



Growing New Brunswick's Food Hub

Photo Credit: Kathe Newman

**Urban Agriculture & Ralph W. Voorhees Public Service Fellows Planning Studio
For Elijah's Promise**

Edward J. Bloustein School of Urban Planning & Public Policy
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
December 2011

Thursday, December 22, 2011

Elijah's Promise Mission

- Provide education, training, and social services to empower lives.
- Create opportunities for community services to invite justice.
- Serve nutritious meals to alleviate hunger.



Photo Credit: Elijah's Promise Facebook Page

Project Goals

- Explore the potential for urban agriculture in New Brunswick.
- Explore how food production, processing, and distribution can happen in the city.
- Assess the purchasing power for locally grown food in New Brunswick.
- Produce a report and presentation



Photo Credit: Kathe Newman

Methodology



Field Visits



Interviews



Guest Speakers

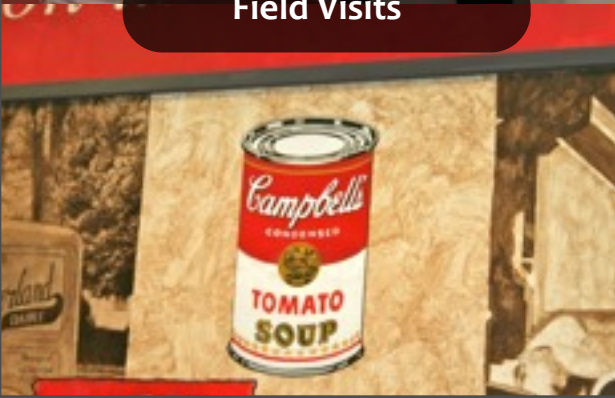


Photo Credit: Katie Newman



Community Gardening in New Brunswick



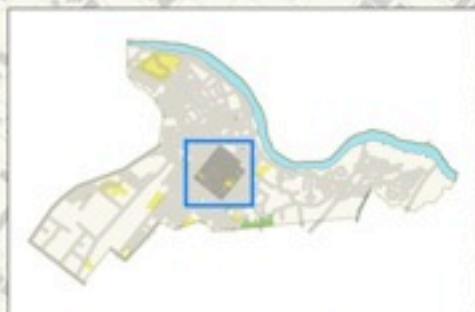
Source: New Brunswick Department of City Planning



