



Sustainability through Community

**2010 National Cohousing Conference
Wednesday, June 16 – Sunday, June 20
University of Colorado – Boulder**

On June 16 and 17, 2010, researchers and writers from around the United States will gather at the University of Colorado-Boulder to explore the intersections between cohousing and related issues and movements. Led by Diane Margolis, Lisa Poley, and Dave Wann, the workshop will allow scholars and writers to educate themselves about cohousing and related issues and to make connections with like-minded colleagues. We are writing to you because your area of work bears connection to issues of local community and sustainability – and cohousing represents a rising social trend in this area.

Cohousing represents a new model of neighborhood development that supports high levels of collaboration, trust, and reciprocity among neighbors while lightening the ecological footprint of residents. Although typical in many respects, these neighborhoods include design features that lower the barriers to social interaction and support more collaborative modes of daily living among residents. Cohousing may represent a promising option for future residential development in an era of rapid environmental, economic, and social challenge and change.

As an innovative approach to neighborhood, cohousing offers an intriguing opportunity for research. Issues such as child development, aging and longevity, environmental sustainability, and resilience at the individual, family, and community level can be better understood when seen within the context of cohousing.

The two-day workshop will provide the opportunity to brainstorm, explore, and engage future avenues of research. You may wish to present a paper or to be part of a panel. **Please see the attached call for presenters to learn more.** If you prefer, you are welcome to come, listen, and explore the possibilities for cohousing-based research.

Early-bird registration (\$199) is available until March 31. Partial scholarships are available and will cover all but \$50 of the registration fee. Lunches are included as part of registration, but scholarship recipients must cover the costs of their airfare, lodging, and other meals. Affordable housing is available in the University of Colorado residence halls, and discounted rates are also available at area hotels.

The two-day research and writers meeting will be followed by the National Cohousing Conference to be held June 18-20. We encourage you to remain on hand for the conference, which will feature talks by Bill McKibben, Dave Wann, Charles Durrett, and Kathryn McCamant. The conference will also include more than 40 breakout sessions on a host of cohousing topics. Half-day educational tours of Colorado cohousing communities will take place on June 18, giving you the opportunity to see cohousing firsthand.

For more information about the research and writers workshop, visit <http://www.cohousing.org/2010/cohou/research>. For more information about the June 18-20 conference, visit <http://www.cohousing.org/2010>. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at cohousersearch@cohous.org. To participate complete the R&W presenter form at <http://www.cohousing.org/2010/cohou/research/proposal>.

We hope to see you in June!

Sincerely,

Diane Margolis, Lisa Poley, and Dave Wann