

Island Food Network Asset Map Layers and Glossary

Food assets are places where people can grow, prepare, share, buy, receive or learn about food. Community organizations, schools and community halls are included on the map because they are places where community members can get support with learning and health or connect with others in their community.

Food Producers	
Grow, raise or wild harvest food products including seafood, livestock, plants and fungi.	
Agriculture Producers and Wild Harvesters	Grow, raise or wild harvest food products, e.g., vegetables, fruit, herbs and flowers, honey and maple syrup, mushrooms.
Seafood Producers	Raise or harvest seafood products, e.g., ground fish, mussels, oysters.
Community Gardens	
A garden area that is open to the public and often managed by non-profit groups, where people grow food and ornamental plants. In most cases the food is for the members who grow the food.	
Producer Resources	
Local sources for the tools and supplies required for the production or harvest of food products.	
Community Pastures	Available for farmers to bring livestock to graze on shared land.
Fisheries Organizations	Dedicated to the sustainable management of fishery resources in a particular region. May provide access to funding or training programs.
Meat Processors	Mobile or permanent site where meat animals are slaughtered and/or processed, sometimes including the packaging of processed meat products.
Agriculture Organizations or Associations	Support producers or the development of sustainable agriculture and agri-business industries that contribute to the economic, environmental and social prosperity of Nova Scotia. May provide access to funding or training programs.
Seafood Processors	Site where seafood products are packaged and/or processed for sale.
Agriculture Inputs and Equipment Suppliers	Local sources for for the tools and supplies required for the production of agricultural products.
Value Added Food Producers	
Make products from raw ingredients. Some or all ingredients are sourced from food producers on Cape Breton Island.	

Where to Buy Local Food	
Places that sell or distribute food to consumers that have a mandate to source some or all of their products or ingredients from Cape Breton Island.	
Farmers' Markets	Seasonal and year-round markets with vendors that sell fresh fruits and vegetables, fish and other locally produced foods.
Retail Stores or Stands	Permanent or seasonal businesses committed to selling locally produced foods.
Restaurants, Cafes or Food Trucks	Prepare and serve food to customers, and are committed to sourcing local products where possible, e.g., The Bite House menu is based on seasonally available local foods.
Food Hubs	Connect local producers with local consumers by facilitating the aggregation, storage, processing, distribution, and/or marketing of locally/regionally produced food products
Food and Garden Education Programs	
Educational programs that help individuals build skills and knowledge in cooking, preserving, growing or harvesting food.	
Cooking Programs	Workshops or classes that help individuals learn food skills, e.g., skills training programs, canning, and cultural cooking.
Garden Programs	Provide demonstration gardening and other environmental education programs to encourage the involvement of community members in gardening activities, including schools and youth groups.
Wild Harvest Programs	Education or outreach activities that include wild harvesting local food products, e.g. Membertou Youth Club ice fishing program.
Schools	
Public and private P-12 and post-secondary education facilities.	
Preschool	Offers early childhood education to children before they begin compulsory education at primary school.
Public School	A provincially funded school for grades primary-12.
Private School	An alternative to public school education. May have specific philosophical, religious or educational approach. Most schools charge a fee for students to attend independent or private schools.
Post-secondary School	Any education beyond high school, e.g., college
Mi'kmaw Band Operated Schools	Schools in Mi'kmaw communities for primary-12, training and adult education.
Community Organizations	
Organizations that deliver food programming, feed the public or clients on a regular basis and/or are decision-makers on food policy.	
Healthcare Facilities	A facility with medical or nursing services, inpatient or outpatient care and other health-related services, e.g. hospital, community health centre or assisted living facility.

Food Banks	Non-profit, charitable organization that distributes food, typically basic provisions and non-perishable items, free of charge to people in need. A current list of food banks can be found at Feed Nova Scotia https://www.feednovascotia.ca/find-food
Community Centres and Halls	Community Centres focus on recreational, social, and cultural activities for all residents. They offer programs to stay fit, learn new skills, and meet new friends with activities in fitness, arts and crafts, culture, dance, swimming, skating, child care, and more.
Family Place	A not-for-profit, charitable organization that offers programs and services to families and caregivers with young children, from birth to age 5 or 6.
Youth Organizations	Youth organizations focus on recreational, social, and cultural activities for folks 5-18 years of age.
Garden Clubs	An organized group of people with a shared interest in gardening, gardens, and plants.
Service Organizations	A voluntary non-profit organization where members meet regularly to perform charitable works either by direct hands-on efforts or by raising money for other organizations.
Community Outreach Organizations	Work to improve the quality of life for community residents. Organizations may have a specific ecological, health, or service mandate.
Community Health Boards	CHBs help to support many community-based projects and partnerships including providing grants to support projects focused on health promotion and the social determinants of health.
Community Economic Development Organizations	Support the social, recreational and economic development of the region.
Recreation Facility	Facilities constructed for the common enjoyment of residents including parks, swimming pools, tennis courts, trails and so on.
Municipal Governments	Local council authority that provides local services, facilities, safety and infrastructure for communities.
Mi'kmaw Band Councils	Elected government of a First Nations band, consisting of a chief and councilors.
Commercial Kitchens	
Kitchens available for use by community members or agencies	
Food Festivals and Events	
Community events where food production, cooking or eating is the core activity.	