA Vermont raises the final 25% through the Share the Harvest fundraiser.

"Farm Share is about farms supporting community and community supporting farms," said Suzanne Long, whose CSA, Luna Bleu Farm, is providing supported shares to 13 households. "We really like the opportunity to be able to serve many people in the community who might not normally be able to afford a share."

"Share the Harvest is a win-win situation for restaurants to support local farmers and for local farmers to support people in need," said Pennie Beach of The Red Mill Restaurant at Basin Harbor.

For a listing of participating restaurants and food markets, visit [www.nofavt.org](http://www.nofavt.org).

**Share the Harvest Participating Restaurants (as of September 15, 2008)**

Visit [www.nofavt.org](http://www.nofavt.org) for a complete listing

|                           |                |                              |                 |
|---------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| LACE                      | Barre          | Sarducci's                   | Montpelier      |
| Mister Z's                | Barre          | The Black Door               | Montpelier      |
| Colatina Exit             | Bradford       | Roland's Place               | New Haven       |
| South End Market          | Bradford       | The Inn at Weathersfield     | Perkinsville    |
| Brattleboro Food Co-op    | Brattleboro    | Positive Pie                 | Plainfield      |
| Mountain Greens Market    | Bristol        | Putney Food Co-op            | Putney          |
| A Single Pebble           | Burlington     | Quechee Farmer's Diner       | Quechee         |
| American Flatbread *      | Burlington     | Patrick's Place              | Randolph        |
| Leunig's                  | Burlington     | Bridge Street Café           | Richmond        |
| Penny Cluse Café          | Burlington     | Toscano                      | Richmond        |
| Splash at the Boathouse   | Burlington     | Three Tomatoes Trattoria     | Rutland         |
| Sugarsnap                 | Burlington     | The Inn at Idlewood          | Sharon          |
| The Skinny Pancake        | Burlington     | Marceau's Fine Foods         | Sharon          |
| Three Tomatoes Trattoria  | Burlington     | Inn at Shelburne Farms       | Shelburne       |
| Trattoria Delia           | Burlington     | Bistro Sauce                 | Shelburne       |
| Healthy Living Café       | S. Burlington  | South Royalton Market        | S Royalton      |
| Lake View House           | S. Burlington  | Jeff's Maine Seafood         | St. Albans      |
| Pauline's                 | S. Burlington  | Natural Provisions           | St. Johnsbury   |
| Pizza on Earth            | Charlotte      | St. Johnsbury Food Co-op     | St. Johnsbury   |
| Abbey Restaurant          | Enosburg Falls | Green Mountain Inn           | Stowe           |
| Sweet Clover Market       | Essex          | Pie in the Sky               | Stowe           |
| Foothills Bakery          | Fairfax        | Isabell's Café               | E. Thetford     |
| Highland Lodge            | Greensboro     | Red Mill Restaurant          | Vergennes       |
| Buffalo Mountain Co-op    | Hardwick       | American Flatbread *         | Waitsfield      |
| Claire's Restaurant       | Hardwick       | Localfolk Smokehouse         | Waitsfield      |
| Good Times Café           | Hinesburg      | Millbrook Inn and Restaurant | Waitsfield      |
| Three Tomatoes Trattoria  | Lebanon, NH    | Sweet Pea Natural Foods      | Waitsfield      |
| Mulligan's of Manchester  | Manchester Vil | Michael's Good to Go         | Warren          |
| New Morning Natural Foods | Manchester     | The Alchemist                | Waterbury       |
| Perfect Wife Restaurant   | Manchester     | Arvad's Grill and Pub        | Waterbury       |
| The Waybury Inn           | E Middlebury   | Hen of the Wood              | Waterbury       |
| American Flatbread        |                | Upper Valley Co-op           | White River Jct |
| at the Marbleworks *      | Middlebury     | Garden of Eatin'             | Williston       |
| Fire & Ice Restaurant     | Middlebury     | Three Tomatoes Trattoria     | Williston       |
| Green Peppers             | Middlebury     | Hundredth Monkey             | Wilmington      |
| Middlebury Natural Foods  |                | Woodstock Farmer's Market    | Woodstock       |
| Co-op                     | Middlebury     |                              |                 |
| Capitol Grounds           | Montpelier     |                              |                 |
| Hunger Mountain Coop Café | Montpelier     |                              |                 |
| Julio's                   | Montpelier     |                              |                 |
| Langdon Street Café       | Montpelier     |                              |                 |
| Restaurant Phoebe         | Montpelier     |                              |                 |
| Rhapsody                  | Montpelier     |                              |                 |

**\* Participating on Friday October 3, 2008**