Community Gardens in Unity Square

Unity Square Land Use

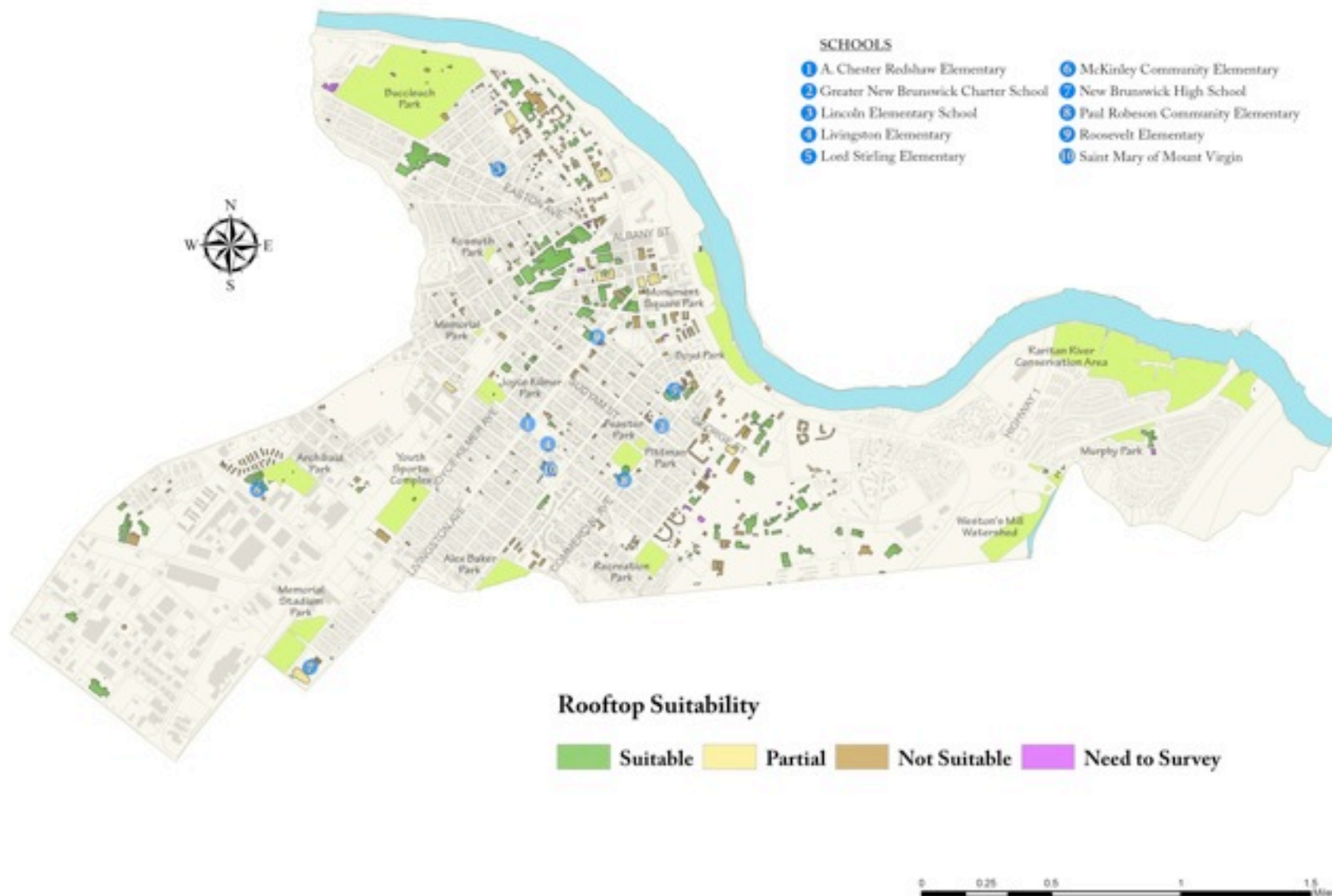
- Community Garden
- Vacant Lot
- Residential
- Commercial
- Public School
- Public Property
- Religious and Charitable
- Building Footprint



Source: New Brunswick Department of City Planning

0 225 450 900 Feet

New Brunswick Rooftop Suitability for Urban Agriculture



Downtown New Brunswick Rooftop Suitability for Urban Agriculture

Rooftop Suitability

- Suitable
- Partial
- Not Suitable
- Need to Survey



Source: New Brunswick Department of City Planning

0 230 460 920 Feet

Growing in the City



Photo Credit: Kathe Newman

Backyard Gardens



Photo Credit: Kathe Newman

Community Gardens



Photo Credit: Kathe Newman

Rooftop Gardening

- Green roofs or container gardening
- Food for personal consumption or profit
- Community partnerships



Photo Credit: Kathe Newman

Urban Orchards

- Increase food security
- Educate community and students
- Expand food businesses
- Enhance access to fresh food



Photo Credit: Katie Nosker

Hoop Houses



Photo Credit: Anthony Capece

Hoop Houses

- Extends crop season
- Metal or PVC piping used to build a 'hoop' frame from ground
- Overlaying plastic or shade cloth provides a stable environment for crop production



