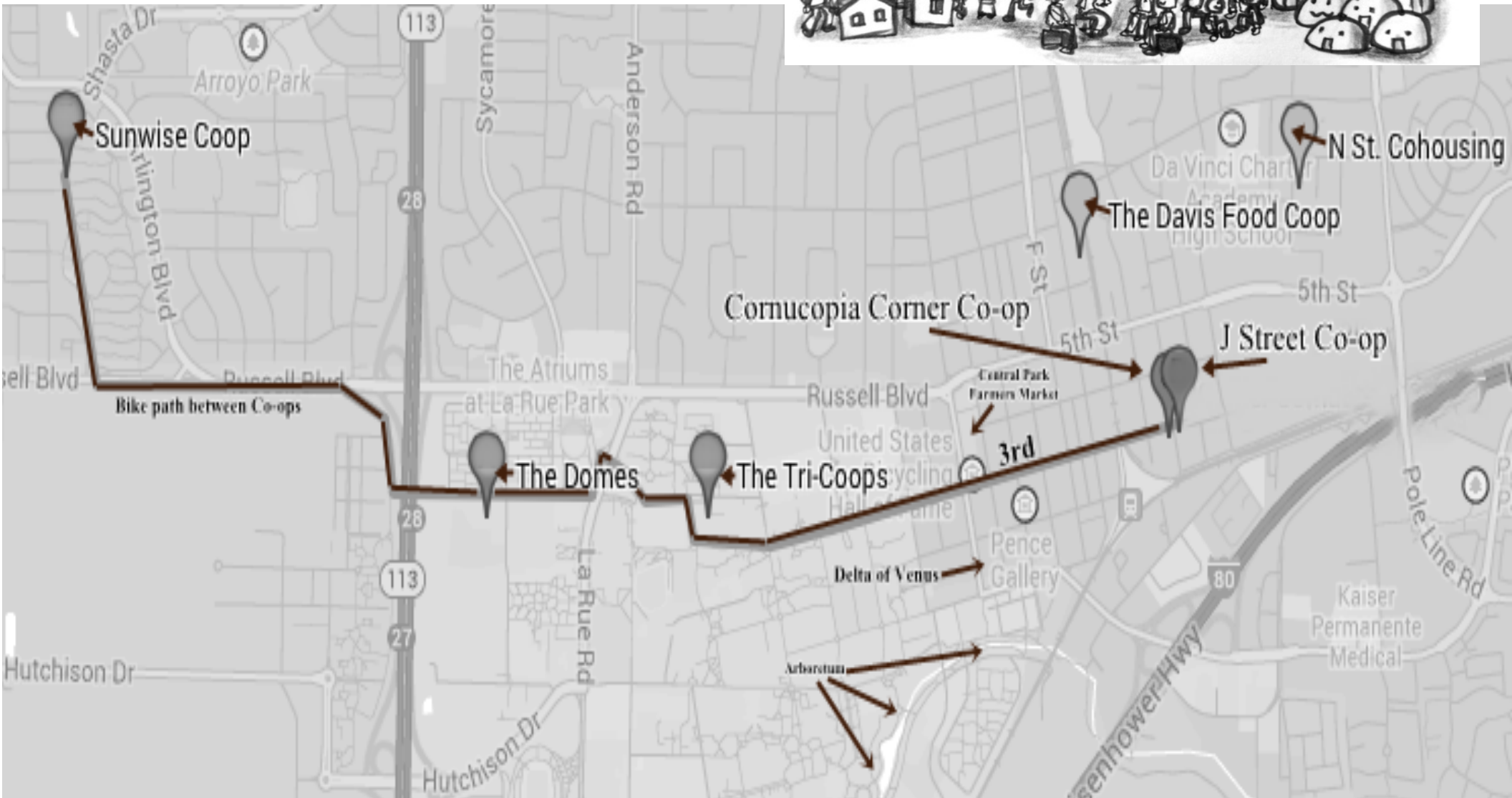




WestCo

Davis, Ca

2014



# Welcome to Davis!

## Welcome to WestCo!



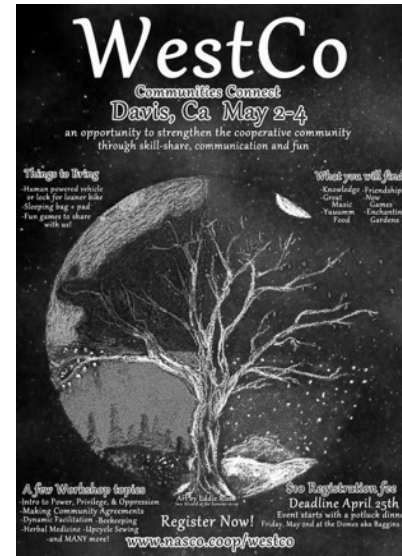
We are all excited for you to be here and look forward to helping show you a great time while you are here! Davis, California is a unique part of the world! "The Today Show" named Davis one of America's Five Friendliest Cities; standards included: safety, diversity, pedestrian and bike friendliness, as well as the presence of parks and public spaces.

We love our farms! -UC Davis was ranked #1 in the world for teaching and research in the area of agriculture and forestry, according to rankings released by QS World University F  
America's Best Farmers | Davis California Farmers Market ranked 5th among  
a chance- pick up some fresh veggies!



A bikers paradise! - The League of American Bicyclists named Davis the most bike-friendly town in the United States. We were the first spot in the nation to build a citywide system of bike paths- Davis was also the first city in the U.S. to install bicycle signal heads on traffic lights. An exciting fact- our city was named to host the U.S. Bicycling Hall of Fame. Davis was ranking) Bicycle Friendly Community b  
Census data estimates that 22.1% of v  
than any other city in the country.

But we don't just like bikes! We look fo  
showing you many of our eco-friendly and



### Artist commentary-Westco Flyer

Hello, I'm Eddie from the Sunwise Co-op in Davis! It has been a privilege to be able to work on the flyer and brochure design. The flyer artwork was inspired by a Native American concept that wherever energy flows is circular. The wind in its greatest power, whirls... A wave with all its strength rolls. A bird builds its nest in a circle. A plant produces a circular seed and the moon and stars are circular. Even the seasons form a giant hoop where everything is connected. The four seasons represent the circle of change and that change is constant. Knowing that- we have the opportunity to create positive change in the daily lives of others and the world through our compassion, actions and creativity.

