

Community Conversation

Rappahannock-Rapidan Farm & Food Plan Development



March 30, 2:00-4:00pm
Culpeper Police Department Community Room
740 Brandy Road, Culpeper

The Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission will be holding the first in a series of community conversation sessions to develop a plan for the region's food system. This meeting will include an overview of project findings to date, which established both a quantitative baseline of the conditions in the region's farm and food economy and a sense of stakeholder's challenges and resource needs. We will then begin to delve deeper, through facilitated discussions of key issues. Whether you are a producer or concerned consumer, **you** have a fork at the table.

What is a food system?

A food system is a collaborative network that includes everyone involved in putting food on our tables, whether that table is located in our homes, a restaurant or our kids' cafeteria. This system integrates food production, processing, distribution, consumption and waste management in order to enhance the environmental, economic and social health of the region.

What are the goals of this plan?

The plan will include a community vision for the region's agricultural economy, a detailed list of goals and priority projects for achieving that vision, and indicators for measuring success. Recommended projects may include policy changes, education and marketing programs, publicly funded facilities and opportunities for private investment. By strengthening the local food economy, more local dollars can be retained within the region, while promoting citizens' health, encouraging preservation of local farmland and enhancing farmers' quality of life.

For further information about this project, please visit the Commission's website at www.rrregion.org/foodsystem.html or contact Michelle Edwards at (540) 829-7450/medwards@rrregion.org.

