



# The Essentials

## Island Organic Festival

By Charlene Haley

A feast for the senses, that is the best way to describe a day at the Island Organic Festival July 5th and 6th at the beautiful Glendale Gardens. Although I was "working", I was surrounded by like-minded people looking to not only network and gather information, but to enjoy a plethora of sights, sounds, tastes and yes, smells.

Our beautiful display of local aromatic plants attracted many people to our booth. Once in our perimeter the wonderful aromas of lavender and balsam fir drew curious and inquisitive souls deeper into our lair. The samples of Organic Fair chocolate whetted

their appetite for more information and just an excuse to linger. We displayed a variety of products that our members produced using organic essential oils and hydrosols that have the potential to be grown and distilled locally. The quality of the products sold themselves; both Kent and Holly donated the profits from their products, raising \$216.79 for the co-op. People were eager to take home these treasures from our organic community and armed with information and lots of new contacts, everyone felt it was time well spent.

*Below: Ellen and Holly at the AFC booth.*



### Membership Update

Welcome new members!  
Thank you for supporting the Aromatic Farm Co-op and getting us that much closer to steam-distillation on the island!

We are currently looking for Producer, Business and Supporter members. Please pass along our website link to anyone else you think would be interested in supporting our co-op (membership application is on the left-hand bottom of the membership page).  
<http://www.aromaticfarmcoop.ca/membership>

Rack cards with co-op details are also available for anyone with space to display them. Please contact us to arrange: <http://www.aromaticfarmcoop.ca/contact>

### Current Members

Distiller 2  
Producer 0  
Business 1  
Supporter 19

### SHOP THE WILD!

Looking for a WILD way to spend your weekend? Still searching for the perfect ingredients for your 100-MILE WILD Thanksgiving Feast? Then don't miss this once a year wild market! October 4th & 5th, 10 - 4 each day.

The Centre for Non-Timber Resources at Royal Roads University is hosting the 3rd Annual Shop the Wild Festival on October 4th & 5th at the Mews Conference Centre.

Come and enjoy delicious wild edibles, meet our exhibitors and explore the wonderful products and services that are available from BC's wild sector. This is a free public event with over 50 exhibitors and vendors, wild chef demos, fun presentations, guided nature walks and musical entertainment.

Shop the Wild offers the perfect opportunity to learn about the benefits of going green and choosing local - there is a variety of "goods from the woods" just waiting for you to discover!

**Shop the Wild 2008**  
FREE Admission

**A FESTIVAL OF WILD PRODUCTS**  
food, plants, art, family fun, and so much more...

Saturday & Sunday, October 4 & 5, 2008  
Mews Conference Centre, Royal Roads University,  
2005 Sooke Road, Victoria BC

- \* Over 50 Exhibitors
- \* Wild Food Demos
- \* Fun Presentations
- \* Musical Entertainment
- \* Guided Forest & Garden Tours
- \* Product Sampling
- \* Fresh Wild Mushrooms
- \* Natural Body Care Products
- \* First Nations Art & Culture
- \* Eco-Furniture
- \* Specialty Wood & Crafts
- \* Florals & Native Plants

[www.buybcwild.com](http://www.buybcwild.com)  
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