Awhile back I read a quote that resonated with me deeply and influenced my decision to go from living on my own to becoming part of a community. I hope you enjoy

"You have been telling people that this is the Eleventh Hour. Now, you must go and tell the people that THIS is the Hour. And there are things to be considered...

Where are you living? What are you doing? What are your relationships? Are you in right relations?

Where is your water? Know your garden...

It is time to speak your truth. Create your community.

Be good to each other. Do not look outside yourself for a leader.

There is a river flowing now very fast, it is so great and swift that there are those who will be afraid. They will try to hold on to the shore.

They will feel they are being torn apart and will suffer greatly. Know the river has its destination. The elders say we must let go of the shore, push off into the middle of the river, keep our eyes open, and our heads above the water.

And I say, see who is in there with you and hold fast to them and celebrate!

At this time in history, we are to take nothing personally, least of all ourselves. For the moment that we do, our spiritual growth and journey come to an end. The time of the lone wolf is over. Gather yourselves!

Banish the word 'struggle' from your attitude and your vocabulary. All that we do now must be done in a sacred manner and in celebration. We are all about to go on a journey. We are the ones we've been waiting for!"

-Thomas Banyacya Sr. (1910-1999)

Speaker of the Wolf, Fox and Coyote Clan

- Elder of the Hopi Nation

# Big Appreciations!!!



A Special thanks to everyone who helped with supplies or donated goods to help make our event possible!

