

localfocus

We at Homestead Gardens know that local is best. Whether you're talking plants (most of what we sell is grown on our farm in Davidsonville) or food, buying locally supports our own

economy, reduces unnecessary shipping over thousands of miles, and ensures the freshest product possible goes home with you. We've made a conscious effort to offer an array of delicious food choices, for everyday snacks or meals, or to give as gifts.

{BY ANN-MARIE SEDOR}

Chesapeake Bay Roasting Company (CBRC)

What started as a small roasting operation in 2002 in Crofton, Md., has quickly grown into a vibrant and successful brand name in the world of gourmet coffees, which is the exclusive line featured at Homestead Gardens' The Weathervane Café. Currently available in take-home cans are: Main Street (regular and decaf), which brings together the best components of six different world origins in an espresso blend; Eco-Reef (regular and decaf), offering a balanced blend of mild Central and South American coffees for a medium-bodied cup; and River's Edge (regular only), a dark-roasted blend of organic beans from Central America, Indonesia and East Africa.

Research shows that about 45 percent of money spent at a local business stays in the community compared to only 14 percent of dollars spent at a national store.

Chapel's Country Creamery

Nestled in the Eastern Shore countryside near Easton, Md., is the 114-acre Grade A dairy farm owned by the Foster family. Using raw milk from the farm's 80 dairy cows, Chapel's Country Creamery produces sharp cheddar cheeses, nutty cave-aged cheese and, most recently, a zesty bleu cheese. These artisanal cheeses are featured in several of the area's finest restaurants, at farmer's markets and are now available by the block at Homestead Gardens.

Each can contains the highest-grade, specialty coffees that come from fair-trade beans—many of which are organic—which are then roasted with eco-friendly equipment that is fully wind-powered.

The labels on the recyclable steel canisters are printed with soy-based ink.



CBRC gives back 2% of its gross sales to support grassroots movements that protect the Chesapeake Bay.