# THE CIRCULAR Provisioning Economy

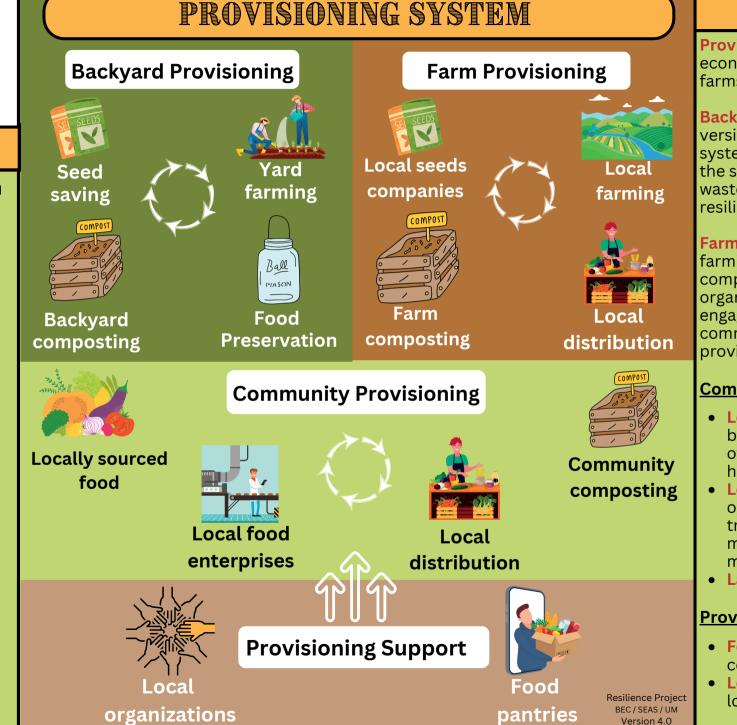
## INTRODUCTION

A **circular economy** is a system that is supported by the mindful selection, use, re-use, and re-purposing of materials.

**Provisioning** is the wide range of behaviors that supply our essential materials, primarily food and fiber.

A circular provisioning economy (CPE) reclaims and reinvigorates a culture of local and creative community-scale food and fiber supply.

Participation in the CPE provides for everyday health and well-being while also securing a community's resilience during extreme and debilitating events.



## ELEMENTS

**Provisioning System -** the circular economy includes households, local farms, and community enterprises.

**Backyard Provisioning** - a small-scale version of the local provisioning system. Occurs in households, where the skills of food preparation and waste reduction celebrate our resilience.

Farm Provisioning - regenerative farming revitalizes the soil using compost, no-till, and low-input, often organic, practices. Farm provisioning engages both household and the community within circular provisioning systems.

#### **Community Provisioning**

- Local food enterprises millers, bakers, fermenters, and many others process and preserve the harvest.
- Local distribution includes options beyond the more traditional grocery stores and may includes farm stops, farmer's markets, CSA, food co-ops.
- Large-scale composting

#### **Provisioning Support**

- Food pantries address our concern for well fed neighbors
- Local organizations advocate for local food security.

## SUPPORT THE PROVISIONING ECONOMY IN WASHTENAW COUNTY



### Local seed companies

Ann Arbor Seed Company www.a2seeds.com/

Nature and Nurture Seeds natureandnurtureseeds.com/

### Local farms

There are many local farms scattered across Washtenaw County. To search for these use **"Taste the Local Difference**"



#### Local food enterprises

The link above can also be used to find local food processors and preservers. Expect more to emerge over the coming decade. One popular example is:

The Brinery thebrinery.com/

### Local distribution

Beyond grocery stores, farm stands, farmer's markets, and food hubs there is a Midwest innovation: the **Farm Stop**. These are every-day farmers markets selling directly from farms and producers. Farmers own and price their goods and receive 70% of the selling price (well over the 15% they get at grocery stores).

#### Argus Farm Stop

1226 Packard, Ann Arbor, MI 325 West Liberty, Ann Arbor, MI *www.argusfarmstop.com/* 

#### Agricole Farm Stop

118 North Main Street, Chelsea, MI www.agricolefarmstop.com/

### Food pantries

Food Gatherers supports dozens of food pantry partners throughout Washtenaw County.

To volunteer, donate, or search for a pantry scan here



**Civic agriculture -** a growing movement towards local and sustainable food provisioning. It promotes a community's overall physical, social, and economic well-being and is a foundation of green citizenship. Explored by the *Lyson Center for Civic Agriculture and Food Systems*.

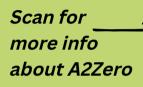
Washtenaw County is a vibrant example of civic agriculture in action with its system of smallscale farms, food enterprises, markets, organizations, and engaged citizens.

Scan for more info about Civic Agriculture



## LOCAL CLIMATE ACTION PLANS

Ann Arbor's **A2Zero Climate Action Plan** to achieve carbon emissions neutrality by 2030, includes a focus on local and sustainable food provisioning.





Washtenaw County and the University of Michigan have climate action plans that focus on sustainable food systems.

Our **environmental footprint** shrinks significantly when we adopt a locally provisioned and plant rich diet. Changing our consumption behavior has both direct, immediate and long-term consequences.

