

## Food Resources and Nutrition Assistance Programs

If you are in need of food assistance, contact the following resources. These resources are also potential outlets for growers to market or donate local foods. Producers and consumers may contact these providers to find the contact in your area.

### Local Food Pantries:

- For information about food pantry assistance, call the statewide coordinator at 608-267-9071 or contact the TEFAP provider in your county by visiting <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/health/Nutrition/TEFAP/map.htm>
- To locate food pantries in your area you may also call 2-1-1. This is a national non-emergency telephone number developed by United Way that connects people with community services such as job training, employment, food pantries, and much more. To access services in your area call 2-1-1 or (920) 560-3304 or visit <http://www.211.org>
- The University of Wisconsin Family Living Educator in your County to locate food pantries

### Food Share Wisconsin (Food Stamp Program):

Food Share Wisconsin provides food assistance to low-income households by means of a debit card so they can purchase food at retail grocery stores or farmers' markets. It was created to help stop hunger and to improve nutrition and health. Food Share benefits can only be used to buy food and for plants and seeds to grow food for your household.

- For more information about the Food Share Wisconsin program visit <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/foodshare>
- To find an agency in your area call 1-800-362-3002 or visit <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/em/imagencies/index/htm>
- For eligibility requirements visit <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/foodshare/feligibility.htm>
- To apply online for Food Share benefits [visit access.wi.gov](http://visit.access.wi.gov) and click on the "Apply For Benefits" tool

### Senior Nutrition Farmers Market Voucher Program:

This program provides a one-time food benefit per growing season to eligible seniors. Each family receives checks that are redeemed at local farmers' markets from June through October. For more information call the state coordinator at 609-261-8867 or your local Aging Resource Center to see if this program is offered in your county. For more information visit this site.

<http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/WIC/Fmnp/senior.htm>

### Summer Food Service Program:

Summer Food Service programs provide meals to low-income children in conjunction with educational, recreational or enrichment programs during the summer when children don't have access to school meals.

- For more information about participating in the Summer Food Service program or becoming

a sponsor call (608) 266-7124 or visit <http://dpi.wi.gov/fns/sfsp1.html>

### **WIC (Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children):**

WIC provides supplemental nutritious foods, nutrition and breastfeeding information, and referral to other health and nutrition services for women, infants, and children under the age of five.

- For more information about WIC call 1-800-722-2295 or visit <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/wic/index.htm>
- To find a WIC clinic in your area visit <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/wic/localproject/cliniclocations.htm>

### **WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)**

The WIC FMNP provides a one-time food benefit per growing season to WIC families. Each family receives checks that are redeemed at local farmers' markets from June through October. Approximately 1,000 farmers currently participate in this program.

- For more information about WIC FMNP call 1-800-722-2295 or visit <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/wic/Fmnp/fmnp/home.htm>
- To find a farmers' market in your area <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/wic/localproject/cliniclocations.htm>

### **Programs with no guidelines for income eligibility**

#### **SHARE Food Distribution Program:**

SHARE is a nonprofit food buying club which offers good, nutritious products at reduced cost through a volunteer-run, community-based distribution system. There are no income guidelines, membership fees or eligibility requirements. Foods can be chosen online or by a paper order form. Products change every month, but they always include a wide selection of good, nutritious products, such as frozen meats, fresh fruits and vegetables, certified organic produce and other grocery items. SHARE also offers complete family dinner packages for the holidays.

- For more information about the SHARE Food Distribution program call (262) 783-2500 or toll free 1-800-548-2124. Or visit <http://www.sharewi.org>
- To find food distribution locations in your area visit

<http://www.sharewi.org/HostsMap.aspx>

- For an online application form visit <http://www.sharewi.org/join.htm>

**For additional information about nutrition programs offered in your area visit <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/connections> and search by county.**

