The Food Environment of Southeast Minnesota

A Set of Research Tools and Studies

Revised September 2014

Prepared by the University of Minnesota Southeast Regional Sustainable Development Partnership as a deliverable of the Olmsted County Statewide Health Improvement Program grant and for those working towards a healthier food system in southeast Minnesota.
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Brief Summary of SE MN Food System Work

The University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships (RSDPs) were established by the Minnesota legislature in 1997 to form university-citizen partnerships intended to spearhead research, education, and outreach projects aimed at improving economic, social and environmental sustainability of greater Minnesota’s agriculture, natural resources, energy, and tourism resources. From the beginning, the Southeast RSDP (known as The Experiment in Rural Cooperation) generated numerous projects designed to study and improve the food environment of Southeast MN.

In November 2008, the SE RSDP board approved $100,000 to engage the U of M in food systems infrastructure change. An interdisciplinary team of U of M researchers formed to develop novel analytical approaches to regional food systems planning questions. One result was the Southeast Foodshed Planning Initiative (SEFPI)—a means to engage the research and outreach capabilities of Minnesota’s land-grant University in a collaborative way that responds to issues articulated by citizens, in an effort to scale up the impact on our food system.

Simultaneously, the emergence of Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) grants through the Minnesota Department of Health brought new partners to food systems work across the state. At a Southeast Minnesota SHIP-sponsored workshop in December 2010, members of the SEFPI and over 50 regional public health and community leaders gathered to learn about food systems and share ideas. Workshop participants reached consensus that establishing a long-term, well-organized food policy agenda would benefit Southeast Minnesota.
The work of the SEFPI, along with other Minnesota food systems advocacy groups, evolved into a larger organization called the Healthy Food Alliance of SE MN, formed in collaboration with farmers, the public health and healthcare sectors, social service agencies, higher education, and community leaders. The vision of the Healthy Food Alliance of SE MN is: *Healthy people, healthy communities, healthy land: regional food on every plate, every day.*

In November 2011 the RSDPs were administratively moved under U of M Extension. This strategic positioning has opened additional doors for building university-community collaborations. A tangible result is the RSDP Community and Local Food Resources website that became available for public use in June of 2013: [http://www1.extension.umn.edu/rsdp/community-and-local-food/](http://www1.extension.umn.edu/rsdp/community-and-local-food/)

The Minnesota Food Charter is a broad-based public process that arose from widespread food system work among community and university partners. A statewide Minnesota conversation is now in progress about the food we want made available in our communities. The driving force behind the Minnesota Food Charter is to express a clear and compelling vision of how all Minnesotans can access healthy, affordable and safe food more easily and enjoy the economic benefits of healthier, stronger communities today and tomorrow. [http://mnfoodcharter.com/](http://mnfoodcharter.com/)

It is hoped that this document—or “metadoc,” *A Set of Research Tools and Studies Concerning the Food Environment of Southeast Minnesota*, will help shed light on food system work underway in this region, and can be used to help realize a healthy food environment for all. Selected digital reports, charts, and Excel data files resulting from SEFPI work can be accessed by way of the metadoc on the SE Regional Partnership’s Extension’s website. [http://z.umn.edu/foodenvironmentsemn](http://z.umn.edu/foodenvironmentsemn)
A Closer Look at the SEFPI

The Southeast Foodshed Planning Initiative (SEFPI) is a multidisciplinary, multi-year research initiative focused on Southeast Minnesota. It brings the analytical strength of the University of Minnesota to our region's efforts to build a SE MN food infrastructure.

The SEFPI is a means to engage the research and outreach capabilities of our land-grant institution in a collaborative way that responds to issues articulated by citizens in efforts to ‘scale up’ and develop some level of self-reliance in our local food system. Meaningful, broad-based research is one way to start ‘connecting the dots’ of years of small-scale, localized projects that have not, as yet, shifted our overall food environment.

