



December 9, 2014

Dear Farmer,

We are writing to ask for your sage advice and input. At Fox Haven Organic Farm and Learning Center visitors ask about access to locally grown food. They ask why isn't there more local food for sale in grocery stores, restaurants, and schools? We hope to get answers from farmers in Frederick, Carroll and Washington Counties that will give everyone a better understanding of our region's potential to provide local agricultural products to our markets.

Attached to this letter is a short questionnaire. If you are interested, please answer the questions and return them to us by mail to Fox Haven, 3630 Poffenberger Rd, Jefferson, MD 21755. Alternatively, you can take the survey on-line by entering the following URL into your web browser: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FarmerCFA>

A summary of the survey results and analysis will be made available to the public; *all individual responses will be held in the strictest confidence.*

The survey will run until February 15, 2015, and summary results will be ready shortly thereafter. With your contact information (telephone/email) we will send you notice of the questionnaire summary results presentation and discussion, to be held at Fox Haven Learning Center (anticipated to be) in early March 2015.

We hope that the survey results will help all of us better understand the diversity, strength and potential of our region's ag sector and begin to quantify how many growers have the capacity and desire to meet demand if it is created through a new Food Hub or other aggregation/distribution outlet.

Please contact us if you have questions.

Thank you for taking time to take the survey, and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Fox Haven Organic Farm and Learning Center
Janice and Renee

Food Survey Advisors:

- Anne Bradley, Land Preservation Administrator /Agriculture Economic Development (Frederick County)
- Tony Brusco, Owner, Hometown Harvest
- Mark Eyestone, Producer, Fox Haven Organic Farm LLC (Frederick County)
- Ron Holter, Owner, Holterholm Farms, member Organic Valley Coop
- Veggie Annie Marshall, Owner, local food caterer, Board Member of Common Market Coop (Frederick County)
- Paul Sorenson, Owner, Gravel Springs Farm (Carroll County), Board Member Future Harvest CASA
- Dick Stoner, Owner, Stoner Family Farms, LLC (Washington County), Board Member Small Farm Cooperative, Inc