LOCAL FOOD PROVISIONING

FOOD AND THE ANN ARBOR CARBON NEUTRALITY PLAN
The A2Zero plan includes a focus on food provisioning. Our environmental footprint shrinks when we adopt a locally provisioned and plant rich diet. The A2Zero plan envisions that Ann Arborites become progressively healthier, happier, and more sustainable by increasing the amount of local fruits, vegetables, and grains we consume (a2zero.org).

CIVIC AGRICULTURE IN WASHTENAW COUNTY
Civic Agriculture is the movement towards local food provisioning. It promotes a community's overall physical, social, and economic well-being and is the foundation of green citizenship (www.lysoncenter.org). Washtenaw County is a vibrant example of civic agriculture in action with its many small-scale farms, producers, markets, organizations, and enterprises.

FARM STOPS
These are the next generation farmer's market. There is no single name yet given to these enterprises. Call them year-round, every-day farmers markets, or a food consignment shop. They sell locally grown food directly from farms and producers. The farmers own and price their goods and receive about 75% of that selling price (that is well over the 15 cents of every dollar they get at a traditional grocery store). There are a few in Washtenaw County and more coming soon. They are a Midwestern innovation, expanding rapidly and well worth experiencing.

Argus Farm Stop - Packard – 1200 Packard, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, (734) 997-5448
Web: www.argusfarmstop.com
Online food ordering: www.argusfarmstop.com/foodhub
Store Hours: Monday – Friday: 8 am – 7 pm and Saturday/Sunday: 8 am – 6 pm.

Argus Farm Stop - Liberty – 325 West Liberty, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, (734) 213-2200
Web: www.argusfarmstop.com
Store Hours: Monday – Saturday: 7 am – 7 pm and Sunday: 7 am – 6 pm.

Agricole Farm Stop – 118 North Main Street, Chelsea, MI 48118, (734) 562-2840
Web: www.agricolefarmstop.com
Store Hours: 8 am – 6 pm, seven days a week.
COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA)
These allow us to subscribe to the harvest of a certain farm or group of farms to share the risks of farming. In its most basic form a CSA is a way to buy local food directly from a farmer. You purchase a share and receive a box of vegetables, fruit, or other products regularly throughout the growing season. However, joining a CSA is about much more than just a weekly delivery of food. Many of the farms are on land protected by land trusts that purchase the development rights (www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/2021/02/ann-arbor-oks-largest-greenbelt-purchase-in-history-preserving-375-acre-farm.html). Buying your food via a CSA is a way to preserve farmland and helps develop a resilience food system. As the saying goes, “no farms, no food.”

To find local CSAs use the “Taste the Local Difference” website (www.localdifference.org). They also have a guide to what is in season (www.localdifference.org/userfiles/filemanager/3621). A few CSAs are listed below. Many sell their products at Farm Stops and local farmer’s markets.

Brines Farm – (www.facebook.com/BrinesFarm) 6384 Walsh Rd., Whitmore Lake, MI 48189, (734) 926-5463.


Farm at St. Joes – (stjoesfarm.org) 5557 McAuley Dr., Ypsilanti, MI 48197, (734) 712-4667.


Kapnick Orchards – Fruit CSA. (www.kapnickorchards.com) 4245 Rogers Hwy., Britton, MI, (517) 423-7419.

Tantre Farm – (www.tantrefarm.com) 2510 Hayes Rd., Chelsea, MI 48118, (734) 475-4323.

Washtenaw Organic Collaborative – A fascinating group. (washtenaw.locallygrown.net) Includes Baseline Farm, Bird Dog Baking, Brines Farm, Dancer Creek Farm, Little House Homestead, Raindance Organic Farm, Rustic Roots Farm, Slow Farm (and U-Pick), and Warda Patisserie. 4700 Whitmore Lake Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

Whitney Farmstead – (whitneyfarmstead.com) 5525 Jennings Rd., Ann Arbor, MI (Entrance is on Farrell Road around the corner). (Text: 734-845-2240).

FARMER’S MARKETS
A familiar, retail marketplace, usually outdoors, selling foods directly by farmers to consumers. The food available includes produce, fruit, meat, and plants, and occasionally prepared foods and beverages. A few in our area are open year-round. These markets seem quaint and a nostalgic look into our past. In fact, they remain the backbone of the food provisioning system,
a fact rarely covered by the mainstream media. The Covid19 pandemic vividly demonstrated the importance of farmer’s markets and their newest version, the **Farm Stop.**

**Ann Arbor Farmers Market** – 315 Detroit Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (734) 794-6255  
Web: www.a2gov.org/market  
Hours: Open year-round. Wednesday 7 am – 3 pm, Saturday 7am – 3 pm, (January – April, Sat only, 8 am – 3 pm).

**Dixboro Farmer’s Market** – 5221 Church Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48105, (734) 707-1607  
Web: www.dixborofarmersmarket.org  
Hours: Fridays 3 pm – 7 pm, Starts late May, Ends mid-Autumn.

**Pittsfield Township Farmers Market** – 6201 W. Michigan Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48108  
Corner of Platt and Michigan Ave.  
Phone: (734) 822-2121, Market Day cell: (734) 881-7195  
Web: www.pittsfield-mi.gov/farmersmarket  
Hours: Thursday 2 pm – 6 pm, Starts early June, Ends late September.

**Westside Farmers Market** – 2501 Jackson Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, (313) 231-2046  
Web: westsidefarmersmarket.com  
Hours: Thursday 3 pm – 7 pm, Starts early July, Ends early October.

**Ypsilanti Farmers Markets** – 16 S. Washington St, Ypsilanti, MI 48197, (734) 707-1795  
Web: growinghope.net/programs/farmers-markets/ypsilanti  
Hours: Tuesday 3 pm – 7 pm, Saturday 9 am – 1 pm.  
Open-air markets open May-October. The **Ypsi Area Online Market** is open year-round.

**FOOD COOPERATIVES**

A food retail outlet owned by consumers and managed democratically. They are oriented toward service rather than profit. While usually a physical storefront, **Buying Clubs** are an informal version. A half-century ago, food co-ops blossomed in college towns, big cities, and many Midwestern states. They originated as part of a centuries-old **mutual aid** notion. An idea that re-awakened during the Covid19 pandemic (e.g., **Free Little Pantries**, community fridges).

**People's Food Co-op Ann Arbor** – 2016 N. Fourth Ave. Ann Arbor, MI 48198, (734) 994-9174  
Web: peoplesfood.coop  
Hours: 8 am – 8 pm daily

**Ypsilanti Food Co-op** – 312 N. River, Ypsilanti, MI 48198, (734) 483-1354  
Web: ypsifoodcoop.org  
Hours: 10 am – 8 pm daily

**LIST OF WEBPAGE LINKS**

The links referenced are available at [tinyurl.com/A2Zero-SMN-URL](http://tinyurl.com/A2Zero-SMN-URL)

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**A2Zero – Scarlett-Mitchell Neighborhood (SMN)**

Noreen De Young, A2Zero Climate Ambassador  
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