

## **eXtension Economics of Local Foods Community of Practice Webinar**

### **Using the new Economic Impact Calculator to Assess your Project: A Discussion on the Connections to the USDA AMS Toolkit and Framing Used to Develop the Calculator**

Join in on Wednesday, January 24th from 2-3:00pm Eastern Time (11:00am Pacific Time) for a webinar on a new tool to help community-, project- and grant-based initiatives assess their economic impact using the best practices highlighted in the USDA AMS Toolkit.

We highlight the use of two key resources for conducting economic impact studies of food system initiatives. The first is a new online calculator to estimate economic impacts of representative food system initiatives, developed in an Oklahoma State and Colorado State USDA NIFA AFRI project, Evaluating the Role of Small and Mid-Size Farms and their Impacts in Local and Regional Food Systems. Through a collaborative companion project, this calculator follows the best practices for project framing and assessment laid out in the USDA's "[The Economics of Local Food Systems: A Toolkit to Guide Community Discussions, Assessments and Choices.](#)" We will include partners who intend to use this new tool, and preview another Webinar that will explore some of the applied research that can help us better understand how to further refine our economic impact estimates and add more value to the calculator's results.

Webinar Panelist:

David Shideler – Associate Professor, Agricultural Economics, Oklahoma State University

Dawn Thilmany McFadden – Professor, Agricultural & Resource Economics, Regional Economic Development Institute, Colorado State University

Jeffery O'Hara – Agricultural Marketing Specialist, Local Food Research & Development, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service

Phil Watson – Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics and Sociology, University of Idaho

Becca Jablonski – Assistant Professor and Extension Economist in Food Systems at Colorado State University

Jen O'Brien Cheek-Farmers Market Coalition

Please click the link (<https://zoom.us/j/833694496>) to join the webinar by computer.  
Or Telephone: US: +1 408 638 0968 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 669 900 6833 followed by the webinar ID: 833 694 496

Questions? Contact Dawn Thilmany at [Dawn.Thilmany@colostate.edu](mailto:Dawn.Thilmany@colostate.edu).



Agricultural Marketing Service and  
National Institute for Food and Agriculture  
Award #2014-68006-21871

