

Appendix F: Additional Resources

Contents

Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity.....	2
Community Gardens	2
Community Kitchens.....	3
Farm to School	4
Farmers Markets.....	4
Food Forests.....	5
Food Hubs	5
Food Waste	6
Placemaking and Smart Growth	7
Urban Agriculture	8
General.....	8

Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity

Case Studies in Delivering Safe, Comfortable and Connected Pedestrian and Bicycle Networks

This 2015 Federal Highway Administration document provides an overview of pedestrian and bicycle network principles and highlights examples from communities across the country.

- https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/network_report/

Guidebook for Developing Pedestrian and Bicycle Performance Measures

This 2016 Federal Highway Administration document helps communities develop performance measures that can fully integrate pedestrian and bicycle planning in ongoing performance management activities.

- http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/performance_measures_guidebook

Safety Demonstration Projects: Case Studies From Orlando, FL, Lexington, KY, And South Bend, IN

The National Complete Streets Coalition helped three cities build skills in safer street design, creative placemaking, and community engagement, and then put those skills into practice. This 2018 report includes case studies of local demonstration projects in Orlando, Florida; Lexington, Kentucky; and South Bend, Indiana where communities transformed their streets, intersections, and neighborhoods into slower, safer places for people.

- <https://smartgrowthamerica.org/resources/safety-demonstration-projects-case-studies-from-orlando-fl-lexington-ky-and-south-bend-in/?fbclid=IwAR0qTdwv8j1H1NUiC9LLg-j7m0K3ozRSKFeBOQkPj3t9GDHcxY0Y6JRbi9c>

Small Town and Rural Multimodal Networks

This 2016 Federal Highway Administration document helps small towns and rural communities support safe, accessible, comfortable, and active travel for people of all ages and abilities. It provides a bridge between existing guidance on bicycle and pedestrian design and rural practice, encourages innovation in the development of safe and appealing networks for bicycling and walking, and shows examples of project implementation.

- https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/small_towns/fhwahep17024_lg.pdf

Community Gardens

Garden Organizer Toolkit

The Vermont Community Garden Network provides tools to help organizers, managers, coordinators, and supporters of community-based gardens, including resources for starting, organizing, and learning in community-based gardens.

- <http://vcgn.org/garden-organizer-toolkit/>

EPA Pollinator Program Resources

- EPA's Bee Advisory Label: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2013-11/documents/bee-label-info-graphic.pdf>
- EPA's Read the Label First, Protect Your Garden: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-02/documents/garden.pdf>

Community Kitchens

Culinary Incubator Map

CulinaryIncubator.com is a nonprofit website to help small food businesses locate commercial kitchens. It includes an interactive map with descriptions of commercial kitchens across the United States.

- <http://www.culinaryincubator.com/maps.php>

Kitchen Incubator of Chattanooga (Launch Initiative)

The Kitchen Incubator of Chattanooga (KIC) is an initiative of LAUNCH, a Chattanooga-based nonprofit focused on empowering local entrepreneurs. The KIC is the first food-centric incubator in our region. Our hope is to empower and support Chattanooga's food-based entrepreneurs.

- <https://www.kitchenincchatt.org/about>

The Shared Kitchen Toolkit: A Practical Guide to Planning, Launching, and Managing a Shared-Use Commercial Kitchen

The Food Corridor, Fruition Planning and Management, and Purdue Extension Services co-created this 2018 toolkit that delivers guidance on feasibility and planning for new kitchen projects, as well as management practices for the day-to-day operations of shared-use kitchens. It also provides an overview of emerging kitchen models and highlights opportunities for kitchens to expand their community impact and enhance financial sustainability.

- <http://www.thefoodcorridor.com/announcing-the-shared-kitchen-toolkit/>

Shared Kitchen and Food Startups

A website collaboration of USDA Ag Marketing Service, Colorado State University and the Food Corridor which compiled information learned about the shared kitchens and the food business owners operating out of shared kitchens into a variety of fact sheets, case studies, and infographics as a means to understand the role of shared kitchens in communities across the US.

- <https://localfoodeconomics.com/shared-kitchens/>

Farm to School

Farm to School Resources

The National Farm to School Network has compiled resources for communities working to bring local food sourcing, school gardens, and food and agriculture education into schools and early care and education settings.

- <http://www.farmtoschool.org/resources>

Farmers Markets

Local and Regional Market News

USDA Market News works with state departments of agriculture and local and regional food systems to provide prices, volume, and other information on agricultural commodities sold at local and regional markets throughout the United States.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/local-regional-food>

Market Makeover: 25 Best Practices for Farmers' Markets

This report from the Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project provides guidance for making market improvements and dealing with common issues in the areas of management, regulations, risk management, food safety, improving vendor sales, and marketing.

