



## This is what's happening in Cohousing Now!

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### "How do we become a member of CohoUS?"

We get that question from time to time, and until now, we haven't had a great answer. Like so many words, a legalistic definition of membership falls far short of the essence we strive for. We want cohousers (those who live in cohousing now, and those who will one day) to experience belonging and shared vision. We offer a sense of being strengthened and empowered by living this lifestyle not only with the few dozen cohousers nearest you, but with thousands across the country.

We invite a feeling of shared investment in a new way of being. It's a investment that pays high dividends in shared ideas, new learnings, the knowledge that you are not alone in the struggles nor in the discovery of solutions. Pooling our resources we are able to draw people together across the country through marketing and a national website. Afterall, we got into this project because we realize that none of us can make it alone.

So the essence of membership is clear, but it's taken us until now to form an actionable definition. First, there are some technical reasons we need to use the word "partnership" instead of "membership," and then we get into the fun stuff. As community partners, you support our basic operations with a single annual investment, which happens to also be a great deal for services; and we invite, create, and inspire community in every way we can.

We provide free registration for all of our 2021 online events for all members (and explorers) and classified ads to attract new neighbors as you need them. We'll stay connected with you and continue to adapt and expand our programming to meet your needs. And of course, we'll keep maintaining the things that matter most - the website and

directory that connect us with each other and with the cohousers out there who don't yet know that they are cohousers.

Click [HERE](#) for all the details of the Community Partnership (for groups that already live together) and click [HERE](#) for Community Launch (for groups that are working toward living together). We hope you agree, we belong together! Sign up today.

## Nuts and Bolts of Community

What are the systems that make our communities work? Everything from budgeting to work day planning, capital reserves to paying for common meals. If you have a system, a spreadsheet, a policy for it, this is a great place to share it.

For more details, [Click HERE](#)

[Click HERE](#) for individual registration with Early Bird discount (through Nov 2nd)



## Monan's Rill

Dear world –  
We are so sad to tell you that Monan's Rill has experienced devastating losses in the Glass Fire, which is still burning in Napa and Sonoma Counties.

We are all safe, figuring out next steps as a community, but 12 of our 13 homes have burned in the fire, and the land looks very different now. The only home left standing was handbuilt by two of the founders, Russ and Mary Jorgensen. In addition to this one home, Monan's Rill's community building, shop with tools and equipment, and recently installed rainwater catchment system and solar array are still intact. These will be the seeds of a beautiful rebuilding of the community, but there is so much to rebuild, and we will need your help.

We know the wildflowers will be rampant in the spring. We know the oaks and madrones are resilient. And we will be moving forward with vision and dedication to place, ecology, and care for one another.

Support Monan's Rill's recovery by giving as generously as you can to this [GoFundMe](#), organized by family and friends.

## Sunnyside Village

Most communities build their buildings, move in and THEN start planting gardens and hanging tire swings. Sunnyside Village Cohousing didn't want to wait that long.

Founders Jennie Lindberg and Dean Smith have long held a vision of cohousing near their current home in Everett, Washington. Two years ago that vision began to take tangible form when they purchased a 4.75 acre property in Marysville. They've studied the process of turning a piece of land into cohousing, begun working with architect Grace Kim and gathered the first members of their cottage community,



Jennie and Dean also know that while the buildings are essential, the real value is community relationships, and they didn't see any reason to wait to start building them. The vision for Sunnyside Cohousing has always included an extensive community garden, and Jennie and Dean are expert gardeners. So alongside the usual cohousing development work, they started gardening, and inviting the community to join them.

Regular Saturday workdays include anyone who wants to join. Fertilized with an abundance of land, love, and know-how, the garden produces joy, learning and lots of food. Sunnyside's members tend to arrive first to the garden and gradually learn about cohousing. The dream of becoming neighbors is growing alongside the summer berries and fall pumpkins.

And the vision is expanding. Troy and Kirsten look forward to bringing their miniature goats to their new home. With children already staking out the best climbing trees, a tree house seems likely. Children of all ages are enjoying the new tire swing this fall.

The group has hired Chris ScottHanson to manage the project of building the buildings. Karen Gimnig rounds out the professional team with support for communication, sociocracy, and working through conflict when it comes. This winter they will be finalizing a site plan and designing their common house.

