

LOCAL FOODS, LOCAL PLACES: REVITALIZING COMMUNITIES BY GROWING LOCAL FOOD ECONOMIES

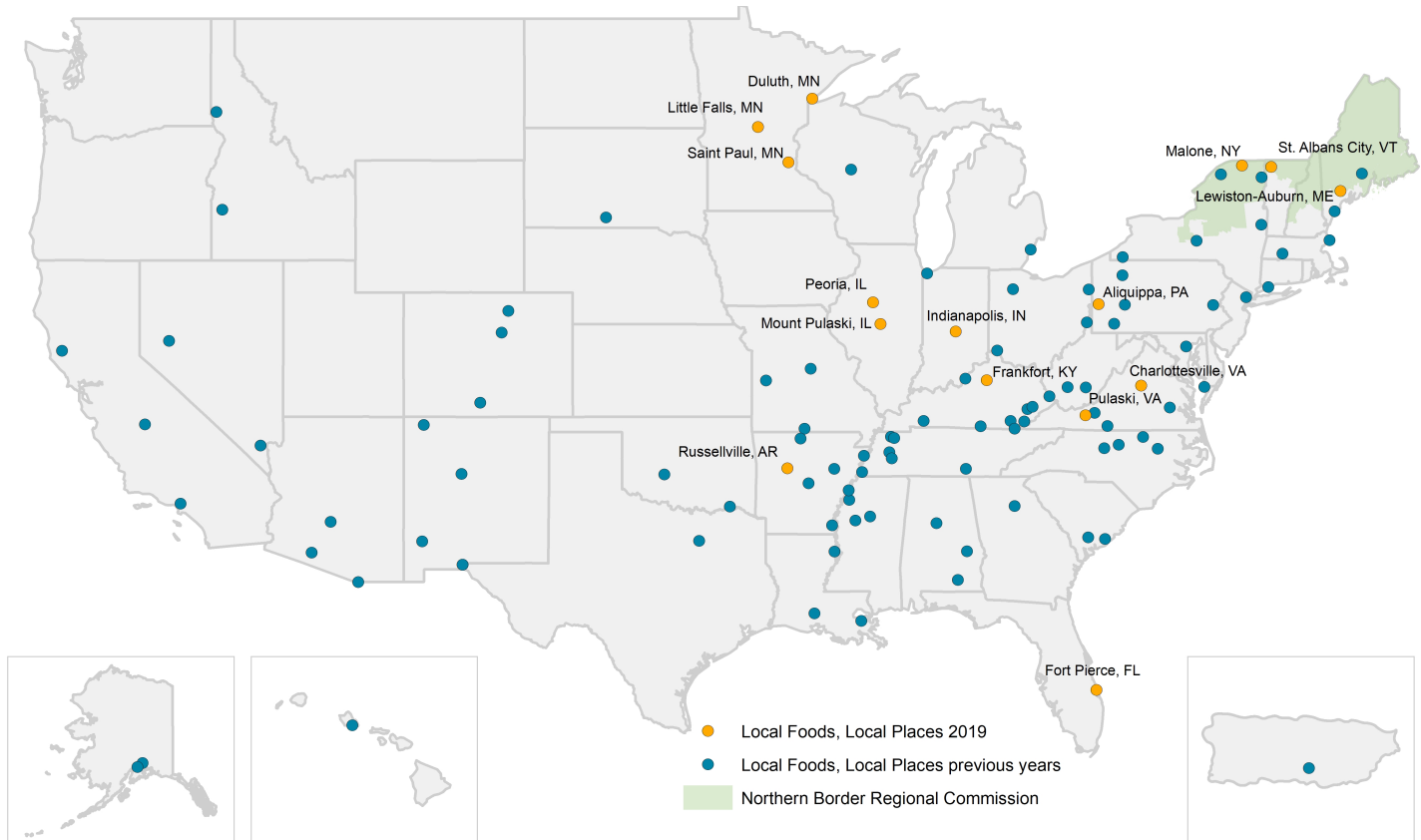
2019 PARTNER COMMUNITIES

MAY 2019

Local Foods, Local Places, established in 2014, helps cities and towns across the country protect the environment and human health by engaging with local partners to reinvest in existing neighborhoods using local food enterprise. Three federal agencies—the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Northern Border Regional Commission—selected 15 communities to participate in **Local Foods, Local Places** in 2019. In each partner community, a team of experts will help community members set goals and plan projects that can boost local economies and drive downtown and neighborhood revitalization. Projects might include farmers markets, local food cooperatives, community gardens, and other food-related enterprises. By promoting better health, a cleaner environment, and stronger economies, Local Foods, Local Places also supports efforts to alleviate poverty and boost wellness among children. In 2019, federal partners are investing more than \$265,000 in **Local Foods, Local Places**.