## NASCO and SCHA

-Kimball Family Farm- Thanks George! -UC Davis student farm -  
Eatwell Farm -Impossible Acres -Heavy Dirt Farm -Hearty Fork -  
Clover Leaf Farm -Pacific Star Gardens

-Davis Student Co-op -Pierce Co-op -Agrarian Effort  
- The Domes -Sunwise Co-op -Cornucopia Corner Co-op  
-J Street Co-op -Santa Barbara Co-ops  
Also- Smashing coordinator April and Dashing coordinator Kent

-Davis bike collective -Peace On Earthbench Movement  
-Peter Wagner



The North American Students of Cooperation (NASCO) organizes and educates affordable group equity co-ops and their members for the purpose of promoting a community oriented cooperative movement.

<http://www.nasco.coop/about>

WestCo is an annual conference put on by NASCO for members of cooperatives in the Western United States and Canada. This year's conference is being jointly organized by members of Solar Community Housing Association (SCHA), the UC Davis Tri-Cooperatives, and NASCO staff.

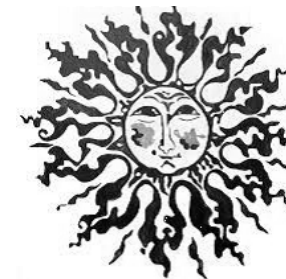


The Solar Community Housing Association (SCHA) is a Davis-based 501(c)(3) non-profit that has been providing environmentally conscious and affordable cooperative housing since 1979. SCHA owns and operates three cooperative houses: Sunwise Co-op, J Street Co-op, and Cornucopia Corner Co-op. SCHA is leasing the Baggins End Domes at UC Davis, which is also run cooperatively. Residents of the co-ops maintain their living spaces and serve on the organization's board of directors. As a board, we determine our rents, budget for maintenance, and set long-term goals for SCHA.

Residents spend one day each month maintaining and improving the houses and the land. Each co-op has a garden from which we harvest many delicious vegetables for our meals.

Residents choose to cook and eat together four nights a week. Usually a pair or small group of people will cook one evening meal per week on a rotating schedule. We also meet regularly to discuss issues of concern, and make decisions using consensus process.

We live together with intention, integrating our values of environmentalism, direct democracy, and self-sufficiency into our daily lives.



Art by Alfred

# WestCo Schedule of Events

**5:00PM-7:00PM** -Registration & Check-In-*The Domes*

**7:00PM**- Potluck Dinner- *The Domes*

**8:00pm** bonfire and welcome shindig

## Saturday, May 3rd

**9:00AM**- Breakfast where you rise

**10:30AM-12:00PM**-Workshop Block 1

**12:30PM-2:00PM**-Lunch and leisure- *Corner Co-op*

**2:00PM-3:30PM**-Workshop Block 2

**4:00PM-5:30PM**-Workshop Block 3

**6:00PM- Late** -Dinner/Party - Tri Co-ops

Featuring live music- **Big Sticky Mess and A reasonable Amount of Oatmeal**

## Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>

**9:00AM**- Morning Yoga    **10:00AM**- Brunch- *J Street Co-op*

**11:00 AM** Clothing swap- *Corner Co-op*

**12:30PM-2:00PM**-Workshop Block 4

**2:00PM-4:00PM**- Closing Ceremony & Check-out- *The Domes*



## Some places of interest in Davis



### **UC Davis Arboretum** (Known as "The Arb" to some locals)

The UC Davis Arboretum occupies 100 acres of land along the south edge of campus, along the banks of Arboretum Waterway, on the old north channel of Putah Creek. It was established in 1936 to help young biologists at UC Davis learn the plants of California. The paths of the Arboretum make a walking and running loop that is about 3.5 miles long. For those with an interest in gardening, the plants of California, or local wildlife, the garden has over 31,000 trees and plants. Many of the plants have plant labels or nearby signs, describing the collection. The Arboretum is free and open seven days a week, 365 days a year.

