MoGro Weekly Newsletter | April 24, 2019

# IN HONOR OF EARTH DAY...

WHAT MOGRO DOING AS AN ORGANIZATION TO REDUCE OUR IMPACT ON THE PLANET!





It was Earth Day on Monday! We think every day should be Earth Day, but we digress. We are striving to build an organization that is environmentally sustainable, and we thought this would be a great time to share what we're already doing to keep our environmental impact low. What is outlined below is a good start, and we hope find other ways to reduce our impact on the planet!

**Facility**: Roadrunner Food Bank is kind enough to rent us warehouse, walk-in cooler, and freezer space to store our products. There is a large solar array covering the roof of Roadrunner. The solar energy that they collect powers all of their cooler and freezer space, so our food storage has an extremely low environmental impact! Additionally, any food waste that we have (~10-20 pounds per week) is composted and taken to a loca pig farm to feed the pigs. We value our partnership with an environmentally conscious organization.

**Operations**: We are constantly honing our systems to ensure that they are as efficient as they can be and that we have little to no waste. We transitioned from large, wasteful cardboard boxes each week to paper bags that we pack in reusable crates! Some folks bring their own reusable bag to their pickup location each week and send the paper bag back to be reused - we encourage this! We also reuse all of our swap boxes, and have seriously tried to cut back on our use of plastic bags - you may have noticed that we have stopped bagging a large percentage of our on the side produce. We are also going to start printing half-page newsletters in efforts to reduce paper waste. We'd love to hear your suggestions on how else we can work to reduce our environmental impact!

**Product Sourcing**: We try our hardest to source from local farmers and producers. While we aren't able to offer 100% local produce in off-season, we use that time to develop new relationships with local producers, like Bob Thomson at Thompson Farms and Carla Gallegos from Sabor New Mexico. Sourcing locally helps to eliminate one HUGE factor that comes along with most large scale production and "big ag": transportation. Instead of purchasing eggs from 500+ miles away, we source eggs from just 30 miles away. This helps to reduce emissions created by long-haul trucking, not to mention it supports our local economies and communities and creates resilience.

This week's Share items: Living lettuce, cucumber, bell pepper, cherry tomatoes, oranges, kiwi, avocados, bonus item

Local farms: Vida Verde & Silver Leaf Farms

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Skill level
Easy - for all cooks
Intermediate - practice
some new techniques

Time required

Quick - 30 minutes or

less

1 large chicken breast

1-2 tablespoons extra

Chicken:

rosemary

oregano

virgin oil
1 medium lemon

Salt & pepper

1 teaspoon dried

1 teaspoon dried

**Moderate** - 1 hour or less

ck - 30 minutes or Few

**Few** - mostly MoGro Weekly Share items

Ingredients

Several - additional items you may have

#### Skill level: Easy Time required: Quick Ingredients: Several



Mediterranean Chicken Wraps

### Ingredients

Wraps: 1 large orange 5-6 sundried tomatoes 1 head of butter leaf lettuce 8 artichoke hearts 1 green onion

Dressing: 5 tablespoons greek yogurt ¼ cup fresh parsley, chopped 3 tablespoons olive oil 1 tablespoon lemon juice, fresh squeezed

#### **Directions**

- 1) Season the chicken breast with salt, pepper and the herbs. Pour some olive oil onto a skillet or frying pan and cook on both sides until it's cooked through.
- 2) Cut the artichoke hearts in halves and place them the cut side onto the same skillet/frying pan or grill pan. Add lemon juice to the pan. Cook the artichokes until they are nice and brown.
- 3) Meanwhile prepare the yogurt dressing: Combine the yogurt, chopped parsley, olive oil and lemon juice in a bowl and mix with a spoon until combined.
- 4) Peel the orange, cut into segments and then into small pieces. Slice the sun-dried tomatoes. Wash and pat dry the lettuce leaves. Cut the spring onion.
- 5) Arrange all the ingredients (including grilled and sliced chicken breast and artichokes) inside the leaves and drizzle over the yogurt dressing.

# Skill level: Easy Time required: Quick Ingredients: Few



Cucumber, Tomato & Avocado Salad

### **Ingredients**

1 ripe avocado, diced 1 large bell pepper, diced ½ cup cherry tomatoes, halved 2 green onions, slived

2 tablespoons minced parsley or cilantro Juice of one lemon Salt & pepper to taste

#### **Directions**

- Combine all ingredients in a bowl, stir to combine.
   Enjoy immediately.
- 2) Garnish with fresh mozzarella balls or feta cheese (optional)!

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