For a brief introduction to the work of the SEFPI, check out links to the SEFPI overview and flyer, which can be accessed from the About link below.

https://netfiles.umn.edu/users/tegtm003/www/SE%20MN%20FoodSys%20Research/SEFPI/About/

The About link also gives access to a report called Visualizing the Food Climate of SE MN by graduate student Natalie Ross, which offers detailed graphs that visually depict food production in the Southeast region. The graphic snapshots include rural economic, food availability, and local food indicators. The visualizations compare SE MN counties, showing fresh vegetable, fruit, nut, meat and dairy availability, supply and disappearance over time.
SEFPI Research Team Leaders/Members
Past & Present

SEFPI PROJECT COORDINATOR
Erin Meier - Executive Director, University of Minnesota Southeast Regional Sustainable Development Partnership “The Experiment in Rural Cooperation” - Extension

SEFPI ASSISTANT PROJECT COORDINATORS
Greg Schweser - Associate Director Sustainable Local Foods, University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships - Extension
Szilvia Hosser-Cox - BS, University of Minnesota Environmental Science, Policy and Management

SEFPI CONSULTANTS
Margaret Adamek, Ph.D. - Owner/Principal at Terra Soma
Randel Hanson, Ph.D. - Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota-Duluth Geography

RESEARCH TEAMS
CULTURAL & ETHNIC FOOD DEMAND IN SE MN
Julianna Tietge - former graduate student, U of M Public Health
Gabriela Burk - Financial Literacy Program Assistant, U of M Extension
Goal Chia Her & Nima Hussein - Project FINE, Winona

EVALUATION & PROJECT PLANNING
Valentine Cadieux - Research Associate, University of Minnesota Geography
Yi Cao - former graduate student, University of Minnesota Evaluation Studies & Comparative and International Development Education

FOOD EXPENDITURES OF SE MN
Rob King, Professor, U of M Applied Economics
Elton Mykerezi, Assistant Professor, U of M Applied Economics
Yuki Wang, former Graduate Student, U of M Applied Economics
Sadie Dietrich, former Graduate Student, U of M Applied Economics

FOOD HUB STUDIES
Carlson Ventures Enterprise – Rural MN Food Systems & Food Hub Overview
U of M Students - Nate Karnitz, Junjie Mao, Derek Mathers, Shawn Patnode, and Xiangjun Xu
Dodge County – Dodge County Food Hub Feasibility Study
Renewing the Countryside staff: Jan Joannides, M.S., Executive Director; Molly Turnquist, M.P.H., Program Associate; Brett Olson, Creative Director
Colin Cureton, M.A., Consultant - U of M Research Assistant, Applied Economics
The Dodge County Economic Development Authority
Riverbend Market Cooperative, Red Wing – trade area data compilation

Clarence Bischoff, Riverbend Market Cooperative, Red Wing, MN
Steve Roos - Senior Research Fellow, U of M Center for Rural Design

FOODSHELD ANALYSIS
David Mulla - Professor, U of M Soil, Water and Climate
Jacob Galzki - Research Fellow, U of M Soil, Water and Climate
Joel Nelson - Information Technology, U of M Soil, Water and Climate

FOOD SYSTEM CHANGE APPROACHES
Clara McConnell - former graduate student, U of M Public Policy
Margaret Adamek, PhD - owner/principal at Terra Soma

FOOD SYSTEMS PERSPECTIVES SURVEY
Valentine Cadieux - U of M Research Associate in Sociology and Geography, Environment & Society
Jerry Shannon - U of M graduate student, Geography, Environment, and Society (now Assistant Professor University of Georgia)
Jacob Overgaard - former U of M graduate student, Horticulture and now Extension
Natalie Ross - former U of M graduate student, Landscape Architecture
Alicia Lazzarini - U of M graduate student, Geography, Environment, and Society
Eduard Krakhmalnikov, U of M graduate student, Design
Ruth Styles, U of M undergraduate student, Geography, Environment, and Society
Maria Frank, U of M undergraduate student, Food Science and Nutrition
Molly Turnquist, U of M graduate student, School of Public Health

LOCAL FOODS LANDSCAPE
Grace Wilson - former graduate student, U of M Applied Plant Sciences
Szilvia Hosser-Cox - BS, U of M Environmental Science, Policy and Management
Wayne Martin - Assistant Extension Professor Alternative Livestock Systems Specialist, U of M Extension
Steve Roos - Senior Research Fellow, U of M Center for Rural Design
Paul Porter - Professor, U of M Agronomy/Plant Genetics
SEFPI Participants - Past & Present

