



2015 Homegrown Minneapolis Highlights



Homegrown Minneapolis
healthy food. healthy city.

Homegrown Minneapolis is a citywide initiative started in December 2008 by the City of Minneapolis to expand the community's ability to grow, process, distribute, eat and compost more healthy, sustainable, locally grown foods. The initiative brings together key partners from local government, area businesses, community organizations, non-profits and residents to build a healthy local food system.

Food system snapshots

In 2015 Minneapolis hosted:

38 farmers markets and mini-markets

95 food trucks

275 community gardens

More than **15** urban farms

1 mobile grocery store

3 incubator kitchens

265 chicken coops

83 beekeepers

Increased healthy food access

- Led efforts resulting in new policies allowing lease of City lots for market gardens and urban farms, adding 43 new vacant City parcels for lease, providing pollinator protection for City-leased lots and reducing lease fees for community gardens.
- Leased 50 vacant City lots for community gardens.
- Launched map of privately and publicly owned vacant Minneapolis parcels.
- Contributed to passage of amended Minnesota Seed Law, allowing for operation of seed libraries and interpersonal seed exchange.
- Updated City's standard for measuring healthy food access.

Supported food business development

- Contributed to revision of Minnesota's cottage food law, significantly increasing the amount of qualifying food products that can be sold. (*Also known as the Pickle Bill*).
- Hosted a community supported agriculture (CSA) program for City employees in partnership with three local farms.
- Surveyed and reported on local food hubs.

Improved the environment for pollinators and plants

- Contributed to passage of Pollinator Friendly City resolution, limiting pesticide usage on City property.
- Provided compost to 68 community gardens in partnership with Gardening Matters and the Solid Waste and Recycling Department.

Recognized for food system action

- First and second prizes in national food policy photo contest in partnership with Appetite for Change and West Broadway Farmers Market.
- Finalist for Environmental Initiative Food Stewardship award.
- Included in Food Trust's national "Good Food Organization" list.
- Profiled for national "Cities of Innovation" report and webpage.

Facilitated community engagement

- Hosted a community open house with more than 250 people in attendance.
- Distributed a monthly electronic newsletter to more than 2500 people.
- Facilitated conversations about healthy food access, land access, food business development and chicken policy and represented Homegrown Minneapolis at numerous community events.

2015 Members Include: Alison Babb • Patty Bowler • Ginger Cannon • Omari Chatman • Andrew Dahl • Beth Dooley • Erick Garcia Luna • Cam Gordon Pakou Hang • Russ Henry • Zoe Hollomon • Kristine Igo • Katie Lampi • Bob Lind • DeVon Nolen • Andrea Northrup • Jillia Pessenda • Jesus Perez Gayle Prest • Roee Reinberg • Aaron Reser • Sammie Ardito Rivera • Hashep Seka • Rhys Williams

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