

Grow Your Own Food Co-op, Part Two: Logistics

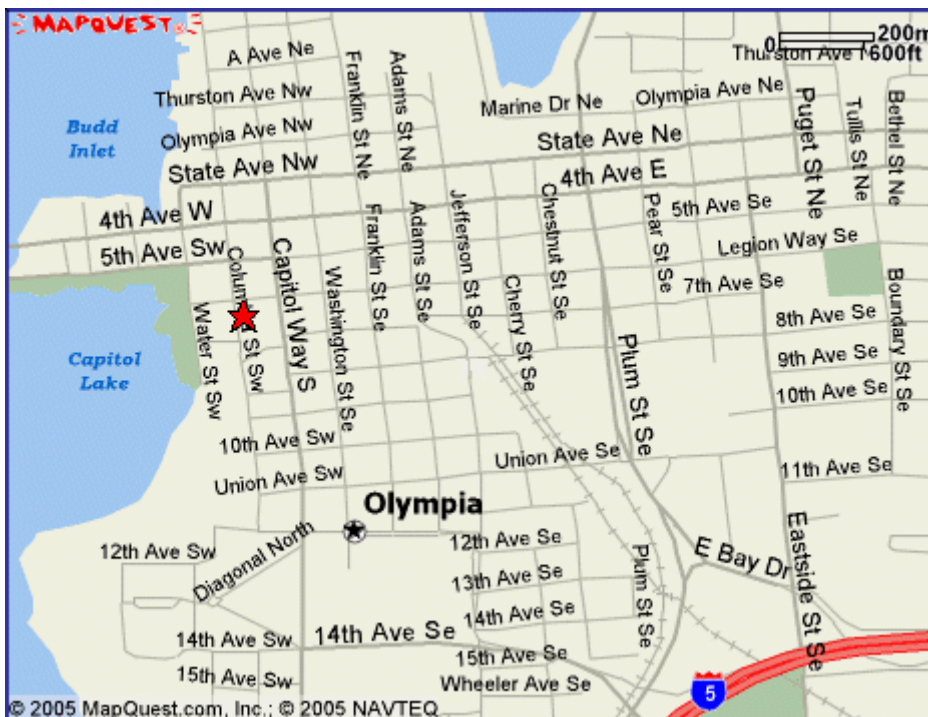
August 11-13, 2006 Olympia, Washington

The event will kick off with a shared dinner on Friday, starting at 6pm, and will conclude the event at about 2:30 on Sunday afternoon.

Olympia is about an hour's drive from the Seattle-Tacoma airport, and two hours from Portland. There is bus service to Sea-Tac, which usually takes about two hours and costs around \$4, although service is limited in the early morning and late evening, and is spotty on Sunday. If you are thinking about the bus, I'll help you figure it out. You will not need a car, but please let me know if you won't have one, so I can make sure that we have enough seats when necessary.

Other than the store tours, the event is located downtown, within easy walking distance of a lake, the harbor, the Capitol building, and NWCDC headquarters. Olympia has a safe downtown, although somewhat gritty in places. The nightlife is eclectic and the people-watching along 4th Avenue is quite entertaining.

The workshops will be held at the Olympia Freeschool, 610 Columbia St. SW. Their website is at www.olympiafreeschool.org.



To get to the Freeschool, take I-5 exit 105 and follow signs to downtown and the port. This will eventually spit you out onto Plum St. Follow that for about a mile, then take a left on Legion Way (which is where you would expect to find 6th Avenue, between 5th and 7th). Follow this for about ½ mile and take another left on Columbia. It is immediately on your left, across from Olympia Supply.

Lodging: far and funky

These are both accessed by taking I-5 exit 104 and following US 101 a couple of miles to the Black Lake Boulevard exit. There was some talk about having a campout, so I am including a campground recommendation. If anyone is interested, please let me know, and I'll help you connect.

Salmon Shores campground is located on Black Lake, which is about six miles from downtown on a moderately picturesque lake that is surrounded by homes. People do swim in it, but it isn't the cleanest body of water in the world. They have a website with lots of pictures (slow download) and not much information at www.salmonshores.us. If you are interested in this option, please let me know very soon. The campsite is apparently filling up for August already. Camping rate \$15 plus tax for tenting. Up to six people per campsite. RV \$21 plus hookups
Rowboat rentals \$8 for 4 hours

Another option is *Chez Cascadia*, a guest house/hostel that is only a couple miles from downtown, with easy bus access. The hosts are extremely co-op friendly. Their website has tons of information: www.chezcascadia.org.
Dorm-Style: \$16/night, Private Room: \$30/night
Additional Person: (for sharing a bunk bed or the private room) +\$10/night
Children under thirteen years old receive \$5 off the regular rates.
No charge for children under two years old.
Backyard Tenting: \$10 for one person/tent + \$5 per extra person, per night (i.e. two people staying in one tent for two nights = \$30)

Lodging: close and comfy

There are three hotels within blocks of the workshop location. To get to Capitol Way S., follow the directions above, but turn left a block earlier. In descending order of swankiness, they are:

Governor's House (formerly Ramada), ½ block away at 621 Capitol Way S.
Rooms start at \$89 (w/ hot breakfast buffet, and maybe a view) 360-352-7700.

Clarion Inn (formerly Best Western Aladdin Inn), 4 blocks away at 900 Capitol Way S. Rooms start at \$67.50 360-352-7200 (sushi restaurant on the premises)

Olympia Inn (no name change this month), 4 blocks away at 909 Capitol Way S. 360-352-8533 \$50 single \$58 double (no pool or anything)

Econo Lodge, right near where you turn onto Plum St. after leaving the freeway, about a mile from the Freeschool. Pedestrian-unfriendly area, although not far from the Japanese garden and downtown. Rooms start at \$45. 360-943-4710