## **FOOD ACCESS IN LINCOLN COUNTY**

Ensuring access to basic needs is of utmost importance to keeping people healthy, happy, and in their homes during this time of quarantine and social distancing.

The LCRPC has been working with many food security groups across Lincoln County to understand the breadth and scope of the work going on to reach citizens in all demographics. From food delivery to homebound older adults, no-contact food pantry pickup, adjusted hours at grocery stores, and farms providing fresh and local products, there is no shortage of care and compassion for residents during this time.

## An ongoing list of food pantries and delivery options

The Food Security Coalition out of MCHPP has been keeping connections with the food pantries in Lincoln, Sagadahoc, and northern Cumberland counties. Their efforts have been tremendous in ensuring the pantries have what they need to supply their communities, sharing best practices for obliging with COVID19 response, and providing support for needs and challenges. See here for details on what MCHPP is doing over all.

School meal sites in Maine (Healthy Lincoln County Summer meal sites)

Maine Department of Education: Schools Providing Meals to Students During Closures

## Farms and the COVID 19 response

Although it is early in the growing season and many farmer's markets have not yet opened for the season, a variety of agricultural products are currently available at farms throughout Lincoln County. These include root vegetables, greens, eggs, dairy, meat, seafood, baked goods, fermented products, and frozen items.

We encourage everyone who can to support their favorite local farms, stay connected by signing up for their newsletters or following them on social media, shop as close to home as possible, and take precautions to protect farm and shop employees and other neighbors.

## Here's a list of several Lincoln County farms with their latest info

For a map of farms in Maine and how they are providing food pick and delivery, look at the <u>Cooperative</u> <u>Extension map here</u>.

Winter Farmers Markets