

BLOOMINGTON FOOD POLICY COUNCIL
FOOD CHARTER GLOSSARY

Food democracy – A society that empowers its citizens to take an active role in assuring the existence of food security, food literacy, and an efficient, sustainable, and just food system.

Food literacy – To be food literate is to have a basic understanding of the food system and the integrated processes that comprise it and to be able to understand how food choices affect that system as well as personal health, the environment, the economy, and the community.

Food policy – A plan or course of action taken by a government or an organization relating to the food system or any of its component processes.

Food security – According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, “food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.”

Food system – The food system is a series of interlocking processes that combine production, processing, distribution, consumption, and waste recovery. Working together, these processes comprise the complex process through which a population is fed. The food system is the process that food undergoes to reach our plates.

Periurban areas – The land immediately surrounding cities and towns, the preservation of which for potential agricultural uses is essential to the development of a sustainable local food system.