UNIVERSITY PARTNERS

Maggi Adamek
Deborah Allan
Renata Blumberg
Gabriela Burk
Peter Cadieux
Valentine Cadieux
Yi Cao
Colin Cureton
Colin DeYoung
Sadie Dietrich
Kathryn Draeger
Maria Frank
Jacob Galzki
Angela Gaszak
Megan Glaeser
Randel Hanson
Craig Hassel
Szilvia Hosser-Cox
Nate Karnitz
Lois Kennis
Rob King
Tracey Kinney
Eduard Krakmalnikov
Alicia Lazzarini
Junjie Mao
Derek Mathers
Wayne Martin
Clara McConnell
Marnie McGregor
Erin Meier
David Mulla
Elton Mykerezi
Joel Nelson
Trish Olson
Jacob Overgaard
Shawn Patnode
Paul Porter
Jim Riddle
Steve Roos
Natalie Ross
Greg Schweser
Jerry Shannon
Stephen Streng
Ruth Styles
David Syring
Julianna Olsen Tietge
Molly Turnquist
Yuki Wang
Grace Wilson
Xiangjun Xu

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Joe Adams
Nancy Adams
Margaret Adamek
John Andres
Sig Anderson
Eva Barr
Mary Bell
Theresa Benda
Pam Benike
Clarence Bischoff
Mera Colling
Kay Conway
Megan Cramer
Joe Deden
Lee Egerstrom
Gael Entrikin
Norm Erickson
Barbara Finley-Shea
Larry Gates
Spencer Goetzman
Ron Griffith
Phil Guida
Strider Hammer
Peggy Hanson
Bonnie Haugen
Liz Haywood
Goal Chia Her
Nima Hussein
Kris Igo
Jan Joannides
Eric Klein
Lisa Klein
David Kraemer
Janet Kubat
Randy McLaughlin
Pernell Meier
Karl Milliron
Gary Norstad
Mary Norstad
Megan O’Hara
Brett Olson
Stuart Reid
Mary Alice Richardson
Jim Riddle
Joey Robison
Carl Rolfs
Sylvia Rolfs
Jen Ryan
Jennifer Rupprecht
Amanda Sames
Ray Schmitz
Steve Schwen
Karen Sundal
Agi Trifontaine
Caroline van Schaik
Jill Walters
Susan Waughtal
Phil Wheeler
Sandy Wollschlager
Kathy Zeman

SE RSDP/ERC BOARD
(January 2010 to present)

Deborah Allan
James Allen
Bob Cline
Sheila Craig
Darline Freeman
Stacy Fritz
Jay Haws
Jerry Hildebrandt
Ressano Machado
Wayne Martin
Trish Olson
Al Schacht
Bob Sixta
Margo Stich
Tim Terrill
Marcia Ward
Kathy Zeman
Cultural & Ethnic Food Demand in SE MN

The purpose of this research is to identify the need for community-based action that will increase local and fresh food understanding and consumption in ethnic minorities located in Southeast Minnesota. Focus group surveys uncover a number of thought-provoking results, suggesting valuable lessons that traditional SE MN farmers can learn from newer residents of the region.

https://netfiles.umn.edu/users/tegtm003/www/SE%20MN%20FoodSys%20Research/SEFPI/CulturalDemand/

Survey Results

What is most important when buying food?

Do you grow/raise your own food?

Research Team

Cultural & Ethnic Food Demand in SE MN

Julianna Tietge - former graduate student, U of M Public Health

Gabriela Burk - Financial Literacy Program Assistant, U of M Extension

Goal Chia Her & Nima Hussein - Project FINE, Winona

Slide from Ethnic Consumer Focus Groups presentation, J. Tietge
SEFPI community and University team members explored ways to define, evaluate and document the initiative. With the morphing of the steering committee into the Healthy Food Alliance of SE MN (HFA) and with the development of HFA driven by other collaborators focused more broadly on the SE MN food system and not only on the SEFPI, our momentum in these areas was redirected. We hope that our work to date may be of use to HFA and other budding food system networks, as they consider focus areas and strategies towards measurable action and implementation. A well-developed plan held within an effective organizational structure can be a bridge to applying the tools of research and analysis to systems change.

