

Collection Summary

ID Number: CS 561

Title: Svanholm Collective

Extent: 1 Folder(s)

Span Dates: 1993

Language: English

Geographic Location: Skibby, Denmark

Abstract: This collection consists of a flyer about the community.

Selected Search Terms

Subjects: Communal living; Collective settlements; Housing, Cooperative; Collective farms; Commune; Communal living—Denmark; Sustainable agriculture; Permaculture; Sustainable buildings; Organic farming

Historical Notes: People don't move into the Svanholm Collective out of a motivation to join a specific ideology. Sure, we have common goals, but it's not a common political or religious/spiritual basis that connects us. The basis was formed by common ideals concerning ecology, income-sharing, communal living and, finally, "selvforvaltning". This Danish word is hard to translate to English. It's rooted in modern Danish culture, and is used in the development of educational and management ideas. It represents the idea of stimulating people, pupils, and workers to be more involved in decision-making and feel responsible for the outcome. "Self-government" is the English word we thought would be the closest. Even though the Danish word "selvforvaltning" did not yet exist at that time, it was there as an underlying concept. We wanted a direct influence on decisions that concerned our own lives. We wanted to do as we pleased and do some of those things that simply can't be done" because "it's absolutely unrealistic" and "besides, there's no money in it". We think this "selvforvaltning", this maximizing our influence on decisions concerning our own lives, should never be put into practice at the expense of others. Nor should it be at the expense of nature. Ideally, we should manage our use of resources so, that we don't use more than we give - that's the goal we're working towards. Sustainability, both on an environmental level and on a human scale. <http://svanholm.dk/index.php?id=73>

Administrative Information

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Contents	Date	Container	Location
"Briefly about the Svanholm Collective." Denmark	1993	Folder 1	Filing Cabinet 16-D