- <http://asapconnections.org/downloads/market-makeover-25-best-practices-for-farmers-markets.pdf>

National Farmers Market Directory

The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service maintains a directory of information about farmers markets, including locations, directions, operating times, product offerings, and accepted forms of payment.

- <https://www.usdalocalfoodportal.com/>

National Farmers Market Managers Survey

The 2019 National Farmers Market Manager Survey was undertaken with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) and Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS). With responses from more than 5,000 market managers, survey results will help the farmers market sector and policy makers better understand current direct marketing opportunities.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/local-regional/research-publications/fmmsttps://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/SNAPat%20Farmers%20Markets%20Handbook.pdf>

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) at Farmers Markets: A How-To Handbook

This 2010 report from the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA Food and Nutrition Service, and Project for Public Spaces, Inc. describes how to accept SNAP benefits at farmers markets, including what equipment is required, how to install electronic benefit transfer (EBT) systems, and how to make SNAP EBT succeed at farmers markets.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/SNAPat%20Farmers%20Markets%20Handbook.pdf>

Sharing the Harvest: A Guide to Bridging the Divide between Farmers Markets and Low-Income Shoppers

This 2012 report from the Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project provides tips and tools to improve the accessibility of local markets and increase consumption of healthy local produce.

- <http://asapconnections.org/downloads/asap-farmers-market-access-guide.pdf>

Understanding the Link Between Farmers' Market Size and Management Organization

This 2007 report by the Oregon State University Extension Service examines common management tools and structures for farmers markets of different sizes to guide strategic planning and resource allocation for new markets and for established markets confronting growth or other significant changes.

- <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sr1082>

Food Forests

Atlanta – Urban Food Forest at Browns Mill

This site is Atlanta's first Community Urban Food Forest, as well as a new model for a City of Atlanta park. The food forest will produce a wide variety of fresh, flavorful, and healthy nuts, fruits, vegetables, herbs, and mushrooms, which will become available for public consumption. Located in an area identified as a food desert, the site was a working farm as recently as 2000.

- <https://www.aglanta.org/urban-food-forest-at-browns-mill-1>

Food Hubs

Findings of the 2017 National Food Hub Survey

This document by the Michigan State University Center for Regional Food Systems in cooperation with the Wallace Center at Winrock International details the scope and scale of food hub activities, their challenges, and their regional influence based on a survey of more than 100 food hubs across the country.

- <https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/2017-food-hub-survey>

Local and Regional Food Systems Resource Guide

The LRFS Resource Guide helps staff and partners more easily familiarize themselves with USDA programs that most often serve local and regional food systems stakeholders and to link

farms and businesses to these services. The LRFS Resource Guide identifies resources provided across USDA strengthening local and regional food markets and economies.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/LocalandRegionalFoodSystemResourceGuide.pdf>

Regional Food Hub Resource Guide

This 2012 report from the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service examines the role of food hubs in regional food systems and compiles information on the resources available to support them.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/Regional%20Food%20Hub%20Resource%20Guide.pdf>

Running a Food Hub series

USDA Rural Development developed a technical report series in partnership with Virginia Foundation for Agriculture, Innovation and Rural Sustainability and Matson Consulting that offers new and existing food hubs information on how to plan for success, address challenges, and achieve viability.

- Vol 1 – Lessons Learned from the Field (2015)
https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/SR_77_Running_A_Food_Hub_Vol_1.pdf
- Vol 2 – A Business Operations Guide (2015)
https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/SR_77_Running_A_Food_Hub_Vol_2.pdf
- Vol 3 – Assessing Financial Viability (2016)
<https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/publications/SR%2077%20FoodHubs%20Vol3.pdf>

Food Waste

Excess Food Opportunities Map

EPA created the Excess Food Opportunities Map, a national, interactive map that identifies more than 500,000 potential generators of excess food and estimated generation quantities, as well as over 4,000 potential recipients of excess food. The map can help users identify potential sources of food for rescue; potential feedstocks for compost and anaerobic digestion; potential infrastructure gaps for managing excess food; and, alternatives to sending food to landfill. This resource is intended to give users the tools to understand the potential magnitude of excess food in their communities and help make connections between generators and recipients such that more food is diverted from landfills and put toward beneficial uses.

- <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/excess-food-opportunities-map?fbclid=IwAR1rCQWWKbR6yYZqxnE-fRRWNyWarqyKtoRbP7m1AKGeinRFGJm7uuAdMns>

Tools for Preventing and Diverting Wasted Food

EPA offers a variety of wasted-food assessment tools to suit a food service establishment's specific circumstances. Several of the tools are described below.

