



CoHo Ecovillage • 1975 SE Crystal Lake Dr #101 • Corvallis, OR 97333

## *CoHo Vision:*

CoHo is a **cohousing community** that is designed to encourage interactions between people and enrich our lives with the pleasure of **cooperation** and **friendship**. We care about the earth and are committed to **environmentally sustainable** practices and building techniques. Our multigenerational community welcomes **diversity** and values the input of each person.

## *CoHo Values:*

- **Sharing Our Lives**

Coho is a community in which we share work, celebrations, laughter and tears. We support each other through the milestones of life. We sustain each other as we learn, raise children, and become wise elders. We strive to build a community where we can all belong for a lifetime.

- **Environmental Consciousness**

We strive to make our community as environmentally sustainable as possible, while still providing affordable housing. We weigh long-term environmental impacts as we decide how to create our village. We support each other in making sound day-to-day living choices that reduce our impact on the earth. We recycle, reuse, and share resources whenever possible.

- **A Diverse Community**

CoHo is committed to creating a diverse cohousing community. We embrace diversity in race, age, income level, sexual orientation, religious belief, ethnicity and physical ability. We honor our differences and support the uniqueness and growth of each person. We respect individual beliefs and encourage diverse traditions, celebrations and explorations of the spirit.

- **Safety and Trust**

A feeling of safety and trust is a key component of community. We foster this element within our community by respecting each other's beliefs, accepting each other as individuals, and communicating openly and honestly. We build a safe and nurturing village for everyone, and especially for our children. We have governance structures and processes that maintain the social community and the physical spaces.

## **Consensus Decision Making**

We use the consensus decision-making process because we value every member's participation and inherent wisdom. Consensus empowers each of us as individuals while we work toward furthering the community's needs and goals. Communication and consensus decision-making skills are taught to and practiced by everyone in the community.

- **Balancing Community and Privacy**

We value both community and privacy and seek to have a balance between the two. We have shared spaces, such as the common house, in which we can participate in vegetarian common meals, celebrations, and activities. We also have the independent private space of our own homes.

- **Being a Part of the Larger Community**

We value the riches that being part of the Corvallis community brings to us. We seek healthy interactions with our neighbors, with the Corvallis community and the larger state and global communities. We strive to be an inspirational resource locally, and a bridge to other communities in the world at large.

- **Outdoor Spaces**

CoHo includes both community and personal outdoor spaces. Gardens, natural spaces, landscaping, and architectural design all work together to create a unique sense of place. Working together in the garden fosters our connection to the earth, and our connection to each other. We work to create an aesthetically pleasing place to live.

- **The Interconnectedness of Life**

We recognize that we are a part of the interconnected web of life, so we strive to treat the natural community with responsibility and respect. We consider this community when making decisions. We create and maintain habitat for native plants and animals.

- **De-emphasizing the Automobile**

To encourage connections between people and to reduce environmental impacts, we commit to de-emphasizing the automobile. CoHo is a pedestrian-oriented community. Parking and streets are on the periphery of the community. We encourage the use of alternative means of transportation by locating our community within walking distance of the bus line and within biking distance of downtown Corvallis.

- **Integrating Livelihood and Life**

We believe that integrating our personal lives and livelihoods is beneficial, and bringing our work to our home is one step in achieving that. We include space for cottage industries, home offices and artistic endeavors where funding and building code allow. CoHo is not an income-sharing community.

[www.cohoecovillage.org](http://www.cohoecovillage.org)

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