

Food & Community – OSU Extension Local Foods Signature Program

Purpose

Farm to Plate. Thirty Mile Meals. Feeding our friends and neighbors, funding the local economy and improving the environment can all be accomplished by participating in the local foods movement. Ohio State University Extension's Local Foods Signature Program addresses the critical need for outreach education around the broad topic of local food systems. One of our themes, Food and Community, features education connecting local food to community gardens, farmers markets, food banks and schools.

Impact

Buying local foods has a ripple effect on the economy. The farmer/producer benefits as well as their employees, local businesses they frequent, charities they support and the local tax base.

Food raised on local farms not only reduces pollution from long-distance transportation, but also helps to protect our water sources, conserve nutrient-rich soil and provide habitat for local wildlife.

Over two million Ohioans are food insecure. Community gardens, farm markets, food banks and simply sharing your extra garden produce can feed these families and connect them to the community.



Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
OSU Extension
Department of Food Science and Technology
Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center
College of Engineering
Department of Food, Biological and Agricultural Engineering
College of Education and Human Ecology
Department of Human Sciences
Ohio AgrAbility Program
John Glenn School of Public Affairs
Knowlton School of Architecture

Community Partners Involved

Americorps VISTA
Appalachian Center for Economic Networks (ACEnet)
Godman Guild Association
Innovative Farmers of Ohio
Local Matters
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Ohio Department of Agriculture Ohio Ecological Food and Farming Association
Ohio Farm Bureau
Ohio Farmers' Market Management Network
Ohio Market Maker
Rural Action Council of Ohio
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program



Contact

Kate Shumaker
Extension Educator
Family & Consumer Sciences
OSU Extension, Holmes County
shumaker.68@osu.edu
localfoods.osu.edu



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

