Local Food Connect
Harvest Month
MARCH 2017
Local Food Connect is delighted to bring you this guide to Harvest Month in North-East Melbourne.

March is a great time to celebrate our local food culture with an abundance of produce being harvested and generally great weather to explore our region for all it has to offer. The activities during the month are extremely diverse. They range from talks on food growing and processing, to open veggie gardens that will inspire you through to opportunities to connect with your local farmers. (And even the chance to do some grape stomping!) There is truly something for everyone who values the opportunity to eat local, fresh and healthy food.

Home Harvest

FEASTival

at Edendale

26 February, 3pm-8pm

Harvest Month kicks off with the Home Harvest FEASTival. Register as a grower and supply produce to be turned into a shared harvest meal. Your donation of home grown produce = your ticket to attend. The FEASTival includes foodie skill sharing, activities and live music.

Find out more and register (limited spaces available) at www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/homeharvest

ACCREDITED FARMERS’ MARKETS

Enjoy seasonal foods and support our farmers by shopping at your local farmers’ markets. These markets are accredited by the Victorian Farmers’ Markets Association – so you can rely on their authenticity.

Hurstbridge Farmers’ Market

Sunday 5 March, 8.30am-1pm
Ferguson’s Paddock, Hurstbridge
www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au

Eltham Farmers’ Market

Sunday 12 and 26 March, 9am-1pm
Eltham Town Mall (car park), Arthur Street
www.elthamfm.org.au

Meet Your Farmer

Want to know more about your local farmers? Make sure you checkout the LFC videos on our website. Select the Farmers’ Market tab and then ‘Stallholder Videos’. You will find a series of short films produced by LFC with the support of a grant from Regional Development Victoria. Learn about:

- Apted Orchards
- Arthur’s Creek Garlic
- Hildebrand Grove olive oil
- Just Picked Berries & Fruit
- Kings of Kangaroo Ground
- Shaw’s Road Winery
- The Mushroom Shed

Local Food Connect

Bon Appetite
Talks

Improve your veggie garden with the help of those who know. All events are FREE unless indicated. For a full list check out the LFC website.

www.localfoodconnect.org.au

Saturday 4 March, 2pm-4.30pm
SOIL IMPROVEMENT WORKSHOP
Dianne Gordon; Edendale
➢ www.edendale.vic.gov.au

Sunday 5 March, 1pm-3.30pm
BEEKEEPING A TASTER
Bob Owen; Edendale
➢ www.edendale.vic.gov.au

Tuesday 7 March, 10.30am-11.30am
COOKING CLUB – DESSERT
Whittlesea Library
➢ www.localfoodconnect.org.au

SUCCESS WITH A DEHYDRATOR
Pam Jenkins/Bev Robertson
Tuesday 14 March, 7pm-8pm
Diamond Valley Library
Thursday 16 March, 10.30am-11.30am
Eltham Library
Thursday 23 March, 11am-12pm
Watsonia Library
➢ www.localfoodconnect.org.au

INTRODUCTION TO PERMACULTURE –
TWO DAY COURSE
Friday 17 and 24 March, 10am-4pm
$115; Edendale
➢ www.edendale.vic.gov.au

Saturday 18 March, 10am-12pm
BACKYARD CHOOKS FOR BEGINNERS
$35; Stephen Lawrence; Edendale
➢ www.edendale.vic.gov.au

Saturday 18 March, 1pm-2pm
SET UP AND MAINTAIN A WORM FARM
Dianne Gordon; Edendale
➢ www.edendale.vic.gov.au

Food Swaps

Check out the LFC website for full details.

