

# YOUR ROLE

Members in the TPSS are active advocates for the Co-op and for the needs of our community:

- Shop at the Co-op: Shopping here provides the funds we need to continue to meet the needs of the community and provide an alternative to large national chains.
- Promote the Co-op: Spread the word to your family and friends.
- Voice your concerns and suggestions: Many of our best products, activities, and initiatives come from the Comment Box located near the checkout.
- Communicate and educate: Write an article for our newsletter or website, or host a workshop or seminar in our Community Events Room on a topic of community interest.
- Vote and participate: Exercise your right to vote for members of the Board of Representatives and referenda on important policies. Attend the biannual general membership meetings.
- Recycle and reuse: Bring in your own bulk containers to refill (tare weights are given at the register).
- Bring your own bags: Use your own bag and TPSS will donate five cents to local charities for each bag. Choose which charity to support during each visit at the checkout.

Refunds of Capitalization: Memberships may be cancelled at any time for a full refund. We require a written letter and the return of cards issued. These should be submitted to the Membership Coordinator. The refund will be issued at the close of the financial quarter or within six weeks, whichever is later.

Open 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. daily

201 Ethan Allen Avenue  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
301.891.2667  
301.891.2695 fax

8309 Grubb Road  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
240.247.2667  
240.247.2696 fax



# TPSS GUIDING PRINCIPLES

**Values Driven:** TPSS is owned by our members and we determine how the Co-op will operate, the inventory it will stock, and the values it will maintain. Members vote on key decisions, and elect a Board of Representatives to represent their interests in the daily operations and management of the Co-op.

**Committed to the Community:** We support the local economy by choosing local food and products whenever possible. We encourage local artists to display their work in our store. Our Community Events Room is available to the community for a variety of events, from children's story time to nutritional education events. TPSS sponsors and is actively involved in community events throughout the year, and donates \$10,000 or more each month to local charities.

**Strength in Members:** Membership is open to anyone. The larger our membership, the more clout the Co-op will have to encourage increased local and organic food production and sustainable farming, Fair Trade products, and low prices.

**Economic Impact:** Because of the nature of our business and our local community focus, every dollar spent at the Co-op has roughly three times as much economic impact locally as a dollar spent at a non-locally owned business.

**Democratic Control:** Members make the decisions and set policy for the Co-op. Each member (or member household) has equal voting rights.

**Members' Economic Participation:** Members contribute equally and democratically control the capital of the Co-op. Profits are allocated for the good of the Co-op and its members, as well as other activities approved by the membership.

**Autonomy and Independence:** We will never sell the business to an organization outside of our community.

**Education, Training, and Information:** We provide education and training for our members and staff so they can contribute effectively to the success of the Co-op. Through seminars, staff expertise, and other communications we also inform the public about the nature and benefits of the Co-op, our products, and general matters of health and nutrition.



# Join today

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

please print legibly and give completed application to a cashier

TODAY'S DATE \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
FIRST NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
LAST NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY

\_\_\_\_\_  
STATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
ZIP

\_\_\_\_\_  
HOME/CELL PHONE

\_\_\_\_\_  
WORK PHONE

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-MAIL ADDRESS

## PAYMENT PLAN: (SELECT ONE)

- One Installment-\$100 OR
- Two Installments-\$55 + \$50 (including \$5 processing fee with first installment)

THIS SECTION IS TO BE FILLED OUT BY TPSS STAFF ONLY:

Member #: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Cards Made: \_\_\_\_\_ Database Entry

Date/Initials: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_