- <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/tools-preventing-and-diverting-wasted-food>

A Guide to Conducting and Analyzing a Food Waste Assessment

Retail, food service, and other food management establishments can use EPA's 2014 guidebook to learn how to take a "snapshot in time" of their wasted food by either manually sorting through materials in a garbage sample or visually observing and estimating waste.

- <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/tools-preventing-and-diverting-wasted-food#assessguide>

Toolkit for Reducing Wasted Food and Packaging

This 2014 toolkit is designed to help food service establishments and commercial kitchens save money by reducing wasted food and packaging with suggested strategies, templates, and case studies. It includes a tool to track the daily amount, type of, and reason for wasted food and packaging. Users enter information into a spreadsheet, which automatically creates graphs and data summaries to help identify patterns of waste generation. Based on these patterns, a business can make strategic changes to its operation to maximize waste reductions and cost savings.

- <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/tools-preventing-and-diverting-wasted-food#packaging>

Placemaking and Smart Growth

Growing Food Connections

This website from the American Planning Association provides planning and policy briefs and other resources to help increase food security in vulnerable areas, strengthen the sustainability and economic resilience of urban and rural communities, and support farms engaged in local and regional food systems that use sustainable practices.

- <https://www.planning.org/research/foodconnections/>

Smart Growth

EPA's smart growth website provides publications, tools, and other information on a range of placemaking development and conservation strategies that help protect our health and natural environment and make our communities more attractive, economically stronger, and more diverse.

- <https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth>

Urban Agriculture

Aquaponics Business Plan User Guide

This 2016 EPA document is modeled after the Urban Farm Business Plan Handbook (see below) and provides an outline and guidance for the development of a business plan for an aquaponic farm.

- <https://www.epa.gov/land-revitalization/aquaponics-business-plan-user-guide>

Industrial Properties Renewed Through Agriculture: Reusing Land to Support Agriculture and Food Systems

This 2010 EPA document discusses reusing industrial brownfields that might serve a wide variety of agriculture-related reuses, including important public health considerations as well as environmental and planning and zoning considerations.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-industrial-properties-renewed-through-agriculture>

Steps to Create a Community Garden or Expand Urban Agriculture

EPA's Brownfields Program offers information on how to create a community garden or expand urban agriculture, particularly in areas that might be at risk from potential contaminants.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/steps-create-community-garden-or-expand-urban-agriculture>

Urban Farm Business Plan Handbook

This 2011 document from EPA, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the U.S. Department of Transportation provides guidance for developing a business plan for the startup and operation of nonprofit and for-profit urban farms.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/urban-farm-business-plan-handbook>

General

ArtsBuild

Since 1969, ArtsBuild has served as a catalyst for the arts in our community, investing more than \$77 million in arts organizations, arts programs and arts education. Throughout the past 54 years, the vision of our founders to build a stronger community through the arts has remained consistent. That vision includes creating access to the arts. We do this through grant-making, arts education initiatives, and arts advocacy.

- <https://artsbuild.com/>

Communities for Healthy Food: The Toolkit – A Practical Guide for Integrating Healthy Food Access and Social Justice into Community Development

This 2018 toolkit from LISC NYC helps community organizations use healthy food access strategies and food justice principles to enhance their community development efforts. The toolkit presents a flexible and comprehensive approach to planning, designing, and implementing a portfolio of programs to ensure low-income communities and communities of color have access to healthier food options, a voice in the food movement, and economic opportunities.

- http://www.lisc.org/media/filer_public/bd/63/bd6327a3-8841-45b0-9eba-1b9fa3f90ce6/lisc_nyc_communities_for_healthy_food_toolkit_march_2018.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3njWOP1Nz3eHGBOQ8wKuehF5z7NvH1XVnWACLbWQ6LcEM7Pn2gmtIkEro

Community of Practice for Regional Food Policy Councils.

To better understand and inform regional approaches to food system governance, this project centers the contributions and insights of participants in a community of practice representing 11 regional councils. These councils reflect a diversity of approaches to regional food system work from across the United States.

- <https://localfoodeconomics.com/regional-fpc/participants/>

The Economics of Local Food Systems: A Toolkit to Guide Community Discussions, Assessments and Choices

This 2016 toolkit produced by the USDA Agriculture Marketing Service helps guide and enhance the capacity of local organizations to make more deliberate and credible measurements of local and regional economic activity and other ancillary benefits.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/publications/content/economics-local-food-systems-toolkit-guide-community-discussions-assessments>

The Economics of Local Food: An Emerging Community of Practice

Colorado State University hosts a website aimed to help communities understand agriculture and food enterprise viability, market dynamics, and other key socio-economics metrics of local and regional food systems.