Much of our work focused on learning about and applying the themes in Whole Measures for Community Food Systems. Whole Measures CFS is described as, “a values-based, community-oriented tool for evaluation, planning, and dialogue geared toward organizational and community change. Whole Measures CFS invites organizations to build on the reporting of outputs and outcomes and to highlight and measure the multitude of interconnected indicators that define a healthy, whole community.”

SEFPI representatives participated in a learning community, hosted by the now dissolved Community Food Security Coalition, in 2010 and 2011. At the link below, find the Whole Measures for Community Food Systems guidebook, a description of the learning community and notes from the first four calls. Also available are agendas and meeting notes from three meetings at which we defined our work and objectives within the frame of Whole Measures CFS and tried to build on each experience to develop work groups with action plans.


Research Team

Evaluation & Project Planning

Valentine Cadieux - Research Associate, University of Minnesota Geography

Yi Cao - former graduate student, University of Minnesota Evaluation Studies & Comparative and International Development Education
Food Expenditures of SE MN

Brief description of project
The overall goal is to establish regional consumer food expenditures. US Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Expenditure Survey data are aligned with overlapping US Census Bureau American Community Survey data categories so that expenditures can be estimated for any community that has American Community Survey data.

Goals
The objective of this research is to create a general model for estimating total household expenditures on different food products at different budget shares in Southeast Minnesota, and optimistically to apply this model to other regions. This research offers an improvement in supplying good local estimations to foodshed studies.

With prices related to quantities of food, the land use needed to produce food that is consumed locally can be determined. This could help communities and producers identify real business opportunities. For example, if the region consumes $20 million in fruits and vegetables and can produce that for three months out of the year, then the local share opportunity could be $5 million. Would that be a big economic development opportunity or not?

At the link below find a guidebook, white papers, and tables for calculating regional food expenditures in Southeast Minnesota.

https://netfiles.umn.edu/users/tegtm003/www/SE%20MN%20FoodSys%20Research/SEFPI/FoodExpendituresSEMN/

Research Team
Food Expenditures of SE MN
Rob King, Professor, U of M Applied Economics
Elton Mykerezi, Assistant Professor, U of M Applied Economics
Yuki Wang, former Graduate Student, U of M Applied Economics
Sadie Dietrich, former Graduate Student, U of M Applied Economics

Feeding Southeast Minnesota: A Model to Estimate Food Expenditures and Quantities, Sadie Dietrich, pg. 48
Food Hub Studies

A review & viability analysis of food hubs statewide by U of M business and management students, via Carlson Ventures Enterprise, was completed in May 2013. The report, Rural Minnesota Food Systems and Food Hub Overview, is meant to provide a synopsis of the rural Minnesota food system, as well as an analysis on the viability of creating food hubs to provide local foods to local communities. The report details the current food landscape in Minnesota, the approach to the analysis, potential opportunities and industry challenges, as well as a number of considerations and strategic approaches which resulted from the analysis. Access the report from the link below.

Research Team: U of M Students - Nate Karnitz, Junjie Mao, Derek Mathers, Shawn Patnode, and Xiangjun Xu.

Dodge County food aggregation and distribution opportunities research has been compiled in the Dodge County Food Hub Feasibility Study, published August 2013 by Renewing the Countryside. Access the study from the link below.

Research Team:
Renewing the Countryside staff: Jan Joannides, M.S., Executive Director; Molly Turnquist, M.P.H., Program Associate; Brett Olson, Creative Director
Colin Cureton, M.A., Consultant - U of M Research Assistant, Applied Economics
The Dodge County Economic Development Authority

Trade area data compilation – trade area maps and data compiled for Riverbend Market Cooperative in Red Wing, Minnesota, can be accessed at the link below.

Research Team:
Clarence Bischoff, Riverbend Market Cooperative, Red Wing, MN
Steve Roos - Senior Research Fellow, U of M Center for Rural Design

https://netfiles.umn.edu/users/tegtm003/www/SE%20MN%20FoodSys%20Research/SEFPI/FoodHubStudies/
Food Environment of Southeast MN

Foodshed Analysis

Research Summary
Food demands of the entire SE MN region are determined from population data and an ideal diet based on food pyramid guidelines. Food supply is determined within a GIS using agricultural land availability and crop yields.

