Cohousing Now!
2015 National Cohousing Conference: Registration Now Open

You asked and we are delivering! Registration is open for the 2015 National Cohousing Conference. Why should you come to the conference?
For folks forming groups and building community, the national conference is guaranteed to catapult your efforts. For veterans of existing communities, this is your opportunity to share lessons learned. And although your community may have some things really well figured out, you struggle with others, right? Of course, you can call or visit other communities any time, so why go to the conference? Because while we can call or visit other communities, we don’t. And also because Coho/US has made it easy and fun to talk to a whole bunch of other community members, from all over the country. Besides, cohousers are some of the most interesting, and engaging people you will ever meet. The program is amazing, covering basics as well as hot topics in sustainability, community building, and the “evolving definition of cohousing.” The Next Generation theme will explore the new wave of urban, senior and agricultural communities, check-in with our now-adult children of cohousing, and celebrate communities that have thrived for over 20 years. Plenty of time also for networking, tours, and fun! Please join us.

Alice Alexander, Executive Director

P.S. Coho/US is proud to enjoy Conference Sponsorship from many of our Cohousing Professionals and Cohousing Communities. Take a look at what they have to offer you!

Conferences & Events

National Cohousing Conference - May 29-31, 2015

"I have come to the last five national cohousing conferences and found a wealth of helpful sessions, fun, and good camaraderie. I always bring back useful ideas to my cohousing community. I am excited about 2015 in Durham, meeting new and old friends, and hearing the latest ideas. I look forward to sharing visits to cohousing communities in Sweden and Denmark last summer."

David Entin, Rocky Hill Cohousing, Come to David’s Session at the Conference

Kids of Cohousing - A Fun Opportunity to Shine
We are gathering a collection of videos (and other materials) about growing up in cohousing that we are hoping to debut at the National Cohousing Conference. Read more

Click here for Conference FAQs, Sessions, Facilitated Discussions, Intensives, Tours and Gatherings
Download Conference Program

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Cohousing Attention from Social Science Academics in NY City
Patrick Han, Coho/US Board member, was approached by The Henry George School of Social Science in New York City to lead a seminar on cohousing. Patrick muses, “although there are no cohousing communities in NY City yet, the ‘word’ is being brought to the heathens.” read more

Charles Durrett will talk about the national cohousing movement, and his work in designing Fair Oaks EcoHousing, on Feb. 7 at the Fair Oaks library in Sacramento.

Cohousing Blogs

Can Boomers Make Cohousing Mainstream?
In an article from The Atlantic CityLab, Katie McCamant is quoted: "A large majority of [new] communities are being driven by baby boomers looking at downsizing when they retire....cohousing didn't work for them earlier, but now they're in a transition," predicting the number of double within 10 years. Alice Alexander added, "Baby boomers are demanding a better way to live. We want to be sustainable; we want community, happiness." The upbeat profile is dampened with this perspective from Christopher Leinberger at the Brookings Institution: "although cohos mesh philosophically with what many aging baby boomers want--dense, walkable communities--so do a lot of traditional developments that don't come with so many legal and financial headaches...Banks still underwrite experience every bit as much as they underwrite balance sheets." read more

Similar to a Newborn: The First Five Months in Cohousing
By Doug Henderson-James, Durham Cohousing
We are completing five months in our digs and five months into the adventure of being a cohousing community. Several people in the community have pointed out that adventure requires missed turns, missed trains, etc. Something that goes smoothly is a vacation; all else is an adventure. I like to think of our first five months as similar to a newborn. read more

A Clean Decision-Making Process
by Sharon Villines

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Cohousing professionals address the specific needs of communities and forming groups. Learn more

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In the News
Longmont's Bohn Farm Cohousing project moving forward - to be built on six acres on historic farm property southwest of downtown Longmont
New Arts Cohousing Site in Nevada County - A multi-unit cohousing complex geared for Nevada County artists is planned for a 2.2-acre site just above downtown Nevada City.
These Philadelphians Want to Get Closer to Their Neighbors - These Philadelphians Want to Get Closer to Their Neighbors

New Resources
2015 National Cohousing Conference Flyer - for posting on
One of the ways the principles and methods used by sociocracy speed up decision-making is going directly to objections instead of discussing the proposal. The proposal should state the perceived advantages or reasons why a decision is needed. The presenters will also have presented the issues and options they considered. After clarifying questions, there is usually no need to hear arguments in favor or to repeat the discussion that has taken place in the team or in previous membership meetings. The process produces a decision most effectively...

Building Community

**Elderberry: Senior Cohousing Among Gardens, Farm Animals and Nature**

As the number of senior cohousing communities continues to grow, seniors have more choice in the type and location of a community that best fits their lifestyle.....Most senior cohousing is developed in urban areas that provide "walkability" as a key feature. For individuals who wish to be close to stores, restaurants, and entertainment, this is an excellent choice. But for seniors who prefer country life to city life, the woods, farms, trails, wildlife, gardens, animals, and starry skies are worth the occasional drive to town.....read more

End Notes

**Consider Volunteering at the National Cohousing Conference**

**Thanks for reading**

Cohousing Now! provides news and events on Cohousing... Now! From Coho/US, the Cohousing Association of the United States, Cohousing Now! is emailed monthly. Please forward to your friends, communities, and other lists to spread the word about cohousing!

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