MSU Center for Regional Food Systems

**Mission:** Develop regionally integrated, sustainable regional food systems

**Work:** Michigan Good Food Charter, food access and health, farm to institution, food hubs, food systems planning, organic production and marketing, regional food systems research and outreach

http://foodsystems.msu.edu/

**TODAY’S GOALS**

- **Discover** - Story of food distribution to a rural food deserts
- **Connect** - Spur greater connection and development of sustainable, healthy and local food system
- **Advocate** - Rural Grocery Summit - Manhattan KS, June 9-10
  - Bus from MN, through Ames, to K-State

**REGIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS**

Sustainable Agriculture and Local Food
Farm to School

EXAMPLES OF WHOLESALE GROCERS IN OUR REGION

AFFILIATE FOODS MIDWEST
AFFILIATED FOODS – RETAIL SERVICES

Services Include:
- Expansions and remodels
- New stores
- Operation reviews
- Competitive impact review and response
- P&L reviews
- Budgeting and forecasting
- Loss prevention reviews
- Departmental sales initiatives
- Pricing analysis
- Efficient assortment review
- Retail Improvement Plans
- Store reviews
- Expense and payroll analysis
- Assist in executing merchandising and marketing initiatives
- Assist retailer in implementing department standards
- Food safety and sanitation

STORY OF A GROCERY BASKET

MASON BROTHER WHOLESALE GROCERS
“Established in 1984, Melissa’s/World Variety Produce, Inc. is currently the largest distributor of specialty produce in the United States. With over 1000 items available at any given time, Melissa’s imports and distributes exotic fresh fruits and vegetables from around the globe.”
BYPASS THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
Save the Date
National Rural Grocery Summit
June 9-10, 2014

Join a busload of Minnesota rural grocery stores owners going to Manhattan, Kansas. Multiple pickup points in MN! Travel days June 8 and June 10.

Store owners, concerned citizens, funders, non profits, government agencies, food suppliers, university leaders and businesses leaders will explore ways to strengthen our rural grocery stores and communities. Local grocery stores are vital to America’s rural communities.

Sponsored by
University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships

Thank You for Your Time

Questions?
RSDP.umn.edu
Kathy Draeger 612-625-3148
KDraeger@umn.edu