

21 ACRES



LOCAL FOOD ECONOMIES

Our food system is in jeopardy. Monoculture farming, bottlenecks in far-off supply chains, and climate change is putting our food at risk.

By bolstering the wellbeing of local food economies, from growing to transportation to plate, we can feed our communities and mitigate climate change. We can support local food systems in a variety of ways that contribute to income for farmers, the health of our families, and the wellbeing of our planet.

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Eating Well

[Interview: Sustainable diets: It's not a fantasy](#) | Johns Hopkins University Hub

Climate and food systems are inextricably linked—damage to one leads to damage to the other. But improving one means improving the other, too, says global food policy expert Jess Fanzo.

[New Research Confirms What We Eat Is Central to the Climate Crisis](#) | Civil Eats

A decade after writing a book about agriculture's connection to climate change, Anna Lappé interviews the author of a new study that confirms we can't bring down emissions without addressing the food system.

[Recipes Blog](#) | 21 Acres

Unsure what to do with those collards you got in your CSA box? The 21 Acres blog has many seasonal and local recipes that make it easy to cook and eat local.

[Do you know the carbon footprint of your food choices?](#) | ScienceDaily

Shoppers greatly underestimate the difference their food choices can make to climate change, but they'll favour items with a lower carbon footprint if they're given clear information on the label, according to new research from the University of Technology Sydney and Duke University.

Supporting Local Food

[Find a Farm](#) | Tilth Alliance Farm Guide

Find your next favorite local farm! Browse by location, farm products, and farm features in this Washington area guide.

[King County Local Food Initiative](#) | King County

Launched in 2014, the Executive's Local Food Initiative aims to build a stronger farm-to-plate pipeline by taking bold steps to better connect local farms to consumers, increase access to healthy and affordable foods, protect farmland, and more.

[Support Local Farms](#) | 21 Acres

Farmers who use regenerative practices are sequestering carbon in the soil, using chemical-free growing practices and minimizing the use of heavy equipment thereby limiting emissions and greenhouse gases. The addition of being local means that food doesn't have to be trucked long distances to reach consumers. Taking into account all of these reasons, farmers provide important solutions to addressing climate change.

[Farm Market](#) | 21 Acres

The 21 Acres Farm Market boasts over 100+ local farmers, artisans, picklers, dairies, and more. Come shop local and learn more about local food economies in King County, Washington.

Food Waste

[Research: Reduced Food Waste](#) | Project Drawdown

Roughly a third of the world's food is never eaten, which means land and resources used and greenhouse gases emitted in producing it were unnecessary. Interventions can reduce loss and waste, as food moves from farm to fork, thereby reducing overall demand.

[Research: Material Decomposition: How Long It Takes for Trash to Decompose](#) | SaveOnEnergy

What really happens to the trash we send away, and how long does it take discarded items to decompose once they've been tossed out? We studied everything from paper towels and banana peels to plastic bags and disposable diapers.

Food Products and Supply Chains

[The Food Systems Dashboard is a new tool to inform better food policy](#) | nature food

The Food Systems Dashboard brings together extant data from public and private sources to help decision makers understand their food systems, identify their levers of change and decide which ones need to be pulled.

[Niche Meat Processing](#)

NMPAN is an university Extension-based community of practice of people and organizations helping small meat processors thrive by growing our shared wealth of information and innovation. They offer tools and technical assistance for small processors and the farmers, marketers, and meat buyers who depend on them. NMPAN is housed at Oregon State University.

[Opinion: It's Time to Be Honest about Seafood](#) | Scientific American

If we want to eat sustainably, aquaculture has to be part of the conversation.

[Enabling Climate-Smart Eating: Lessons from Our Carbon-Labeling Journey](#) | Sustainable Brands

Food choices are motivated by everything from emotional triggers to individual dietary needs and social norms. But information is power. The carbon transparency movement is here, and we hope other brands will join us in hastening its spread.

[Research: How Our Food System Affects Climate Change](#) | FoodPrint

Agriculture is a large contributor to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, which are the main driver of climate change. Scientists now predict — and it is already proving true — that there will be extreme shifts in typical weather patterns, like rainfall and temperature. It is also true that climate change poses numerous threats to our current food system, increasing farmers' sense of risk and uncertainty. Shifting our food production system to more sustainable practices will help reduce agriculture's role in climate change and also help make this industry become more resilient and adaptable to ever-changing conditions.

Who to Follow

[Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development](#) | Research and stories from food system workers.

[Civil Eats](#) | Coverage of the most pressing issues in our food system news.

Questions? Contact Us.

Have an idea? We want to connect with you about climate solutions. Reach out to us by email:
generalinfo@21acres.org.