From Galzki & Mulla Research Paper Abstract
This research attempts to analyze the feasibility of supplying the nutritional needs for an 11-county region in Southeastern Minnesota entirely from locally grown foods. The study also evaluates an alternative land-use scenario to illustrate how better utilizing land resources can yield environmental benefits in addition to those already inherent with local food production. Potential foodsheds are mapped to represent the theoretical spatial extent of agricultural resources needed to sustain population within the region. . . . Results show that it is theoretically feasible for Southeastern Minnesota to be entirely sustained on local food production. . . . In comparison with the baseline foodshed model, the alternative land-use foodshed converts 68,000 ha (168,000 acres) of marginal cropland on vulnerable landscapes from annually cultivated land to perennial agriculture. This conversion not only reduces total distance traveled by a unit of food from 11.8km (7.3 miles) in the baseline scenario to 10.8km (6.7 miles) in the alternative scenario, but also reduces soil degradation, has positive impacts on surface water quality, and may lead to better wildlife habitat. The multiple benefits demonstrated by this study are encouraging to leaders of the local food movement in Southeastern Minnesota. Results of the study demonstrate that the methodology developed for mapping New York state foodsheds is adaptable to the Midwestern US, and should also be adaptable in other regions of the country.

The research paper by Jake Galzki, David Mulla and Christian J. Peters, “Mapping the potential of local food capacity in Southeastern Minnesota,” was published March 21, 2014 in the journal, Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems.
Current Second Phase Foodshed Analysis Research

Building on the first phase of the foodshed mapping analysis and the household food expenditures research of the SEFPI, the second phase of the foodshed analysis will provide a representative regional diet based on translated economic data, describe foodsheds for population centers in the region based on this representative diet, and identify potential economic benefits of utilizing surplus agricultural land for commodity crops.

Food for Thought

Can environmentally sensitive land be taken out of production while still meeting the needs of SE Minnesota's populations? Can a food surplus in the SE be distributed across the state so all Minnesotan's can be fed by Minnesota grown foods?

https://netfiles.umn.edu/users/tegtm003/www/SE%20MN%20FoodSys%20Research/SEFPI/Foodshed%20Analysis/

Research Team

Foodshed Analysis

David Mulla - Professor, U of M Soil, Water and Climate
Jacob Galzki - Research Fellow, U of M Soil, Water and Climate
Joel Nelson - Information Technology, U of M Soil, Water and Climate
Food System Change Approaches

**Brief Description of the Project**
Various methods of studying and implementing change in regional food systems have strengths and weaknesses depending on how and where they are carried out. These methods are being tested in Universities, governments and organizations around the US and there is a great deal we can learn from these endeavors.

**Goal**
The goal of this part of the initiative is to explore existing approaches to foodshed analysis and food systems planning in the US, identify best practices in re-regionalizing foodsheds and recommend future strategies for policy and program efforts in Southeast Minnesota.

https://netfiles.umn.edu/users/tegtm003/www/SE%20MN%20FoodSys%20Research/SEFPI/FoodSysChangeApproaches/

**Research Team**

**Food System Change Approaches**
Clara McConnell - former graduate student, U of M Public Policy
Margaret Adamek, PhD - owner/principal at Terra Soma

Cover, Methods and Approaches to Food System Change
Clara McConnell
Food System Perspectives Survey

The Food System Perspectives Survey assesses the way people understand the current food system in Southeast Minnesota compared to what their ideal food system would be. Opportunities for cooperation across different perspectives on food systems are sometimes hampered by failures of understanding. Frameworks that facilitate interaction across differences may help develop mutual understanding and a greater sense of continuity and collective action as groups work to build regional coalitions.

The Food System Perspectives Survey was designed by:
- Reviewing key documents relating to past Southeast Minnesota food systems work
- Identifying a comprehensive set of food systems goals and motives
- Using these statements to ask –
  - What are the problems that different actors think regional food systems could successfully address?
  - How do they think their food systems could address these problems?

In the survey, participants:
- “Q-sort” statements about what the regional food system currently does and what it could do in an ideal future
- Drag statement cards into “piles” that represent how well each statement describes the food system
- Sort these statements two times –
  - Stage 1-How well do you think each of these statements describes the current food system?
  - Stage 2-How well does each of these statements describe your ideal food system?

