Local Food Systems Planning

WUPPDR REGIONAL IMPACT

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE CC,
APRIL 18, 2020
“We are a community of hard workers and innovators, independent in nature yet always willing to lend a hand to a neighbor.”

- WUPFSC 2018/2019 ANNUAL REPORT
Introduction
Local Food Systems

- Definition
- Place-based definition
- Relevance to regional planning
What does a healthy food system in the Western U.P. look/taste/feel like?

Variety
Diversity of people, young, old, all races, backgrounds, involve all family

Nurturing
Playful foods for kids

Nutritious + delicious
Sustainable independent less waste less waste more nutrition

Clean water
Healthy soil
25% fresh local food in schools/hospitals/daycares

Convenient accessible
More space for community gardens

Heathier to take advantage of all season

Eating foods in season
Localized meat
Wild game

Edible landscaping
Local food economies

Collaborate sharing
Regenerative lead waste no pollution

Increased storage
Sustainable
Sensory

Inclusive
Equitable and fair

Agronomics
Aquaponics

Expanded processing capacity
Year-round markets
Season extension

Connected
People of all ages

Senses
Question
Local Food System Stakeholders
What does WUPPDR do?

• Community Food Assessments & Mapping
• Technical Assistance to small businesses & their markets
• Western UP Food Systems Website
• Community engagement & workshops
• Project management & grant writing
• Presence on local, regional, & state level committees with food system leaders
• Policy recommendations & public document integration
• Partnership with Universities & funding agencies allows for expanded capacity
Current and Past Grants (Projects)

**Michigan Health Endowment Fund** (Community garden infrastructure, and foraging/gardening workshops)

**Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development** (Therapeutic Horticulture at the Barbara Kettle Gundlach Shelter Home and a culinary garden at Horizons Alternative School)

**Michigan Local Food Council Network** (Community meetings, website, workshops, & local food purchasing)

**Regional Prosperity Initiative** (UP Brew Trail & Western U.P. Food Systems Initiative)

**Seed Savers Exchange** (Portage Lake District Seed Library)

**UP Food Exchange** (Western U.P. Annual Food Summit)

**Michigan Tech, Pavlis Honors College** (Community Ambassadors Story Mapping Project)
Getting Involved

Become a local food advocate
Attend events and join a working group
Join the Western UP Food Systems List-serv
Volunteer for your local farmers market or food pantry or building gardens
Share your knowledge with your community!
Contribute by growing and selling your own food (Demand>>Supply)

Rpressley@wuppdr.org
https://www.wupfoodsystems.com/