### **Delta of Venus**

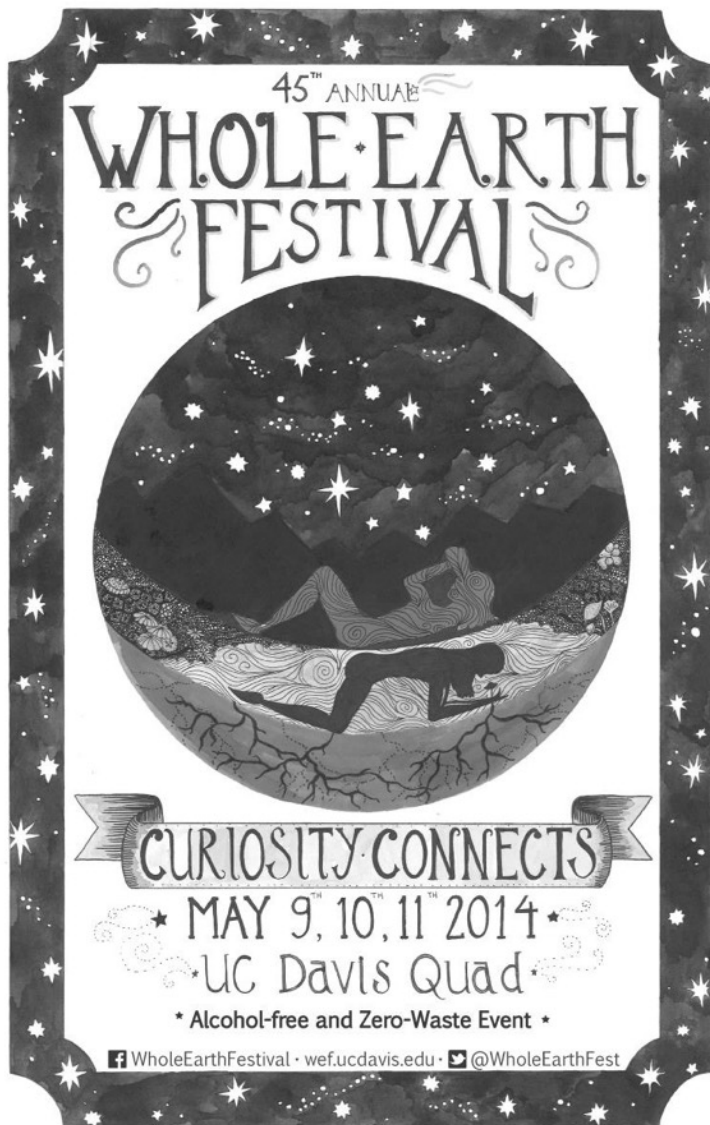
Delta of Venus is an independent coffee shop, restaurant and pub in downtown Davis. There is a really nice outdoor patio area that's great for sitting and shooting the breeze. The place has a social atmosphere, and is one of the only cafe in Davis to serve alcohol. It's a

### **The Davis Food Co-op**

is a natural food-oriented grocery store. It is one of many cooperatives in Davis. The Co-op is known for being a generous and helpful member of the community. They have supported the Holiday Meal, Food Not Bombs, On Campus Co-ops, and KDRT among others. You can learn about the more than 30 other co-ops in Davis and Yolo County by visiting them at the same web site

[www.community.coop/davis](http://www.community.coop/davis)





### Highlights of WEF 2014 include:

- \* 3 stages with 45 bands + 20 dance acts
- \* 50+ education and sustainability workshops
  - \* 100+ craft and art vendors
- \* Speaker presentations and The Bloom Series screening
- \* Many food vendors selling yummy vegetarian food
  - \* Fire dancing at night at Promethean Fire Stage
    - \* Group yoga and meditation sessions
    - \* Outdoor art gallery with installations
- \* Great vibes, great people, great weekend!

## Course Block I (Saturday 10:30am-12pm)

### Mead Making

@ Corner Co-op

Presenter(s): George Kimball

Affiliation: Community friend and organic farmer

Learn the ancient craft of honey-wine fermentation in this hands-on skill share. We'll cover the process of making a simple five gallon batch of mead, including ingredients and their cost, cooking, fermenting, aging, and bottling.

### Empowerment through Worker-Owned Cooperatives

@ Tri Co-ops

Presenter(s): Amy Johnson

Affiliation: US Federation of Worker Cooperatives

What is a worker cooperative? And is it really possible to own our own jobs?? This workshop will cover the basics of how worker cooperatives operate and will highlight real stories from youth cooperators who have started their own successful businesses. For anyone interested in learning more about workplace democracy in practice, this is the workshop for you! And if you're interested in starting a worker cooperative, a 30 minute follow-up session will provide a crash-course on how to get started and access resources from the US Federation of Worker Cooperatives.

