

Maine Food System Stakeholder Survey

What organizations or groups do you think should be involved in the Maine Food Strategy, or other statewide convening groups? For example, you could answer a specific organization, or a general group of people like "farmers." Please write your response in the space below.

Answered 64

Responses

- 1 FARMERS! And they should be paid like the other professionals who are at the table. Then the conversation might go in a meaningful and sustainable direction.
- 2 Business Organizations, like chambers, associations etc, Local community groups like Garden Clubs, Scouts, school systems, food pantries, churches
- 3 farmers, schools, hospitals, prisons, distributors, fisheries
- 4 physicians, public health, social service providers, schools (frontlines of youth hunger and need to source locally), growers/producers, pantries, funders
- 5 Maine Sustainable Agriculture Society
- 6 Policy decision makers
Fundors
- 7 More workers in the fishing and aquaculture industries.
- 8 More farmers! "Boots-on-the-ground" people. Practical considerations like business management, financial strategies, and reducing overhead may not be "sexy" policy discussion, but they get at the heart of what makes long-term farming successful.
- 9 The institutions spending the money on out of state food. Dept of Ag, Corrections, etc.
- 10 organic and small farmers across the state; signature food systems like lobster, blueberries, potatoes, possible four season agriculture in Maine; networks of CSAs; groups educating about nutrient dense food (vs low nutrient big-Ag commodities)

- 11 Food insecure populations, state agencies issues food stamps & SNAP, farmers, food coops
- 12 farmers and food business owners.
- 13 Aquaculture Industry
- 14 Beekeepers
- 15 Somehow include all sectors: farmers, processors, distributors, retailers, restaurants, policy-makers. NGO's do great work but those that are on the ground doing the actual work to make the food system function need to be at the table.
- 16 Aquaculturists
- 17 public, farmers, businesses, funders and organizations
- 18 Public Health Coalitions
- 19 Maine Association of Planners
Maine Science Teachers Association
- 20 farmers, processors, key retailers, key restauranteurs, key institutions.
- 21 Producers from sea and land, Food Councils, Retail Coops and Local food purveyors. Gleaners, composters, community gardens, universities, permaculture movement.
- 22 nonprofits involved in food security efforts
- 23 Farmers, non profits, outreach, educators
- 24 More farmers, more processors
- 25 The Master Gardener program with The University of Maine Cooperative Extension
- 26 MFS needs to engage the breadth of Maine's agriculture and value added food businesses.
- 27 USDA agencies, MOFGA, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Ag Extension offices, Farmers' Market boards, food pantries, food wholesalers and distributors
- 28 Farmers, Emergency Food Providers, Educators, Policy makers, New Americans, Funders
- 29 As many as possible including new mainers
- 30 Good Shepherd Food Bank, Emergency Food Assistance Program,
- 31 We should work on intersectionality and get non-food non-ag, and not The Usual Suspects convening

- 32 Food Councils and their umbrella, engaged participants in the food system from bottom to top.
- 33 farmers and farmers market managers. Restaurateurs and chefs who are committed to sourcing food locally.
- 34 Grocers, Food Producers alliance, CEI, DECD,
35 DK
36 Farmers, buying clubs, seafood folks, etc.
37 More farmers, fishermen, food producers. More people of color.
- 38 Economic Development Councils
39 It is not clear to me if what is being suggested is that there is a MFS...it appeared it was assessing the next step. Confusing.
- 40 The Maine tribes
Cultivating Community
Maine Mobile Health Program
41 I know it's broad but anyone who eats. It's difficult but farmers, fishermen are important sectors and working to get them to the table is important.
- 42 Farmers, processing facilities, "Healthy Maine" communities, state government groups, state level representatives, Chellie Pingree's office, Healthy Acadia, Maine Gleaning Network, Midcoast Hunger Prevention Program, and Full Plates Full Potential.
- 43 State agencies, dept. of ag, etc.
44 farmers and food/ beverage business owners
restaurant owners
SNAP and WIC customers
- 45 co-ops, Ag Extension, state agencies
46 Maine Downtown Network and other economic development organizations throughout the state.
- 47 Farmers, consumers, distributors, food stores, farmer's Markets, politicians, educators, youth
48 Institutions, non-profits dedicated to food security, food banks
- 49 State & Local political Representatives
50 Maine Veterans Farm group, active RC&D groups, conservative groups that share the mission of healthy agricultural systems.
- 51 Hospitals, Healthcare organizations

- 52 Maine Nutrition Council
Plant IQ, Maine Advocates for Plant-based Living
- 53 Farmers, food processors, food distributors.
- 54 everyone who provides food or money on most levels - representation
from all groups/individuals
- 55 farmers, community developers, consumers
- 56 I think including all kinds of farm groups, not necessarily just the ones we
"agree with", would be great.
- 57 Schools
- 58 Fisherman
- 59 Chef organizations, farmers
- 60 <https://www.mainerestaurant.com/>
- 61 farmers, health care organizations, social service organizations
- 62 Farmers, producers, fisherman, value-added producers, food pantries,
food councils, educational institutes, restaurants, government,
distributors, retail food purveyors
- 63 refugee farmers
- 64 Institutional food service buyers. Fishermen.