



# YPSI MIX

SEPTEMBER 2017

## September Events:

312 N. River Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

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[ypsifoodcoop.org](http://ypsifoodcoop.org)

Friday September 1st  
First Friday with Steve Somers  
and Friends and Festival of the  
Honeybee

Saturday September 2nd  
Zingerman's Tasting 11-3

Monday September 4th Labor  
Day Store Hours 9am-3pm

Saturday September 9th from  
12-3pm Unity Vibrations Tasting

Saturday September 9th Ypsi Back  
to School Bash at Prospect Park

Monday September 11th @ 6pm  
YFC Grocery Talk and Tour

Saturday September 16th from 2-  
4pm Great Lakes Brewing  
Company Tasting with Clay!

Monday September 25th Ypsi  
Human Relations Commission  
Forum

Tuesday September 26th YFC  
Board Meeting 6:30pm at YFC

Look out for our Facebook events  
for additional information!

**YFC Social:**



## Heritage Festival Recap

This was YFC's 36th year involved in the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival! The YFC booth was filled with a variety of local fruit (Paula Red Apples, Fuji Apples, and Peaches), Pink Lady Apples, and Bananas. We brought YFC Bakery goodies: two vegan cookies, one gluten free cookie, and our Chocolate Chip Cookies! We sold Boxed Water is Better out of a cooler to help festival goers stay cool and hydrated and we sold a variety of our YFC t-shirts and co-op reusable grocery bags! Our sales this year doubled last years! Our booth was filled with co-op literature; including our informative wooden tri-fold display, YFC co-op brochures, co-op coupon booklets, Taste the Local Difference Magazines and educational materials about Double Up Food Bucks. The YFC Booth would not be possible without our volunteers! We had 12 volunteers and 3 board members help staff the booth, set up and tear down!



Our staff was instrumental in managing the booth and making sure everything went smoothly. Big thanks to Gary, Leaha, and Quentin for setting up, Leaha for managing Friday and Saturday and Elaina for managing and closing on Sunday. We are extremely lucky to have passionate, dedicated volunteers, board members, and staff!

YFC feels that while there are still improvements that can be made this festival creates a place for the community to come together with their families to have fun and learn more about Ypsilanti!

YFC made a huge effort to participate through our booth, being a tour stop for the Parkridge Festival, music by the Ypsilanti Youth Orchestra led by Steve Somers in the parking lot on Saturday, an info/sample table in front of the store, and being open the whole time! YFC is excited about the future of Heritage Festival and to continuing being part of making Ypsilanti Ypsi Real!

## September is Organic Harvest Month

September is nationally recognized as 'Organic Harvest Month' or 'Organic Food Celebration Month'! It's important to know what is considered organic and why organic matters.

### What is certified organic?

In the United States the gold standard for certified organic labeling is set by the

United States Department of Agriculture, commonly referred to as USDA. A USDA Certified Organic label represents a sustainable, transparent, and ecologically sound system of food production. This form of food production produces abundant, nutritious, delicious food with positive goals for our local and global food

## Organic Month Continued

System. Growing organically helps protect our land and it empowers the consumer to know what is in their food.

### What does the label mean?

A USDA organic label means that the production of the food has been rigorously inspected to ensure the strict USDA organic standards have been met during all steps of production.

### Why Organic?

**Organic is sustainable agriculture** creating long term solutions for common farming issues. It builds healthy soil, uses biological methods to control pests, and maintains humane conditions for livestock.

**Organic systems are transparent.** You know the quality and production of your food.

**Organic is Non-GMO** because USDA

regulations forbids the presence of GMOS for organic certification. Although organic food has traditionally been more pricey than conventional choices as more producers and consumers make the switch it is becoming easier and more affordable to eat organic.

To find out more about the organic movement visit [www.ewg.org](http://www.ewg.org), [justlabelit.org](http://justlabelit.org), and [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)

## Regional Vendor Highlight: Great Lakes Brewing Company

### TASTING: Saturday Sept 16th 2-4pm

Great Lakes Brewing Company started in 1986 in Cleveland, Ohio by two Irish brothers, Patrick and Daniel Conway, with the odds stacked against them. Their goal was to create a sophisticated, diverse selection of craft beers. Today they have won multiple awards for their exceptional and adventurous beers.

The Conway brothers have prioritized sustainability in their Brewery from the beginning. They have chosen to

renovate 19th century buildings for their brewpub and have purchased used restaurant equipment.

In 2008 they established 'Pint Size Farm' which produces high quality local produce grown organically with traditional farming methods. This produce is used seasonally in their various brewpubs.

In 2009 they joined a collective to form Ohio City Farm possibly the largest urban farm in the country. This has allowed them to maintain a truly

local farm-to-table experience as it is just blocks away from the brewpub. This company is a regional leader in sustainable brewing and innovate beers. Save the date to taste their beers with the one and only Clay Saturday September 16th 2-4pm.



## Goodbye to Leaha— from the YFC Staff

Time has come to say goodbye to Leaha as she is beginning a new journey with a fellowship through Michigan United in Southwest Detroit. We are excited for her as she is very passionate about the issues she will be working on and is using her Political Science degree from EMU; but it is a bittersweet moment as we will be losing her here.

Leaha has been with the Ypsilanti Food Co-op since 2014. She has worked in multiple positions filling in wherever YFC has needed her.

Some of her highlights during her time

at YFC have been meeting her partner Aaron as coworkers here, making friends with fellow co-ops from all walks of life, attending conferences, dinner club nights with her coworkers, and belonging to the YFC family.

Through YFC she found her passion for environmental policy and food justice. She travelled to Europe to study their food co-ops structures and bring back insights to YFC and Ypsilanti.

She is a member-owner at YFC and has promised that she will continue being involved. In fact, she will continue being the editor for the monthly

newsletter and weekly newsletter as an outside contractor.

YFC has meant so much to her over these 3.5 years and no matter where she goes YFC will always feel like home. She wants to express how thankful she is to be a part of this community and for all the support she has received from her coworkers and fellow co-ops through her journey thus far.

We will miss having her here all the time but we are thankful she is staying involved and look forward to updates from her on her next journey.

### General Manager

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### Special Thanks to:

Our Board and all the staff, volunteers and members