

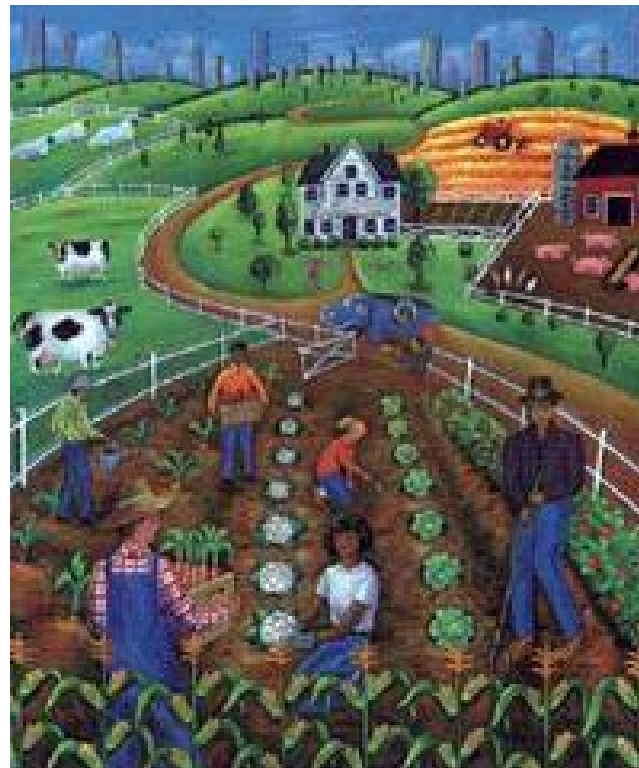
# The Whatcom County Community Food Assessment

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STARTED WITH...

COMMUNITY  
FOOD  
SECURITY  
COALITION



# PROGRAMS AT WSU WHATCOM COUNTY

- Agriculture / Integrated Pest Management
- Home gardening / Master Gardener / Master Composter
- Water Resources / Watershed Masters
- Family Living / Food \$ense / Parenting programs / Master Food Preserver
- 4H / Challenge program



# LINKING...

- Within our office (agriculture and nutrition/family living)
- Between community agencies and organizations:
  - Agriculture
  - Farmworker organizations
  - Health
  - Food security/food justice
  - Planning dept.
  - Education.



# GOALS

- To get a baseline of knowledge of the food system (from farm to fork to food disposal) in Whatcom County
- To have information available for policymakers, public, and potential granting agencies
- To inform agencies and organizations on where the needs are and where we are successful



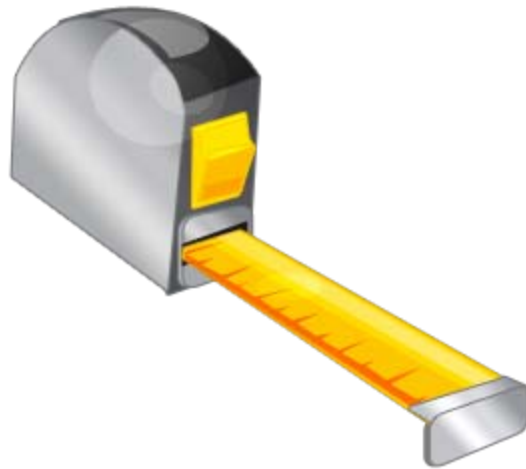
# TIMELINE: WHAT WE'VE DONE SO FAR...

- Initial invited meeting: May 2007
- Training meeting: October 2007
- Steering committee formed: fall 2007
- Planning process: to Fall 2008
  - Developing indicators
- WWU students begin collecting data: Fall 2007, Winter 2008, Spring 2008
- Community Input meeting: February 2008



# WHAT IS AN INDICATOR?

- An indicator is something that indicates, measures, or portrays how or what a community is doing on a particular issue.
- In this case it measures how the Whatcom County food system is operating



# INDICATORS

- Food choices
- Access to food
- Farmer and farmworker livelihoods
- Local food availability
- Sustainable farming practices
- Food and agriculture waste management



# WHERE DATA CAME FROM

- Agriculture and health statistics
- Dot survey
- Interviews



# WHAT'S NEXT FOR WHATCOM CFA?

- Continue to collect information on indicators.
- Produce some web-based documents
- Publicize process and results
- Look at forming a Food Policy Council
  - How can we affect change?
  - What change is needed?
- Are there programs that are needed?

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WSU Whatcom County Extension

Community Food Assessment



*...from field to fork to food disposal*

<http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/cfa/>



# PARTNERSHIPS

- Agencies
- WWU
- Other interested parties
- Including public in the process
  
- Understand what commitments partners are willing to make
- Have people know what is expected of them



# CHALLENGES

- Keeping team motivated
- Getting the project done
- Funding

