



**EAT** **THOUGHTFULLY**  
**TO HELP HEAL**  
**THE WORLD'S CLIMATE**

**S H A B B A T N O A C H P O T L U C K O C T O B E R 2 3**

After High Holidays have passed, and we have dined outdoors at Sukkot and danced our way through Simchat Torah, the Tik-kun Olam Committee invites Bet Haverim to one more occasion to eat – thoughtfully.

You are encouraged to bring a dairy-vegetarian dish with at least one locally grown ingredient to the monthly Erev Shabbat potluck October 23. Along with Rabbi Lesser's Kabbalat Shabbat service that evening, and the sing-a-long selections after the meal, this will be our congregation's response to Jewish leaders' call for Shabbat Noach to be observed as "Global Climate Healing Shabbat" (see box).

Healing the world's climate has been a Bet Haverim focus for years, expressed in our award-winning 2003 Hanukkah compact fluorescent light campaign, One for Each Night; our 2005 Climate Neutral High Holidays; and our 2007 Omer to Honor the Earth. This year we take up the connection between the sources of our food and the fate of global climate.

Sunlight, soil, rain, and the skill of farmers who know their local conditions: when we say Ha Motzi, we are grateful for all of these. But the fossil fuels that are required to mass produce and distribute every type of food at all times of year – these are turning out to be a mixed blessing. We have no idea how long fossil fuels will remain cheap, and the longer we use them, the harder it will be for Earth's climate to heal. *(over)*



In the spirit of the new beginning when Noah looked up to see the rainbow, we need to renew our covenant to take care of the Earth that nourishes our bodies. Eating food grown by farmers in our own community is one way to re-establish this bond.

The Georgia Organics web site lists the following locally available foods for October: apples, arugula, beans, beets, bok choy, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, carrots, collards, eggplant, garlic, kale, lettuce, muscadine grapes, mushrooms, okra, sweet potatoes, peas, pecans, persimmons, radish, spinach, squash, tomatoes, and turnips. The Tikkun Olam Committee challenges all CBH members to come to the October 23 potluck with a dish containing at least one such locally grown ingredient. If you can't find what you need in a supermarket, please check [www.georgiaorganics.org](http://www.georgiaorganics.org) for sources of local food.

Better still, shop with other CBH members at the Georgia Organics-sponsored Wednesday (October 21) farmer's market in the Bank of America parking lot at the intersection of Church and Commerce in Decatur. We plan to meet at 5:00 PM. There will be an opportunity to walk to a member's community room nearby for refreshment and schmoozing when shopping is done.

Endorsed by our own Jewish Reconstructionist Federation as well as the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, the call for a "Global Climate Healing Shabbat" reads in part:

"This fall, Shabbat Noach – when Jews around the world read the Torah portion about the Flood, Noah, the Ark, and the Rainbow – comes on October 23-24, the day when a number of experts on the global climate crisis have called for world-wide actions to protect our planet from climate disaster.

"This Torah passage lends itself to focusing on the danger of destruction of life on our planet, and also on the actions we need to take to prevent destruction and preserve the web of life in which the human race has emerged and created civilization.

"So we – both national and grass-roots leaders of the Jewish people – urge all Jewish communities to observe Shabbat Noach as "Global Climate Healing Shabbat" with [events to bring] Jewish commitment to bear on healing the earth from the dangers that over-use of fossil fuels is bringing upon us all."

- <http://www.shalomctr.org/node/1517>



# Eat Thoughtfully To Help Heal The World's Climate

SHABBAT NOACH POTLUCK OCTOBER 23



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