The seeds they've planted in their garden have produced beans, squash, berries and more. Even more exciting, the garden itself was the seed of their community, now turned to a thriving vine. They plan to harvest laughter, compassion, and deep connections for decades to come. For more information visit [www.sunnysidevillagecohousing.com](http://www.sunnysidevillagecohousing.com)

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### Thank you to these generous communities that have donated thus far in 2020!

Shepherd Village  
Nevada City Cohousing  
Mountain View Cohousing  
Elderberry Village  
Wasatch Commons  
Burlington Cohousing East Village  
Greater Neighborhood of Songaia  
Rocky Hill Cohousing  
Pleasant Hill Cohousing  
Pioneer Valley Cohousing  
Oakcreek Community  
Arcadia Cohousing  
Adams Creek Cohousing  
Acequia Jardin

Durham Central Park Cohousing  
Arboretum Cohousing  
Takoma Village  
Capital Hill Urban Cohousing  
Silver Sage Village  
Trillium Hollow  
Winslow Cohousing  
Valverde Commons  
Stone Curves  
Cornerstone Village  
Zephyr Valley Community Co-Op  
Phoenix Commons  
EcoVillage Charlottesville  
Tamarack Knoll Community

We ask all communities to make a financial

Donations can be made to:

contribution to CohoUS. Many communities build regular contribution into their annual budget. Each community decides what it can give. We hope you'll consider continuing or beginning this tradition of giving in 2020. We strongly believe that your enhanced engagement with CohoUS can have significant benefits for the both of us.

or click here to donate

### Blogs



#### **Win-Win** by Mary Kraus

The Community Partnership Program: Win-Win for Communities and Coho/US!  
Anyone who has participated in a Coho/US conference knows how much they learned individually – and the wealth of information and experience they brought back to their home community. When a community joins the Community Partnership Program, every member gets unlimited access to all of the online conferences. [Click here](#) to read more



#### **Even Better for 2021** by Karen Gimnig

Throughout 2020 forming cohousing communities have been enjoying the benefits of the Community Launch program with CohoUS. We're making it even better for 2021. Jennie Lindberg of Sunnyside Village Cohousing describes her experience with the program this way: I want to give a big "shout out" to the Community Launch program at CohoUS. As... [Click here](#) to read more

### Classified Ads

#### Forming Communities and Communities Seeking Members



[Heartwood Commons](#)  
Tulsa, OK



[Sharingwood Cohousing](#)  
Snohomish, WA



[Bull City Commons](#)  
Cohousing Community  
Durham, NC



[Rocky Corner Cohousing](#)  
[New Haven, CT](#)



[Bay State Commons](#)  
[Malden, MA](#)



[Washington Commons](#)  
[West Sacramento, CA](#)



[River Song Cohousing](#)  
[Eugene, OR](#)



[Skagit Cohousing](#)  
[Anacortes, WA](#)



[Sunnyside Village](#)  
[Cohousing](#)  
[Marysville, WA](#)



[Our Home - Cathedral Park](#)  
[Portland, OR](#)

### Homes for Sale or Rent



[Durham Central Park](#)  
[Durham, NC](#)



[Arcadia Cohousing](#)  
[Chapel Hill, NC](#)



[Pleasant Hill Cohousing](#)  
[SF Bay Area, CA](#)



[Pleasant Hill Cohousing](#)  
[SF Bay Area, CA](#)



[Wolf Creek Lodge](#)  
[Grass Valley, CA](#)



[PDX Commons](#)  
[Portland, OR](#)



[Cully Grove](#)  
[Portland, OR](#)



[Pleasant Hill Cohousing](#)  
[SF Bay Area, CA](#)

## Cohousing Professionals



[Durrett Architects](#)



[Caddis Collaborative](#)



[Wonderland Hill](#)  
[Development Company](#)



[Fitch Architecture and](#)  
[Community Design](#)



[CoHousing Solutions](#)



[Cohousing Opportunities](#)  
[Group](#)



## Cohousing Directory

Nate is updating and adding Communities  
~ check them out!

- [Community Directory](#)
- [Seeker Directory](#)
- [Professional Directory](#)

Thanks for reading! Please forward to your friends, communities, and other lists to spread the word about cohousing!

The Cohousing Association is funded by donations from people like YOU. Thanks so much for your support!

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