

WHAT'S NEXT FOR TOM'S MARKET?

Help us keep Yellow Springs' grocery store thriving for generations to come!



Understanding Food Co-ops

WHAT IS A FOOD CO-OP

A grocery store owned by community members (not a corporation). Focuses on local sourcing, community needs, and member input on operations.

WHO CAN SHOP THERE?

Everyone! You don't need to be a member to shop.

WHAT DO MEMBERS GET?

- Discounts and special perks
- Dividend payouts (potential)
- A voice in store operations, including electing the board

WHAT WILL MEMBERSHIP COST?

Our community will decide! Typically it costs between \$30-\$150 to join a Co-op .
Financial assistance options may be built in.

DO YOU HAVE TO VOLUNTEER TO BE A MEMBER?

No. Some co-ops offer volunteer options, but volunteering will not be required.

WILL PRICES GO UP?

Research shows co-ops are price competitive. Unlike corporate stores, co-ops don't profit off customers—they're owned BY customers. Prices reflect community values like fair wages and local sourcing.

COULD A CO-OP WORK IN YS?

It depends on **YOU!** Yellow Springs has a strong history of community collaboration. With enough member commitment, a co-op can thrive

WHAT IF CO-OP ISN'T THE RIGHT FIT?

Other local ownership options include:

- Multi-share locally-owned business
- Individual local buyer with a sustainable plan