Brussels Sprouts Salad with Bacon and Apple Vinaigrette

Recipe by Michele Rosen, @PaleoRunningMomma

This shredded brussels sprouts salad is loaded with so many delicious things! Sweet chopped apples, crispy bacon, toasted hazelnuts, and a sweet tangy apple vinaigrette.

10 SIDE DISH SERVINGS

VINAIGRETTE INGREDIENTS:

- 3 Tbsp apple juice
- 3 Tbsp apple citer vinegar or lemon juice
- 1 Tbsp mustard, brown or dijon
- 1 ¹/₂ Tbsp date paste or syrup (Honey or pure maple syrup would work as well.)
- ¹/₂ tsp cinnamon
- ¹/₂ tsp onion powder
- ¹/₂ cup light olive oil or avocado oil
- Sea salt and black pepper to taste

SALAD INGREDIENTS:

- 1 lb brussels sprouts raw, shredded
- 8 slices bacon
- 1 Tbsp rendered bacon fat
- 2/3 cup hazelnuts chopped, or nuts of choice
- Sea salt for nuts
- 1 medium apple, chopped
- 2 tsp lemon juice
- ¹/₂ cup dried cranberries

DIRECTIONS

- 1. Have all the ingredients prepped and ready to go before beginning.
- 2. Heat a large skillet over medium high heat, add bacon pieces. Cook until crisp, stirring to evenly brown, then remove with a slotted spook to drain on paper towels. Save the bacon fat.
- 3. Place shredded brussels sprouts in a large bowl and toss with bacon and 1 Tbsp rendered bacon fat.
- 4. Meanwhile, heat the same skillet over medium heat and add the nuts. Sprinkle with sea salt. Cook 3-5 minutes, stirring, until toasty. Careful not to burn them.
- 5. Toss the nuts with the sprouts and bacon, then add the chopped apples. Sprinkle with lemon juice, then add the cranberries and toss.
- 6. To make the dressing, place all ingredients except for salt and pepper in a tall jar. Cover jar with lid and shake vigorously to combine. Taste, then add salt and pepper.
- 7. Toss about half the dressing with the salad, leaving the rest to serve with as extra. Serve and enjoy!

*This salad can be dressed ahead of time and even tastes better leftover, since the brussels sprouts are so hearty. You can dress the salad before serving as well.