



MINNEAPOLIS FOOD SYSTEM: AN OVERVIEW



Activities across all stages of the food system shape how people obtain healthy food. This includes producing food; processing and preparing food for sale or distribution; the availability and accessibility of food outlets; minimizing and recycling surplus waste; and composting. These activities are in turn impacted by state and local laws and systems.



Adapted from: Minnesota Food Charter
<http://mnfoodcharter.com/the-charter>

Food system definitions can vary widely. The following definitions provide a framework for understanding how Minneapolis regulates different parts of the food system.



Source: Appetite for Change

What is the Food System?



Produce

Growing, raising, and harvesting food — including plants, animals, and pollinators.



Process

Turning fresh produce (vegetables/fruit), honey, meat, fish, and other raw products into minimally processed or value-added products for consumers. This includes minimal processing, such as cutting carrots into strips; value-added processing that changes the form of the product, such as making berries into jam; and packaging.



Distribute

Aggregating, transporting and delivering food to wholesale, retail, institutional, and other food access points (such as food banks/shelves and meal programs).



Consume

Ways consumers obtain or access food — through purchase or emergency food distribution or donation. Includes ready-to-eat food and food consumers prepare. Also includes how consumers get to food outlets.



Dispose (Repurpose/Recycle/Compost/Landfill)

Disposal of end products from food system activities. Includes what is left over after each step of the food system — organic matter from food production; packaging from processing and distribution; and unused food and food byproducts (bones, scraps, compost, and left overs).



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