

Advertise on Patch

News | Business

Local Organic Markets Insist on GMO Labeling Following Whole Foods

Organic markets in Montgomery County say Whole Foods' decision will create a trickle-down effect for smaller markets that want to limit foods with genetically modified organisms.

Posted by Whitney Teal (Editor) , July 01, 2013 at 03:00 AM

Comment Recommend



Following a move that requires companies that wish to be stocked by Whole Foods to label products made with genetically modified organisms (GMOs) by 2018, some local markets that cater to an environmentally conscious crowd say they are creating similar practices.

American crops profusely employ modified genes—and have for at least the last 20 years—particularly for foods like corn and soybeans,

Boards [More >](#)

Got a question? Something on your mind? Talk to your community, directly.

Buy | Sell | Trade
There is a new cloth diaper in town!

Buy | Sell | Trade
YaRd SaLe!!!!

Town Square
YaRd SaLe!!!!

Speak Out
yARd sALe!!

Buy | Sell | Trade
YaRd SaLe!!!!

Town Square
Were Having a yard Sale on Sunday October 20t...

Buy | Sell | Trade
I live in the area and I am having a yard sal...

Town Square
Free Diabetes Support Group
1

Town Square
BE A WINNER OF THE TEENS MAKE MUSIC

but also some fish, meats and fruit, according to [The New York Times](#). Food raising companies use GMOs to produce more resilient crops, faster.

Two Montgomery County grocery stores, [Dawson’s Market in Rockville](#) and [Roots Market in Olney](#), say they are already trying to avoid foods made with GMOs. Having a big-name company like Whole Foods behind the initiative, representatives from those companies said, only helps smaller markets.

“What that does is create a trickle-down effect for the rest of us,” said Becky Crump, marketing director at Dawson’s Market. “Whole Foods has something that small independents don’t have and that’s buying power, so they have the authority to put the pressure on manufacturers and distributors.”

When Whole Foods, an Austin-based collection of 340 stores from Los Angeles to London, announced in March that it would work to put a GMO labeling practice in place over the next five years, [The Times](#) said the move could likely change the entire grocer landscape. Hot on that company’s heels, Chipotle, a fast-casual Mexican chain based in Denver, unceremoniously began labeling ingredients on its online menu this month with purple “Gs” to denote GMOs. Ben & Jerry’s has also said it would try to begin labeling.

For customers at Roots Market, the relatively minimal and highly disputed research about what GMOs may do to humans and soil, is too great of a risk.

“We have a wide scope of customers, so we have some people who are extremely aware of GMOs and are thanking us for pushing in that direction,” said Gina Cawley, a representative for the company.

Both Roots and Dawson’s try to stick with certified organic products—those can’t be made with GMOs. For other products, Roots chooses those that are verified through the Non-GMO Project. Going forward, the market won’t buy new products that may have been made with GMOs.

“We have started drawing the line,” said Cawley. “So with any new products that we bring in we are requiring that they let us know that they do not require GMO ingredients.”

Dawson’s is following Whole Foods, with a push to have all products labeled by 2018. For now, they have a policy that for new products, they check with the food manufacturer to find out if gene-modified ingredients were used.

Representatives from both markets said not having federally or state-mandated labeling makes GMO-hunting an arduous prospect.

“It’s really hard to do because a lot of this is kind of on their word,” Crump said. “There’s no verification system to check.”

Some products are much more likely than others to be made with


Popular Stories

- [Update: Truckers' Capital Beltway Shutdown Was Ploy for...](#)
- [Top Headlines: Pool Drowning, Silver Spring Murder,...](#)
- [Haunted Houses, Trails and Fields: Where to Get Spooked...](#)
- [Report: State to Partner With Private Sector on Purple...](#)


Town Square

The Universities at Shady Grove Hosts...


Town Square

 Free Sleep Apnea Support Group
1


Speak Out

 Free Lymphedema Support Group
1

Town Square

 Free Stroke Support Group
1


Business Updates

 A Message From Dopamine Clinic Minister
- 6 D


Town Square

Another Dope Show
1


Town Square

 Maryland Foreclosures Increase Significantly
1

Business Updates

 Moms Wanted: Safe, Trusted Work at Home


Speak Out

 Apple Coffee Cake Recipe


Town Square

Rahman Joins New York Life as VP...


Speak Out

 Famous American Recycling Artist raised


Business Updates

 Big Bang Monument


Town Square

 Vera Wang Spring 2014 Bridal Trunk Show

Business Updates

 Vera Wang Spring 2013 Bridal Trunk Show

Speak Out

 Vera Wang Spring 2014 Bridal Trunk Show

Sponsored Links



LifeLock® Official Site
Protect your Identity with LifeLock Ultimate™ Today.
LifeLock.com

360 Savings Account

360 Savings. No fees. No minimums. Nothing standing in your way. Learn More.
www.capitalone360.com



Check
Did you Search?
www.ins!

NE in Washington
What your record is Public?
Instantly!
kmate.com

GMOs—that’s cereals and tortillas and other things commonly made with corn and soy—but going ingredient by ingredient isn’t practical, Crump said.

State Sen. Glen Glass, a Republican representing Harford and Cecil Counties, introduced a bill last February that would have required manufacturers selling food in Maryland to label “Genetically Engineered” or “Partially Produced with Genetic Engineering,” [DCist.com reported](#). It did not pass the legislature.

[Comment](#) [Recommend](#)

From the Web

by Taboola



The Essential Guide to End of Year Fundraising for Nonprofits Salsa



1 Weird Trick, +20 Yards, -10 Strokes...PGA Pro Sho... Square to Square Method



Jack Baxter's Fanclub/Hope on the Horizon Razoo

More from Patch

- Indulge in a Guiltless Weekend for Your Own Good
- What’s the Going Rate for a Tutor?
- Why Parents Will Buy Their Kids the Cheap New iPhone
- PatchCooks: Readers Share Go-To Weekend Breakfast Recipes

More from the Web

by Taboola

- Having a Project Runway Finale Party? How to H... (lifetime moms)
- Bridal Trends for 2013 from Snippet & Ink (Mark + Graham)
- Peak Season Prep Guide: Preparing your Eco... (Rackspace)
- Why Stylists Hate Boxed Haircolor (Hair Color For Women)

Halloween Costume Contest



Alley Cat Rescue Needs Dedicated Volunteers!

Town Square



Alley Cat Rescue Needs Dedicated Volunteers!

Speak Out



Alley Cat Rescue Needs Dedicated Volunteers!

Buy | Sell | Trade



Community Yard Sale on October 12

Buy | Sell | Trade



Halloween Costumes and Decorations

Speak Out



BUYHOOD.com Is OPEN For Business

[More Boards >](#)

Comments

[+ Leave a Comment](#)

Leave a comment

Post comment

Help bring the FBI headquarters to Prince George’s County.

Click here to voice your support today!

Paid for by Westphalia Town Center

[More Boards >](#)