Sat 4 March, 10.30am-11.30am
MERINDA

Sat 11 March, 10am-11am
GREENSBOROUGH

Sat 18 March, 11am-12pm
MACLEOD

Sun 5 March, 10.30am-11.30am
MONTMORENCY

Sun 26 March, 10am-11am
ELTHAM
Veggie Garden Tours

Learn from some of the area’s best home veggie gardeners or check out your local community garden. More information, photos and booking details are available on the LFC website. www.localfoodconnect.org.au

Saturday 4 March, 10.30am-11.30am
OPEN GARDEN & FOOD SWAP
Mernda Community Garden*
Carome Homestead, Mernda

Sunday 5 March, 10am, 11.30am and 1pm
ROBIN & PAUL’S GARDEN*
A highly productive backyard fruit and vegetable patch. It features numerous raised beds, wicking beds and a mud brick works area.
Macleod

Sunday 5 March, 11am and 12pm
STUART’S GARDEN*
Fruit & vegetables on a large urban block developed over 35 years.
Eltham

Sunday 5 March, 11am and 1pm
GUY & SUSAN’S GARDEN*
Fascinating mix of veg & fruit including a very productive tennis court! – all developed over the past 5 years.
Eltham

Saturday 18 March, 2pm and 3pm
TOUR & DEMONSTRATION
Macleod Organic Community Garden*
Macleod

Sunday 19 March, 11am, 12.30pm and 2pm
DUANG’S (REAL FOOD) GARDEN*
40 fruit trees plus raised beds and apple crates containing an extensive variety of seasonal vegetables. Features great composting and irrigation.
Research

Sunday 19 March, 11am, 12.30pm and 2pm
MONTSALVAT*
Enjoy a guided tour of this extensive and productive garden including the orchard, lower garden and nursery areas. (Montsalvat admission $10 ph/$8 concession)
Eltham

Monday 20 and 27 March, 11am
BEALES ROAD FARM, COMMUNITY GARDEN. **
A privately operated community food system conducted under a land share arrangement. The award winning project grows a range of seasonal fruits, vegetables and herbs that are sold via a basket scheme at a local office and via farm gate sales. St Helena

Sunday 26 March, 1pm-2pm
THE CHUTE STREET PLANTER BOXES
A Local Food Connect member will be present to answer your questions.
Chute Street Shopping Centre, Diamond Creek

Sunday 26 March, 10am-3pm
THRIVE COMMUNITY GARDEN*
Open Garden (+ speaker at 3pm)
31 Watkins Street, Diamond Creek

* RSVP or Book at localfoodconnect.org.au
** book by email to rachelmbishop@hotmail.com

For kids!
Harvest Month Storytimes

Wednesday 15 March
10.30am-11.30am*
Diamond Valley Library

Thursday 16 March
10.30am-11.30am*
Eltham Library

Friday 17 March
10.30am-11.30am*
Eltham Library

Friday 17 March
10.30am-11am**
Diamond Valley Library

* In conjunction with pre-school story time
** Part of Toddler time
We very much appreciate the contributions of the many people who have supported these events through offering their time to share their wisdom or to open their gardens. Thank you.

Thanks also to our Harvest Month partners: Edendale Community Environment Farm, HealthAbility, Nillumbik Shire Council and Yarra Plenty Regional Libraries.

Local Food Connect (LFC) is a not-for-profit, community group run by volunteers. Our aim is to increase appreciation of the importance of our local food system and to strengthen the community’s ability to produce food locally whether at home or commercially.

Active across North East Melbourne, we encourage, support and promote events, actions and enterprises which help to put your food back into your control.

Our weekly E-newsletter is a popular source of information on all matters food and includes an extensive list of local food events and activities. Sign up now at localfoodconnect.org.au – it’s free and you can unsubscribe at any time.

If you are interested in local food, either growing it or eating it, then please join us. Become an LFC member today! You can sign up online or call into our information marquee at the Eltham Farmers’ Market and say hi!

MORE INFORMATION
- www.localfoodconnect.org.au
- www.edendale.vic.gov.au
- www.elthamfm.org.au
- www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au

ENQUIRIES
- info@localfoodconnect.org.au

Email is the best and fastest way to get your questions answered.