### Meeting Productivity and Member Accountability

@ The Domes

Presenter(s): Morgan Crawford and Remy Corso

Affiliation: North American Students of Cooperation (NASCO)

Having good meetings can make a huge impact on the satisfaction members have with their coop, and can also be a powerful way of encouraging deeper involvement from all of your membership. This workshop will focus on meeting process best practices, ranging from setting up the agenda and encouraging attendance, to giving space for all members to speak, to keeping high quality records of the meeting for future members. Additionally, we will discuss the nature of accountability, explore how accountability is relevant to meetings, and share tools for encouraging accountability in our meeting spaces.

### Natural Building and Regenerative Building Design

(Earthbench Cob Repair)

@ The Domes

Presenter: Brennan Blazer Bird

Affiliation: Peace on Earthbench Movement (POEM)

Today over 3 billion people on this planet live in buildings made of Earth. Come explore hands-and-foots-on ways to use Earthen building to build our communities From the Ground Up. We will be cob repairing an Earthbench built in 2011 at the Domes that needs some tender loving care. Come learn about foundation basics, earthbag construction, cob building, bottle bricks, plasters, and the different ways you can design, build, protect, and maintain earthen structures. Cob Workparty will continue throughout the day!!!

## Course Block 2 (Saturday 2:00-3:30pm)

### Cast Iron Chef

@ Tri Co-ops- Agrarian Effort Kitchen

Presenter(s): Devin “Devo” Gabhart

Affiliation: Sunwise, Solar Community Housing Association

Do you ever open the fridge on your cooknight and say “hmmm, there’s nothing in here. What the hell am i gonna make?” Do you ever find yourself intimidated by strange ingredients that you don’t know how to use? Come party down around the cast iron and learn how to feed hungry co-ops gourmet meals from the limited or random selection of ingredients you’ll commonly find in a co-op kitchen.

### Solar Panels and Student Housing (30 min)/Mural Painting

@ J Street Co-op

Presenter(s): Alfred Twu

Affiliation: Lothlorien Co-op, Berkeley

Student housing has some unique characteristics (seasonally variable occupancy and energy use). We’ll discuss the costs, benefits, and where to locate solar hot water or photovoltaic panels. Afterwards, help paint a mural!

### Herbal Medicine Making

@ Sunwise Co-op

Presenter(s): Ashley Eisenmenger

Affiliation: Solar Community Housing Association

In this interactive workshop we’ll cover the process of making herbal salves and tinctures from harvest to finished product. We’ll begin with a brief plant walk and harvest in the Sunwise Co-op herb garden, and move into the magical healing kitchen to create medicine to share with housemates and loved ones.

### Introduction to Power, Privilege, and Oppression

@ The Domes

Presenter(s): Vivian Onuoha and Layla Oghabian

Affiliation: North American Students of Cooperation (NASCO) & Berkeley Student Cooperative (BSC)

By providing a case study of the Berkeley Student Cooperative (BSC) this workshop will discuss the dynamics of power and privilege within cooperatives and how factors such as house culture pose as a deterrent to welcoming in minority groups. Participants will be encouraged to further analyze experiences in their houses and brainstorm methods of creating a safe space for students of various backgrounds.



**J Street Co-ops** dwell in Old East Davis in a creaky old house that dates back to the 1920s. Our house was the former location of the Davis Art Center and was converted back to into housing by its first residents in the 1980s. Our house is known for its free range flock of mischievous street chickens, the ridonkulous garden, a happy waggly dog named Pippa,

our bubbling fermentation projects, overwhelmingly delicious meals, and beautiful front porch. Collectively, we know a lot about math, plants, climbing things, construction projects, and cooking tasty food. We have a strong culture of silliness and do-it-yourselfness..



