

Agroecology + Innovation Matters

Part 1: Community Based Farming - Small Lots: Big Impact

Community Name: _____

Step 1: Indicate on map (bottom right) where the community is within the state.

Step 2: Go to the community's profile (data.census.gov) and use the information on the page to complete the table below:

	Community Name:	State of IL
Population:		12,812,508
Median Age:		39.1 years
Median Household Income:		\$76,708
Industry: Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining		1.1%

Step 3: Provide a reflection on these questions:

➔ What is a food desert?

➔ What are some possible solutions to increasing access to fresh fruits and vegetables in food deserts?

Vocabulary

Census: A census is a survey of the total population of a region done by a governing body.

Median Household Income: means that half of households had income more than this amount and half less than the amount.

Industry is the type of activity at a person's place of work.





Part 2: Community Based Farming - Small Lots: Big Impact

Step 1: Review 2-3 of the articles below and then answer the questions below.

Midwest cities have plenty of vacant lots. So why can't urban farmers buy that land?

Chicago's Large Lot Program sowing change in inner-city communities

The Urban Farms Growing Community in Vacant Chicago Lots

Effort working to grow Jacksonville community one garden at a time

Step 2: These are not "right" or "wrong" type questions, but you should provide thoughtful and useful responses to the questions below.

- 1. Write a simple definition of community based agriculture:
- 2. How might this type of farming help (or not help) address lack of access to fresh fruits and vegetables in food deserts?
- 3. List at least 2 potential obstacles to implementing this in your assigned community. Include some possible solutions.

Obstacle #1:	Solution:

Obstacle #2:

Solution:



Conservation in the Classroom

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Part 3: Community Based Farming - Small Lots: Big Impact

Step 1: Use the link next to your community's name to access an online directory of their ordinances and codes. (see Supplement 1: Community Assignments)

Search in the code to locate the definition and code that corresponds with terms related to farming within a community. Suggested terms include **garden**, **farm**, **agriculture**, and/or **vegetable**.

- 1. Copy any relevant **definitions**, if listed: (if none, write "N/A")
- 2. Copy the most applicable **code** about farming in town:
- 3. Are any permits required to farm in town?
- 4. **Summarize**: Based on the code, do you think it is allowable to farm in town in your assigned community?
- 5. **Search**: The **address** and **phone number** of the community's city hall and write them down here:

Vocabulary

Municipal (or municipality) means a city, village, or incorporated town in the State of Illinois.

A **code** is a set of rules about how people should behave or about how something must be done.

City Hall is the chief administrative building of a city.

A **policy** is a set of ideas or plans that is used as a basis for making decisions, especially in politics, economics, or business.