- <https://localfoodeconomics.com/>

Farmland Access Legal Toolkit

The Center for Agriculture and Food Systems at Vermont Law School created this online resource to help farmers and landowners affordably access, transfer, and conserve farmland. The toolkit explains legal arrangements that provide farmers more affordable and equitable farmland access and help landowners balance earning income for retirement with making their land affordable to the next generation of farmers.

- https://farmlandaccess.org/?fbclid=IwAR12aAoLz84nRya9R-vdPBjFg9pSHKQzyMsZuk0BICcmR_ab5K6eFPrk8A

Food Value Chains: Creating Shared Value to Enhance Marketing Success

This 2014 report by the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service provides guidance on how food value chains are initiated and structured, how they function, and the benefits they provide to participants.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/local-regional/food-value-chain>

Framework for Creating a Smart Growth Economic Development Strategy: A Tool for Small Cities and Towns

This is a step-by-step guide to building a place-based economic development strategy. It is intended for small and mid-sized cities, particularly those with limited population growth, areas of disinvestment, and/or a struggling economy.

- https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-01/documents/small_town_econ_dev_tool_010516.pdf

Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) & Good Handling Practices (GHP) Auditing and Accreditation Programs

The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service provides voluntary audit and accreditation programs that let producers and suppliers of agricultural products assure customers of their ability to provide consistent quality products or services. The programs are paid through hourly user fees.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/auditing/gap-ghp>

Harvesting Opportunity: The Power of Regional Food System Investments to Transform Communities

The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's agencies of Rural Development and the Agricultural Marketing Service published a 2017 book that focuses on regional food systems as a means for enhancing economic opportunity. It explores recent findings; highlights models for collaboration between policymakers, practitioners, and the financial community; and discusses research, policy, and resource gaps that, if addressed, might contribute to the success of regional food systems strategies.

- https://www.thecommonmarket.org/assets/uploads/reports/Harvesting_Opportunity.compressed.pdf

Local Food Research & Development

The USDA Agriculture Marketing Service produces research-based publications on a range of local food market channels to help producers, market managers, planners, and others better understand the impact of these outlets on local economic development, food access, and farm profitability.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/local-regional>

Local and Regional Food System (LRFS) Recovery and Resilience Project

The project focuses on translating lessons learned from local food systems stakeholders during the COVID-19 pandemic and the simultaneous social crisis into a specific, long-term collaborative strategy for fostering recovery and equitable approaches to LRFS resilience. Website contains 200 resources such as webinars, fact sheets, case studies, etc.

- <https://fscovid.localfoodeconomics.com/>

The Local and Regional Food Systems Resilience Playbook

The Playbook is designed to support food systems leaders seeking to broaden and deepen their understanding of the distinct strengths and vulnerabilities of LRFS in times of disruption. It is meant to be part primer, part inspirational guide that aims to provide sufficient examples and context to help readers consider and envision what resilience looks like in their food systems following a disaster.

- <https://fscovid.localfoodeconomics.com/resilience-playbook/>

Measuring Progress Toward Downtown Revitalization and Engaging Public Spaces: A Review of Existing Research

It presents strategies and drivers of downtown revitalization and metrics to measure progress, such as the number of businesses located downtown, growth in retail sales, the longevity of small businesses, median household income, resident representation in the business improvement district, brand identity and positive image, number of attendees at special events, storefront occupancy rates, diverse business mix/store types, vacancy rates, and others.

- <https://knightfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/KF-Measuring-Progress-toward-Downtown-Final.pdf>

Measuring Rural Wealth Creation: A Guide for Regional Development Organizations

This 2016 document by the National Association of Development Organizations introduces concepts of measuring progress in rural wealth creation for regional development organizations that are involved in a range of community and economic development within their regions. The guide includes information on developing a measurement plan, measuring multiple forms of community capital beyond jobs, measuring inclusiveness and local ownership of assets, and more strategies and tips for measuring and communicating progress.

- <https://www.nado.org/measuring-rural-wealth-creation-a-guide-for-regional-development-organizations/>

Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program

EPA's Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program is a voluntary membership program that promotes the adoption of innovative, alternative pest control practices such as integrated pest management. It publicly recognizes members who have demonstrated their commitment to environmental stewardship and made progress in reducing pesticide risk. Members can

receive technical support for transitioning to lower-risk pest management practices and developing integrated pest management strategies.

- <https://www.epa.gov/pest>

Voluntary Local Food Directories

USDA's voluntary Local Food Directories help producers and customers locate farmers markets, on-farm markets, CSAs, and food hubs across the country. These listings can help potential vendors, partners, and customers find local food market opportunities.

- www.ams.usda.gov/services/local-regional/food-directories

Wholesale Markets and Facility Design

The USDA Wholesale Markets and Facility Design Team provides technical assistance on the construction or remodeling of wholesale markets, farmers markets, public markets, and food hubs.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/local-regional/facility-design>