By requiring participants to prioritize statements, the sorting process:
- Helps show how different profiles of food system goals and values vary
- Provides opportunity for conversation about tensions between different food system representations
- Helps diverse actors negotiate alliances

https://netfiles.umn.edu/users/tegtm003/www/SE%20MN%20FoodSys%20Research/SEFPI/FoodSysPerspectivesSurvey/

A snapshot of some of the Q-sort cards used in The Food System Perspectives Survey
A Technical Field Report on Food System Perspectives

SE food system perspectives are also examined in a technical field report titled, Exploring Minnesotans’ Thoughts on the Food System: Where We Are and Where We Would Like to Be, by Molly Turnquist, a master’s degree student at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. Although Turnquist’s research is not a direct project of the SEFPI, her Minnesota State Fair hangtag exhibit/survey in the EcoExperience building was informed by ongoing research of the SEFPI, and contributes to the work of the SEFPI by providing an opportunity for testing aspects of research on a larger scale.

The main purpose of Turnquist’s project was to assess the perceptions and knowledge of Minnesotans about the food system, to inform Renewing the Countryside of ways they can better engage Minnesota State Fair visitors in learning about and participating in a healthy, local, and sustainable food system. Renewing the Countryside is a non-profit organization that works to support sustainable food systems in Minnesota.

Research Team

Food System Perspectives Survey

Valentine Cadieux - U of M Research Associate in Sociology and Geography, Environment and Society

Jerry Shannon - U of M graduate student, Geography, Environment, and Society (now Assistant Professor University of Georgia)

Jacob Overgaard - former U of M graduate student, Horticulture and now Extension

Natalie Ross - former U of M graduate student, Landscape Architecture

Alicia Lazzarini - U of M graduate student, Geography, Environment, and Society

Eduard Krakhmalnikov, U of M graduate student, Design

Ruth Styles, U of M undergraduate student, Geography, Environment, and Society

Maria Frank, U of M undergraduate student, Food Science and Nutrition

Molly Turnquist, U of M graduate student, School of Public Health
Local Foods Landscape

Data sets of crops, producers, processors, and retailers were compiled into a cohesive regionally-scaled database of maps and tables for a 22-county study area of SE Minnesota, SW Wisconsin, and NE Iowa. Counties included:

- Dodge, Minnesota
- Fillmore, Minnesota
- Freeborn, Minnesota
- Goodhue, Minnesota
- Houston, Minnesota
- Mower, Minnesota
- Olmsted, Minnesota
- Rice, Minnesota
- Steele, Minnesota
- Wabasha, Minnesota
- Winona, Minnesota
- Allamakee, Iowa
- Howard, Iowa
- Mitchell, Iowa
- Winneshiek, Iowa
- Worth, Iowa
- Buffalo, Wisconsin
- LaCrosse, Wisconsin
- Pepin, Wisconsin
- Pierce, Wisconsin
- Trempealeau, Wisconsin
- Vernon, Wisconsin

USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service/Census of Agriculture data were compiled, aggregated and simplified for quick-reference viewing for crops and livestock by county. The producer dataset created by Annalisa Hultberg for the mapping project housed at http://localfoods.umn.edu/find was updated and augmented. Retail venues of cooperative grocers and farmers markets were identified for the study area, as were processing facilities based on state licensing data.

SEFPI Tables
https://netfiles.umn.edu/users/tegtm003/www/SE%20MN%20FoodSys%20Research/SEFPI/ProductionData/

SEFPI Maps
https://netfiles.umn.edu/users/tegtm003/www/SE%20MN%20FoodSys%20Research/SEFPI/Maps/

Research Team

Local Foods Landscape
Grace Wilson - former graduate student, U of M Applied Plant Sciences
Szilvia Hosser-Cox - BS, U of M Environmental Science, Policy and Management
Wayne Martin - Assistant Extension Professor Alternative Livestock Systems Specialist, U of M Extension
Steve Roos - Senior Research Fellow, U of M Center for Rural Design
Paul Porter - Professor, U of M Agronomy/Plant Genetics
Outreach & Education

**Materials** from field trips to food hubs in Decorah, IA and Viroqua, WI; meeting presentations, newsletters, and other educational outreach.

https://netfiles.umn.edu/users/tegtm003/www/SE%20MN%20FoodSys%20Research/SEFPI/OutreachEducation/

*Logic Model presented during field trip to Fifth Season Cooperative*

The coop is located in the Food Enterprise Center — a food hub in Viroqua, WI
Other Food System Reference Materials

**A wide variety** of local, regional, and national food system resources collected while planning and implementing the SEFPI.


