

Participating Organizations*

Buy Fresh Buy Local (Iowa)
Cedar Valley RC&D
Crossroads Resource Center
Drake University Agricultural Law Center
Farm Fresh, Local Harvest Food Alliance
Golden Hills RC&D
Hometown Harvest of Southeast Iowa
Iowa Community Vitality Center
I-Food
Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship
Iowa Department of Public Health
Iowa Department of Transportation
Iowa Farm Bureau Federation
Iowa Farmers Union
Iowa Great Lakes Local Foods Network
Iowa Network for Community Agriculture
Iowa Valley RC&D
ISU Center for Transportation Research and Education
ISU College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
ISU College of Business
ISU Extension
Johnson County Local Food Alliance
Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture
Limestone Bluffs RC&D
Marshalltown Community College
Northeast Iowa Farm and Food Coalition
Northern Iowa Food and Farm Partnership
Northwest Iowa Regional Local Foods System
Pathfinders RC&D
Practical Farmers of Iowa
Prairie Winds RC&D
Prairie Rivers RC&D
South-Central Iowa Area Partnership
Southwest Iowa Food & Farm Initiative
University of Northern Iowa
Wallace Foundation
Washington County Economic Development
Webster City Area Economic Development
Women, Food and Agriculture Network

* Many Iowa farmers also participate in this working group.

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Photos contributed by Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture staff and Regional Food Systems Working Group participants.

REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS WORKING GROUP



Mission

The Regional Food Systems Working Group supports education, conducts research and facilitates partnerships to increase investment and support of community-based, economically sustainable and environmentally and socially responsible regional food enterprises.

Value Chain

Partnerships

*An Iowa-Based Network for Food
and Agriculture Working Groups*



REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS WORKING GROUP

About Our Group

- We offer a collaborative environment for a diverse group of farmers, community leaders, and non-profit, government, and private organizations to share resources and support.
- We work to maximize the potential for community-based, economically sustainable, and environmentally and socially responsible regional food enterprises by supporting education, conducting research, and facilitating partnerships.

What is a Regional Food System?

A regional food system supports long-term connections between farmers and consumers while helping to meet the health, social, economic and environmental needs of communities within that region. Producers and markets are linked via efficient infrastructures that:

- promote environmental health;
- provide competitive advantages to producers, processors and retailers;
- encourage identification with a region's culture, history and ecology; and
- share risks and rewards equitably among all partners in the system.

Helping Build Vibrant and Sustainable Regional Food Systems in 14 Areas of Iowa

- Flavors of Northwest Iowa:** Working in Cherokee, Ida, Monona, Plymouth, Sioux, and Woodbury counties
- Iowa Great Lakes Local Foods Network:** Working in Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, O'Brien, Osceola, and Palo Alto counties
- Northeast Iowa Food & Farm Coalition:** Working in Allamakee, Chickasaw, Clayton, Howard, Fayette, and Winneshiek counties
- Northern Iowa Food & Farm Partnership:** Working in Benton, Bremer, Black Hawk, Buchanan, Butler, Grundy, and Tama counties
- Southwest Iowa Food & Farm Initiative:** Working in Audubon, Cass, Fremont, Guthrie, Harrison, Mills, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie, and Shelby counties
- Southern Iowa Regional Food Systems:** Working in Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Guthrie, Ringgold, Taylor, and Union counties
- South-Central Iowa Area Partnership:** Working in Appanoose, Clarke, Decatur, Lucas, Madison, Monroe, Union, Warren and Wayne counties
- Harvest from the Heart (COMIDA):** Working in Marshall County

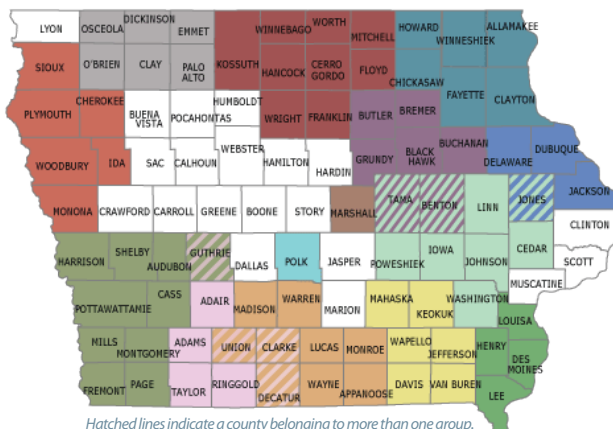


Photo courtesy USDA

- Hometown Harvest of Southeast Iowa:** Working in Davis, Jefferson, Keokuk, Mahaska, Van Buren, and Wapello counties
- Dubuque Eats Well:** Working in Delaware, Dubuque, Jackson and Jones counties
- Iowa Corridor Food and Agriculture Coalition:** Working in Benton, Cedar, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn, Poweshiek, Tama and Washington counties
- North Central Iowa Local Food Partnership:** Working in Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Kossuth, Mitchell, Winnebago, Worth and Wright counties
- Healthy Urban Food and Farming Group:** Working in Polk county
- Great River Food Alliance of Southeast Iowa Inc.:** Working in Des Moines, Henry, Lee and Louisa Counties

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