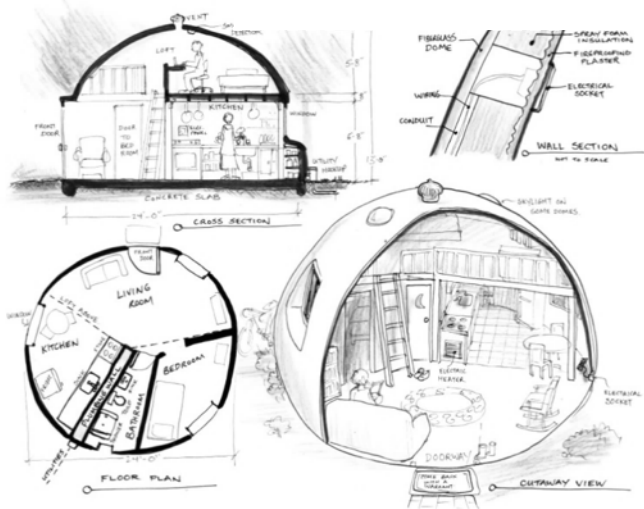
**Cornucopia Corner Co-op**, located downtown, is one of the newest cooperative communities in Davis. Two historic houses were moved from B Street to J Street in August of 2010 and moved into in late 2011. Beautiful gardens surround the two houses that form one household, and eight residents call it home. The houses have sustainable features such as on-demand water heaters, a grey-water hook up, solar panels, whole house fans, American clay wall finishes, wonderful insulation, and so much more. The houses are also accessible for folks with physical disabilities with ramps, a roll-in shower, and multi-level counters in the kitchen. With plant-loving gardeners, happy compost piles, and a bunny who poops to help our plants grow, the garden provides residents with an ample supply of delicious, fresh, organic food.



### Tri-Cooperatives

The Tri-Cooperatives are one community, comprised of three craftsman-style houses on campus that place emphasis on low-impact living.

Approximately ten to twelve residents occupy each house. The Tri-Coops give students the opportunity to experience communal living, gardening, and consensus based decision making. The Tri-Coop community as a whole emphasizes community, cooperation, and responsibility. The Tri-Coops include Davis Student Co-op (also known as DSC), Pierce Coop, and Agrarian Effort (also known as Ag).



### The Baggins End Domes

Started by students as an experiment in 1972, The Domes have flourished for 41 years while providing housing to UC Davis students. 13 domes (14 including communal office space dome), situated on 5 acres, house two residents each with a full bathroom, kitchen, and a loft. The unique structures are fiberglass shells insulated with polyurethane foam. The community enjoys shared cooking responsibilities four nights a week and regularly joins together for community events and garden work. The Domes were renovated in Fall 2011 and recently received an energy-efficiency grant to install a ground-source heat pump on the property. The Domes space is a haven of green nature tucked into the UC Davis campus. We welcome all people, all skills, and all interests to stop by for dinner or to wander the gardens. One of the domies latest projects is raising money to install a grey water system- You can purchase a shirt or take Latin dance lessons as a way to help raise funds. Share the link and help spread the word! [www.indiegogo.com/projects/the-dome-s-dirty-laundry-greywater-system#home](http://www.indiegogo.com/projects/the-dome-s-dirty-laundry-greywater-system#home)



### Sunwise Co-op

is a cooperative household in the glorious Village Homes neighborhood in West Davis. The eight-bedroom house, partly built by former Davis Student Co-op residents in 1979, is full of low-impact features such as solar water heating, photovoltaic panels, passive solar design, and composting. We grow many of our own vegetables in a big luscious garden, and enjoy the company of chickens and bees. The Village Homes neighborhood in which we live is renowned for its innovative architectural and ecological features, including common orchards that provide us with fruit for much of the year. Current Sunwisers share interests in healing, herbalism, gourmet cooking, yoga, massage, permaculture, and bee keeping. We have a strong culture of learning and support. Our shared skills, experiences, and intentional space have helped us all realize the importance of cooperative community in our own lives and in the world at large.