Local Foods, Local Places 2019



Local Foods, Local Places helps communities create walkable, healthy, economically vibrant neighborhoods through the development of local food systems.

Sources: *Local Foods, Local Places*
U.S. Census Bureau



Arkansas

The city of **Russellville** wants to create a culinary incubator in a former fire station in the Main Street district to support entrepreneurs and revitalize downtown.

Florida

The city of **Fort Pierce** wants to create new opportunities for residents of the historic Lincoln Park neighborhood to access local, healthy food; exercise; and understand the importance of protecting the water quality of Moore's Creek.

Illinois

The **Mt. Pulaski** Economic Development and Planning Board is working to create a local food hub, community food co-op, and a community garden on an underused empty lot to revitalize the downtown business district and support surrounding farms.

As part of the development of both local food and green infrastructure strategies, the city of **Peoria** is exploring the potential development of a Fresh Food Hub as a multipurpose facility aimed at improving health outcomes and creating food-based business opportunities for residents of underserved neighborhoods.

Indiana

In **Indianapolis**, Near East Area Renewal wants to increase access to affordable, healthy food while accelerating economic growth and neighborhood revitalization and putting former industrial spaces to use.

Kentucky

The city of **Frankfort** is seeking assistance to determine the best location for its farmers market and to assess the feasibility of creating a commercial kitchen to increase downtown foot traffic and spur revitalization.

Maine

St. Mary's Nutrition Center in **Lewiston-Auburn** wants to integrate local foods into downtown revitalization and economic development strategies, ensure land use planning can support local agriculture, and connect existing food and agriculture efforts to strengthen food access and create market opportunities for local farmers.



Locating a farmers market on a main street attracts more people and businesses to the area.



High tunnel gardens allow more types of food to grow in a community, extending the growing season and increasing local food sources.



Minnesota

Ecolibrium3 in **Duluth** is working to expand community garden spaces to vacant lots, establish a commercial kitchen for neighborhood residents, and create a year-round, indoor food vendor to further neighborhood revitalization, improve food access, and increase economic activity.

In **Little Falls**, the nonprofit organization Sprout is looking to engage residents in downtown revitalization and economic development opportunities that support the local food economy.

The Asian Economic Development Association in **Saint Paul** is working to open a fresh, local food hall and market in the Little Mekong District to improve access to healthy food, support neighborhood businesses, increase market access for Hmong and other immigrant farmers and minority entrepreneurs, and catalyze new investment that can help fund green infrastructure.

New York

The **Malone** Chamber of Commerce will plan for a new downtown farmers market to increase foot traffic, offer a source of fresh food for residents, and provide a new retail outlet for area farmers.

Pennsylvania

The City of **Aliquippa** Economic Development Corporation is working to improve fresh food access for downtown residents and spur additional investment in the community.

Vermont

The Northwest Healthy Roots Collaborative at Northwestern Medical Center in **St. Albans City** wants to make local food access more equitable while supporting the growth and viability of diversified farming to sustain a strong downtown.

Virginia

The **Charlottesville** Food Justice Network and city of Charlottesville, in partnership with young people, residents, and local urban and rural farmers, are working to develop an integrated plan to advance food equity through affordable food markets and urban agriculture in low-income neighborhoods slated for future development.

The town of **Pulaski** wants to explore how various food access and healthy living programs can contribute to ongoing downtown revitalization, including adaptive reuse of former industrial and manufacturing spaces.



Community gardens improve access to healthy local foods and provide places for children to learn and play.



Trails and walking bridges connect people to different parts of a community, improving accessibility while encouraging healthy activities.

For more information: <https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/local-foods-local-places>