

Add a little green to your dinner party

Judie Squires © 2007

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There is nothing like an evening of good friends and good conversation, adding in good ethics will create an evening sure to spark interesting conversation. “Green” is the theme for a fantastic eco-friendly dinner party with simple, relaxed, intimate elegance.

First off set the ambiance. A green theme would be best suited for a summer evening amidst a beautiful garden backdrop. A simple table setting surrounded by solar lanterns creates a relaxing atmosphere for your guests. If you don't have a garden, bring nature indoors by collecting wildflowers for a simple centerpiece or order flowers from an organic florist such as [Organic Bouquet](#). Keeping with “green” my choice for an eco dinner party would be the one of a kind lime-green tinted Chartreuse Roses.

Once you have the mood set, its time to think about food. Organic food reduces the amount of synthetic pesticides that pollute our environment and our bodies.

You can easily adjust most of your favorite recipes by using organic ingredients. Start with some organic veggies; this can range from simple to elegant. A loaf of local artisan bread, garlic butter with lightly steamed organic artichokes is a simple yet elegant appetizer.

When it comes to selecting the right wine it is largely a matter of price, preference, and food pairing. Decide on an organic wine to pair with the appetizer and another to accompany the main course.

Organic field greens topped with colorful peppery edible flowers such as wild pansies or nasturtiums, drizzled with light vinaigrette would make a lovely side salad to accompany the main course.

Choosing a main course need not be difficult. Organic free-range meats are always available, but when in doubt, go vegetarian. Simple elegant dishes can range from Sautéed wild crafted mushrooms with leeks, garlic, herbs & cream served over wild rice, to hand made ravioli with spinach and ricotta cheese filling topped with a fresh herbed tomato sauce.

Keeping with a relaxed green theme go with a simple dessert; be creative with the presentation. An organic lime sorbet, a side of organic honeydew melon balls, a single large fresh organic strawberry with two beautifully hand decorated art bite chocolates from Organic Bouquet, adorned in shades of pink and green to compliment the delectable treats on the plate will surely impress your guests.

At the end of an exquisite, relaxing, dinner party finalize your eco-green theme by offering guests a special thank-you card with a donation in their name from an environmental charity of your choice for a lasting impression.

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Since 1999, Judie has been aggressively researching a wide range of subjects, particularly those pertaining to human health and environmental issues. Judie has written for local, regional and national publications.