

Working Together to Build a Strong Local Food System

Below is a partial list of active volunteer-run, non-profit groups in York County with a mission that supports efforts to build a strong local food system. For more information about an individual organization or to offer your time and talents, please refer to the contacts provided below.

York County Buy Fresh Buy Local® Chapter



The mission of the York County Buy Fresh Buy Local® chapter is to connect the people of York County to locally produced food and farm products. We do this through two approaches: 1) Public information and education about where to find locally-grown products, and why it's a great idea to do so; and 2) Collective promotion of our Partners who have made a commitment to support farms in York County.

This year the chapter hopes to expand promotional efforts by collaborating more closely with health care, local employers and schools. BFBL activities are coordinated by a group of dedicated volunteers. The chapter needs additional volunteers to promote the “buy fresh - buy local” concept and expand the farm to institution activities in York County.

Please note that there is an immediate need for a volunteer(s) to assist with social media activities. For more information, go to: www.buyfreshbuylocalyork.com. To contact a chapter representative, call 717-814-8141 or send an email to yorkbfbl@yahoo.com.

Food Availability Task Force

In 2009 a broad-based group of community organizations formed the Food Availability Task Force (FATF) in response to issues raised during a community summit on childhood obesity. The FATF has since evolved to include three committees (Community Gardens, Food Distribution Network, and Food Policy) that support the following vision and mission:

Vision- A healthier York (County) sustained by partnerships and opportunities that empower people to make affordable and healthier food choices.

Mission- The Food Availability Task Force fosters progressive initiatives that create community change, establish strategic partnerships and educate York (County) residents about accessing and consuming nutritious foods.

The Food Availability Task Force is open to new members and meets the second Thursday of every month from 9 - 10:30 a.m. at WellSpan Health's Community Health Improvement office. For additional information, call Joe Anne Ward-Cottrell at 717-851-3231 or send an email to: mwardcottrell@wellspan.org.

The Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education



Located in beautiful Hellam Township, Pennsylvania, The Horn Farm Center is fulfilling their mission to bring people together to directly experience sustainable agriculture, promote the rich heritage of our lands, and to make known the fundamental importance of local agriculture to the health and well-being of our community, our economy, and our environment.

Horn Farm Center offers many opportunities to participate in and experience hands-on multiple aspects of our educational operations, including gardening projects, agricultural-related events, and guided tours of our historical farms.

For a fulfilling, fun volunteer opportunity within our community call 717-757-6441 or send an email to info@hornfarmcenter.org.

Spoutwood Farm Center



The Spoutwood Farm mission is to help people come alive to nature all around us as well as to our own creative natures. The center hosts open houses at their observatory, manages a community supported agriculture (CSA) garden and is dedicated to various educational programs for young people.

Spoutwood Farm Center is the first regional sponsor of Family Cook Productions' Teen Battle Chef program; and also serves as a regional hub to train Teen Battle Chef instructors. The goal of the Teen Battle Chef program is to empower youth ages 10 – 16 to become ambassadors for healthy eating through participation in hands-on cooking activities. During an eight session program teams of young chefs learn culinary skills, nutrition, team work and leadership as they make and taste delicious multicultural recipes and present their finished products in the weekly "food battles." Teen Battle Chefs can go on to lead food demonstrations at community events and farmers' markets.

Spoutwood Farm Center seeks to enlist businesses and/or community youth organizations to sponsor additional Teen Battle Chef programs throughout the county. For more information on becoming trained and certified to lead a Teen Battle Chef program contact Rob Wood, owner of Spoutwood Farm, at 717-235-6610 or at spoutwood@comcast.net.

Transition Town York PA

The Transition Town vision is that every community in the United States has engaged its collective creativity to unleash an extraordinary and historic transition to a future beyond fossil fuels; a future that is more vibrant, abundant and resilient; one that is ultimately preferable to the present.

As a life-affirming response to living in a rapidly changing world, Transition York PA seeks to consciously build a community where all people thrive while reducing reliance on fossil fuels, striving for food and resource self-sufficiency and strengthening relationships with each other and with nature.

Join a "Transition Meet-ups" the 1st Friday each month at Central Market, Philadelphia St. entrance at 7:00pm or find us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Transition-York/129605233785320>.