GREEN BEANS WITH SAGE AND PANCETTA

(Bon Appetit - December 2007)

Makes 10 servings

INGREDIENTS;

2-1/2 pounds of fresh green beans, trimmed (check out Costco's)
8 ounces thinly sliced pancetta, coarsely chopped
2 TBSP extra-virgin olive oil, divided
3 TBSP coarsely chopped fresh sage
Fleur de sel or other medium-grain sea salt for serving (optional)

TO DO:

- 1. Line baking sheet with several layers of paper towels.
- Cook beans in large pot of boiling water until tender-crisp 4 to 6 minutes depending upon size of beans (if using smaller Costco beans, check after approx. 3 minutes)
- 3. Drain, then spread beans out on paper towels. DO AHEAD. Can be made 2 hours ahead. Let stand at room temperature.
- 4. Combine pancetta and 1 TBSP olive oil in large, non-stick skillet. Saute over medium heat until pancetta is crisp, separating pieces with two forks, for about 10 minutes.
- 5. Add sage and stir until fragrant about 1 minute.
- Heat remaining 1 TBSP oil in the same skillet over med-high heat.
 Add beans and sauté until heated through about 5 minutes.
- 7. Add pancetta mixture and toss to blend.
- 8. Season to blend with freshly ground black pepper, sprinkle with sea salt, if desired.