



WASHINGTON STATE
UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION



COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2015

BY THE NUMBERS

In the first month of operation, Kitsap Fresh has 22 food producer members and 53 consumer members. Sales of \$2558 in the first five weeks.

100 professionals from the food system participated in three WSU led courses, training and events since January 2015.

New Position in WSU Kitsap Extension Focusing on Strengthening the Local Food System

ISSUE

The 2012 Census of Agriculture shows alarming trends in Kitsap County, WA with a 24% decrease in the market value of local agricultural products sold since 2007 with 605 farmers earning less than \$10,000, representing 86% of all farms in Kitsap County. Locally sourced foods represent less than one percent of the nearly \$1 billion County residents spend annually in the entire food economy.

RESPONSE

Washington State University Extension is helping to strengthen the local food system by growing the food economy and giving farmers and food businesses the skills they need to thrive. WSU Extension will work to ensure steady and reliable market supply, increase local food demand and purchasing, create supportive food policies, preserve farmland by supporting new and existing farmers and food businesses.

Accomplishments in 2015 include:

- Hosting women in Agriculture Conference
- Hosting Farm to Table Networking workshop
- Offering 13 week business course for farmer & food producers
- Establishment of a year-round, online farmers market called Kitsap Fresh



QUOTES

PARTNERS INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO

Kitsap Community Agriculture Alliance, Kitsap Conservation District, Kitsap Entrepreneurial Center, Kitsap Economic Development Alliance, Kitsap Health District, Olympic College, South Kitsap School District, Cascade Harvest Coalition.

IMPACTS

100% of learners in agriculture business course in 2015 would recommend course to others

100% of learners in agriculture business course in 2015 reported knowledge increased greatly

66% participants at farm to table reported the event valuable to their businesses

93% of participants at the marketing workshop reported being able to better write or update their marketing plan as a result of the workshop

90% of participants at the marketing workshop reported being able to better write a core message for their business