

# THE CIRCULAR PROVISIONING ECONOMY

## INTRODUCTION

A **circular economy** is a system that is supported by the mindful selection, use, re-use, and re-purposing of materials.

**Provisioning** is the wide range of behaviors that supply our essential materials, primarily food and fiber.

A **circular provisioning economy (CPE)** reclaims and reinvigorates a culture of local and creative community-scale food and fiber supply.

**Participation** in the CPE provides for everyday health and well-being while also securing a community's resilience during extreme and debilitating events.

## PROVISIONING SYSTEM

### Backyard Provisioning



### Farm Provisioning



### Community Provisioning



### Provisioning Support



## ELEMENTS

**Provisioning System** - the circular economy includes households, local farms, and community enterprises.

**Backyard Provisioning** - a small-scale version of the local provisioning system. Occurs in households, where the skills of food preparation and waste reduction celebrate our resilience.

**Farm Provisioning** - regenerative farming revitalizes the soil using compost, no-till, and low-input, often organic, practices. Farm provisioning engages both household and the community within circular provisioning systems.

### Community Provisioning

- **Local food enterprises** - millers, bakers, fermenters, and many others process and preserve the harvest.
- **Local distribution** - includes options beyond the more traditional grocery stores and may include farm stops, farmer's markets, CSA, food co-ops.
- **Large-scale composting**

### Provisioning Support

- **Food pantries** address our concern for well fed neighbors
- **Local organizations** - advocate for local food security.

# SUPPORT THE PROVISIONING ECONOMY IN WASHTENAW COUNTY



## Local seed companies

**Ann Arbor Seed Company**  
[www.a2seeds.com/](http://www.a2seeds.com/)

**Nature and Nurture Seeds**  
[natureandnurtureseeds.com/](http://natureandnurtureseeds.com/)

## Local farms

There are many local farms scattered across Washtenaw County. To search for these use "**Taste the Local Difference**"

Scan to search



## Local food enterprises

The link above can also be used to find local food processors and preservers. Expect more to emerge over the coming decade. One popular example is:

**The Brinery**  
[thebrinery.com/](http://thebrinery.com/)

## Local distribution

Beyond grocery stores, farm stands, farmer's markets, and food hubs there is a Midwest innovation: the **Farm Stop**. These are every-day farmers markets selling directly from farms and producers. Farmers own and price their goods and receive 70% of the selling price (well over the 15% they get at grocery stores).

**Argus Farm Stop**  
1226 Packard, Ann Arbor, MI  
325 West Liberty, Ann Arbor, MI  
[www.argusfarmstop.com/](http://www.argusfarmstop.com/)

**Agricole Farm Stop**  
118 North Main Street, Chelsea, MI  
[www.agricolefarmstop.com/](http://www.agricolefarmstop.com/)

## Food pantries

**Food Gatherers** supports dozens of food pantry partners throughout Washtenaw County.

To volunteer, donate, or search for a pantry scan here



# CIVIC AGRICULTURE

**Civic agriculture** - a growing movement towards local and sustainable food provisioning. It promotes a community's overall physical, social, and economic well-being and is a foundation of green citizenship. Explored by the *Lyson Center for Civic Agriculture and Food Systems*.

**Washtenaw County** is a vibrant example of civic agriculture in action with its system of small-scale farms, food enterprises, markets, organizations, and engaged citizens.

Scan for more info about Civic Agriculture



# LOCAL CLIMATE ACTION PLANS

Ann Arbor's **A2Zero Climate Action Plan** to achieve carbon emissions neutrality by 2030, includes a focus on local and sustainable food provisioning.

Scan for more info about A2Zero



**Washtenaw County** and the **University of Michigan** have climate action plans that focus on sustainable food systems.

Our **environmental footprint** shrinks significantly when we adopt a locally provisioned and plant rich diet. Changing our consumption behavior has both direct, immediate and long-term consequences.

