



Consumer, Environmental, Social and Economic Benefits of Co-op

Consumer Benefits

- An equity share of a community-owned business
- Bi-annual Member-Owner meetings in the spring and fall
- Voting rights for the Board elections as well as opportunity to run for the Board of Directors
- Discounts on *School of Commonhealth* classes
- Write checks for up to \$25 over the amount, once a week
- Monthly newspaper, *Co-Options*, mailed to your home
- Membership makes you eligible to join B.O.N.D Federal Credit Union in L5P
- 10% discount off one shopping trip per month for all Member-Owners
- Working Members program for member-owners to work at the store for additional discounts
- Patronage refund proportional to amount spent at Sevananda in a profitable year under Board discretion

Environmental Benefits

- Sevananda is the major outlet in the Atlanta area for sustainably-produced organic and local products (produce, packaged grocery, health & beauty, wellness, and household items)
- Solar-powered business (roof panels, hot water heater and Solatubes™ in restrooms) help offset our power demand and we offset 100% of carbon emissions
- Organic compost from produce department picked up by local farmers and gardeners
- Recycling of our plastic, glass, paper bags, cardboard and paper
- Canvas and recycled plastic shopping bags for sale to save landfill space
- 5-cent discount to shoppers for reusing their own bags or boxes
- Shoppers who reuse bags have a chance to win a weekly \$10 Gift Certificate

Social Benefits

- A great sense of community and place to meet your neighbors, even if you don't know them yet!
- Our ***Be the Change*** program — partnering with 12 local non-profits annually, articles in ***Co-Options***, in-store appearances and a portion of 4th Saturday sales going to that month's group
- Spring and Fall Member-Owner meetings with store business, food and fellowship
- Weekly donations of usable produce and packaged grocery items to local soup kitchens & shelters
- Donations to various fundraising activities in the Atlanta area for groups such as schools, NPO's and artists
- The Artists Alliance - allowing local artisans space to sell wares in foyer - resuming Feb 2012
- The *Co-Op 101 Show* – Mondays at 4:30 pm on WRFG Community Radio 89.1
- *Co-Op Central Radio* - monthly via Sevananda.coop website
- Our Courtesy Card program allows qualified lower-income shoppers to get 5% off each trip
- We carry Fair Trade products that help ensure that the people making these goods are treated fairly
- Over 20% of products carried in Sevananda are locally or regionally made or grown
- Shopping here supports dozens of local business owners throughout Metro Atlanta

Economic Benefits

- Local entrepreneurs can get business started by selling to the co-op
- Shopping here supports dozens of local business owners throughout Metro Atlanta
- Keeps dollars in the community by purchasing locally and regionally whenever possible
- Sevananda's membership in National Co-op Grocers Association allows us to purchase in quantity from vendors and pass the savings on to everyone!