



Abenaki Land Link Information Sheet

- **What is the Abenaki Land Link Project?**

- The Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk - Abenaki Nation has partnered with the Vermont Farm to Plate Network's [Rooted in Vermont](#) project and [NOFA-VT](#) to provide indigenous seeds to over a dozen gardeners, homesteaders, and farmers around Vermont who have dedicated land to grow and harvest food for Abenaki citizens this season.
- All of the seeds have been graciously provided by the Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk - Abenaki Nation and cannot be used for any other purpose outside of the project.
- During this pilot year, participants will be growing Koasek/Calais mix and Calais flint corn, true cranberry, skunk, and Mohawk beans, and Algonquin squash.
- Details are still being worked out about processing and dissemination of food come the end of the season.
- While participation for this pilot year is full, anyone who wants to support these efforts can donate to the Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk - Abenaki Nation by following the donate link at www.abenakitribe.org and making a note about the project in their donation or reaching out about possible donation of other food.

- **Why the Abenaki Land Link Project?**

- The partners and growers participating in the Abenaki Land Link Project, recognize the racist and horrific historical relationship between European settlers and Indigenous people in Vermont and the United States. With this project, we are committing to work on repairing that relationship.
- The growers, as current stewards of the land that once was stewarded by Indigenous people, recognize that they are afforded an opportunity to grow food. This is an opportunity which is not currently available for many Abenaki citizens in Vermont, and by participating in the project, they are doing so in solidarity with the Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk – Abenaki Nation.
- However, this isn't charity, this is resiliency. The Nulhegan Band of Coosuk – Abenaki Nation, Rooted in Vermont, NOFA-VT, and the growers are coming together as equals and partners for this project to build a more resilient food system that doesn't discriminate or leave folks behind. As partners, we are working together to ensure that citizens of the Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk – Abenaki Nation have access to healthy, culturally sensitive food of their choosing.
- In addition, growers, who are able to keep some of the harvest, are able to share in eating of foods native to the Abenaki people and learn from the cultural history that the Abenaki ancestors used.
- We firmly believe that we are all more resilient when everyone has their needs met and food is one of the most basic needs. Yet, we know that many people continue to face disenfranchisement and active measures must be taken to rectify those injustices.

- Finally, this pilot partnership between Rooted in Vermont, NOFA-VT, and the growers is only between the Nulhegan Band of Coosuk – Abenaki Nation. Any statements made about the project do not reflect or speak on behalf of all Abenaki citizens whatsoever.
- **Other information**
 - We are asking growers to document, through journals and photographs, their experience growing the indigenous seeds in an effort to turn it into documentation on how to preserve a culture
 - We are working to organize a celebration of the harvest. More details will be coming.
 - While we are not working with any other partners at this time, we recognize other efforts happening around the state to ensure sustenance for Abenaki citizens and to preserve seeds for future generations.