## Course Block 3 (Saturday 4:00-5:30pm)

### Essentials of Dynamic Facilitation

@ Tri-Co-ops

Presenter(s): Morgan Crawford and Remy Corso

Affiliation: North American Students of Cooperation (NASCO)

Dynamic, empowering meetings do exist! Good facilitation makes them happen. Whether you are new to this practice or have experience facilitating co-op meetings, we will share tools and practices for creating inclusive meeting spaces, delegating meeting roles, preparing for facilitation, encouraging equitable participation, and evaluating meetings. We will also collectively troubleshoot how to facilitate in light of challenging scenarios



### Bees, Permaculture, and Food Forests

@ The Domes- Davis Bee Sanctuary

Presenter(s): Derek Downey

Affiliation: BeeLove School of Permaculture

Tour the Davis Bee Sanctuary, a permaculture-designed food forest created for the bees, look into the windows of a Warre vertical top bar hive and a horizontal top bar hive that has a newly introduced swarm.

Learn about herbs, hugelkultur, solar wax melter, plant propagation, and how to support honeybees and other pollinators.

### Know Your Rights Training

@ The Domes

Presenter(s): Olivia Turnross, Jessica Samuel, Josh Wizman, and Kase Wheatly

Affiliation: Cornucopia Corner Co-op, Solar Community Housing Association

There is a history of racial profiling and police brutality in Davis. Likewise, police brutality targets communities and people of color and other minority communities and individuals. Come learn your rights, share your knowledge, and converse about action and solutions that can be instituted in your daily life, and in activism efforts in your community and beyond.



## Other things going on Saturday

**Davis Bike Collective Bike Repair and Education Space,**  
10am - 4pm at the Domes

Bike squeaky? Learn how to fix your bike!



The Davis Bike Collective will have tools and teachers. Even if it isn't broken, we're always willing to teach. We're friendly! Pro mechanics and absolute beginners welcome.

**Deconstructing Sustainability Through Dance** with  
**Jessica Friedman 1-4 pm @ the Domes and Pierce co-op**

1-2 pm - Conversations and dialogue around sustainability themes, concerns and movements. A brief history of Davis' role in the sustainability movement. To beyond!

2-3 pm - Deconstructing sustainability through interpretive dance led by new and old choreographers, this will bring sustainability issues into practice. Break out into different types of dance and different themes for all levels!

3-4 pm - Performing the sustainability jam = saying, doing, dancing  
We will do a performance culminating each others' knowledge and dance routines. Let's intersect sustainability through alternative movement and radically emotional dance (is Enya appropriate? IDK!!!)

## Course Block 4 (Sunday 12:30-2:00pm)

### Forming Community Agreements

@ The Domes

**Presenter(s): Morgan Crawford and Remy Corso**

**Affiliation: North American Students of Cooperation (NASCO)**

Community agreements are important and powerful tools that communities use to hold themselves accountable to their shared norms, values, boundaries, and aspirations. In addition to giving an overview of commonly used community agreements, this workshop will provide support for discussing why and how to implement such a living document within your communities. If there are implicit codes of conduct where you live, we especially invite you to explore making them explicit!

### Community-Based Strategic Planning

@ Tri Co-ops

**Presenter(s): Ben Pearl**

**Affiliation: Solar Community Housing Association; Davis Food Co-op**

We'll discuss methods for organizational strategic planning, and how to go about it in cooperative and democratic way. Topics will include: gathering community input, organizing communication, setting timelines, structuring feedback & communication, organizing workshops & meetings, financial planning, 'reporting out' to the community, and how to bring these elements together into a cohesive whole.

### Hack your Free Pile

@ Corner Co-op

**Presenter(s): Kylie Mendonca**

**Affiliation: Cornucopia Corner Co-op, Solar Community Housing**

Learn how to modify, alter, and up-cycle lackluster free pile finds into kick-ass clothes you're actually excited to wear in this radical re-use sewing skillshare. Happening at Corner Co-op, right after the WestCo clothing swap!

### Hunting and Hide Tanning

**Tri Co-ops- front lawn "12:20-1:30"**

**Presenter: Laurel Sellers**

**Affiliation: Tri-cooperative resident**

This session will touch on a variety of skills useful for those interested in animal harvesting. Hunting is my strongest area, but I will be doing a show and tell on hide tanning in which people can see two different methods (one I picked up in Morocco and a slightly more involved process).