

Illustrated Guide to Wild Plants, Edible Wild Plants and Herbs: A Pocket Guide, and Feasting Free on Wild Edibles from bookstores, or read them at the library. And while you're at the library, hop online and check out websites like <http://www.naturesgarden.ca/wildedibles.htm> & <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/ext/senior/fruits/fruits.htm> / <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/ext/senior/vegetabl/vegetabl.htm> . Don't be turned off by the fact that these guides pretend to be about 'wild' plants, tons of 'em appear in urban environments!

Remember that if you don't agree with any of the ideas presented here due to ethical, ideological or whatever other reasons, then just don't do them! (But keep in mind that you're limiting your own options for survival).

If you've got any other ideas send an email to DizzIE -- xcon0@yahoo.com , or call 1-610-887-6072 And don't forget to visit www.freegan.info / www.rorta.net / www.dizzy.ws

The Hobo Papers #1: FREE FOOD

This is the first of what'll hopefully be a series of short guides designed to provide some ideas for those into alternative living arrangements, who don't have the luxury of pulling off jazz like complaint letter scams and want some viable alternatives to tired shit like panhandling and overcrowded/underresourced soup kitchens. Please distribute this guide at your local zine distros, and especially at all nearby soup kitchens, shelters, squats, and campouts!

Now for a few tips on getting some free eatin':

Dumpster Dive! Start visiting the local grocery store, pastry shop, farmers' market, and bagel stand and checking out the dumpster until you find the times when the food is thrown out. Expiration dates are bullshit. Ignore them. Food doesn't magically become poison as soon as it hits the dumpster. Think about it! Use your common olfactory sense: if it smells like shit, it's probably not a good idea to eat it, otherwise it's fair game. Don't be hostile to the guys who toss the food out. Strike up a bond and get them to leave you a little something special every time.

Scrap! Scrapping is picking up table scraps. Hit up food courts and outdoor restaurants. Those who have the luxury of paying for food often don't eat even half of it. If you want to make friends with the

waiters, stick around and just ask if you can have the leftovers. If they say no, steal their tips next time you stop by the joint.

Bitch! If at a food court, and you can't wrap your mind around eating food others may have started eating (go hungry for a few more days and you'll change your mind), watch someone buy their food, eat some of it, and leave their tray. Take the tray with the half-eaten food up to the place where it was bought and complain that your father/mother/friend (fill in an age-appropriate term that matches whoever bought the food so the clerks don't get suspicious that they don't recognize you) just ordered this and they put on something that your friend explicitly said to leave off (like mayo). Another way to do this is to find a receipt (preferably one that was to-go) today, then go to the place tomorrow and say that they messed up your order, and you were in a rush so couldn't tell them yesterday. The reason you wait a day is so that the clerks don't remember the face of whoever ordered that food yesterday.

Grab 'n' Go! Find a food place that's crowded and calls you to get your food by name or number. For example: 'order 57 is ready!' is shouted and you have to go up to the counter to get it. Busy places don't check receipts, and you can carry a random receipt you found lying around with you as a credibility prop. Best to do when there's multiple orders backed up on the counter, and when there's many to-go orders. Be quick to beat the real person

to it. If you're not quick enough: 'oh, I'm sorry, I thought they said 67!'

Socialize! Look through the community/ arts & entertainment sections of the local papers (be sure to check out the free papers as well), for any upcoming public events and celebrations. If you can't get in while the party is going on, sometimes it's just as good to show up at the end and scrap all of the remains! Another social alternative to soup kitchens is a local Food Not Bombs group, find a location near you at:
<http://www.foodnotbombs.net/contacts.html>

Shoplift! Shops with outdoor produce stands are ideal. Take what you want and leave. If you get food to order from the in-store deli or bakery, eat it in the store, toss away the wrapper and walk out. Find a receipt lying around outside the store, walk in and fill a cart. Wheel it out casually, holding the receipt in clear sight. Be busy reading the receipt as you walk out, so as to appear to be 'checking over' the details to make sure the store didn't screw *you!* This'll also keep your nervous eyes from wandering, though obviously if you see a security goon you should bolt. In all cases: if stopped, run! Then cross that shop off your list and move on. (And remember that almost any sort of aerosol spray, like say a can of deodorant, can serve to incapacitate your pursuer!)

Scavenge! There's edible greenery everywhere, learn to recognize and enjoy it. Steal books like *The*