Food Assessment Research—Carleton College graduate Lindsay Guthrie was involved with trying to develop a food hub in California and create a local food product for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). The resulting Food Assessment Research document offers links to food hub models and tools, mostly in California. [https://docs.google.com/a/umn.edu/document/d/130DQXxjRFv2TBOGA4j4yPsSPeS7rmNMXu6ASFWeY4dM/edit#heading=h.8z9r2tm9762](https://docs.google.com/a/umn.edu/document/d/130DQXxjRFv2TBOGA4j4yPsSPeS7rmNMXu6ASFWeY4dM/edit#heading=h.8z9r2tm9762)

A list of food assessment questions resulted during a Carleton Food Alliance discussion about Carleton’s relationship to community food system resilience. Each section/question could inspire a research project or thesis. Community Food System Resilience Questions: [https://docs.google.com/a/umn.edu/document/d/1NyjU67NQGfRJ7DZ51iote-cXtb8P9KoRajPd_6ils/edit#heading=h.g0iq8h28prrx](https://docs.google.com/a/umn.edu/document/d/1NyjU67NQGfRJ7DZ51iote-cXtb8P9KoRajPd_6ils/edit#heading=h.g0iq8h28prrx)

Food Assessment Data Sets—Health inequities and regional food access profile data for Southeast and South Central Minnesota are available from Regional Food Access Profiles that were conducted across Minnesota in November 2012-13 by Extension Educators as part of the statewide Community Transformation initiative for Healthy Eating, in collaboration with MN Dept. of Health. Data were collected from existing secondary sources; thus should be used to broadly understand the issues rather than to make specific plans about an intervention or program. [http://www1.extension.umn.edu/family/health-and-nutrition/for-professionals/healthy-food-access/](http://www1.extension.umn.edu/family/health-and-nutrition/for-professionals/healthy-food-access/)

Food Systems Sourcing graphic. University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships. [https://netfiles.umn.edu/users/tegtm003/www/Metadoc%20Other/FoodSystemSourcing.png](https://netfiles.umn.edu/users/tegtm003/www/Metadoc%20Other/FoodSystemSourcing.png)


Eastern Seaboard local food potential analysis. A Multifaceted Focus on Farms and Food [http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/sep09/farms0909.htm](http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/sep09/farms0909.htm)


Hunger-Free Minnesota—Data analysis tool a community can use to determine how many meals its hungriest residents are missing and in which census tracts they reside: http://www.hungerfreemn.org/community-close-data-analysis


Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food Compass: Learn how USDA resources can support local food systems: http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=KYF_COMPASS


Local Foods website, University of Minnesota. A snapshot of the local foods landscape in Minnesota, 2008-2009. The map is the result of collaboration among the U of M Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Land Stewardship Project, Minnesota Project and several students and researchers, including graduate students (at the time) Annalisa Hultberg and Yaling Huang, and S. Andrew Sheppard. http://localfoods.umn.edu/


North Central Regional Center for Rural Development (NCRCRD). http://ncrcrd.msu.edu/

Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development, Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences. http://aese.psu.edu/nercrd
Obesity Data—Find the latest statistics on adult and childhood obesity in the United States:
http://www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/index.html

http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs10460-007-9084-y


http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayAbstract?fromPage=online&aid=4290528&fulltextType=RA&fileId=S1742170508002457


http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayAbstract?fromPage=online&aid=1091328


http://jpe.sagepub.com/content/23/4/356.abstract


San Francisco Foodshed Report


http://www.sustainableseattle.org/images/Programs/LocalFoodEconomyStudyLFE%20REPORT%20FINAL-2.pdf
Snohomish County in Washington - foodshed analysis work
http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/County_Services/Focus_on_Farming/agsustainability.htm


Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, Agricultural Sustainability Institute at UC Davis.
http://www.sarep.ucdavis.edu/


University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems, study of distribution models.
http://www.cias.wisc.edu/distribution-models-for-local-food/