Photo Credit: Anthony Capece

Alternative to Traditional Greenhouse Structures



Photo Credit: Flickr user o5com

Ability to Adapt

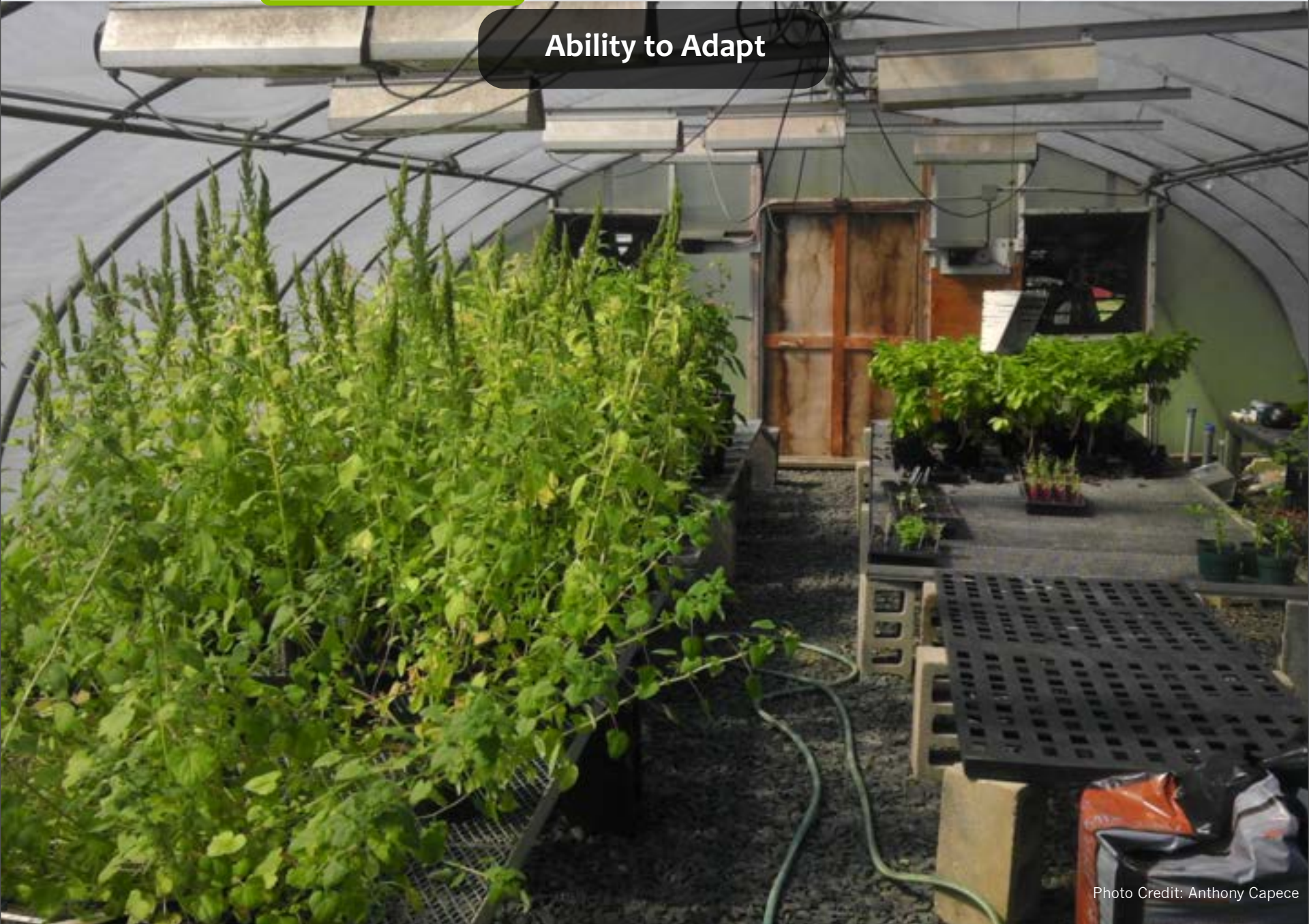


Photo Credit: Anthony Capece

Gleaning & Food Rescue

- Food rescue
- Perishable food rescue
- Nonperishable food collection
- Business model



Rutgers students
volunteer to glean at
Giamarese Farms,
October 26, 2011.

Urban Beekeeping

- Honey!
- Pollination
- Easy to do

Economic Benefits

- Income supplement

Beekeeping Training

- Rutgers Agricultural Experiment Station



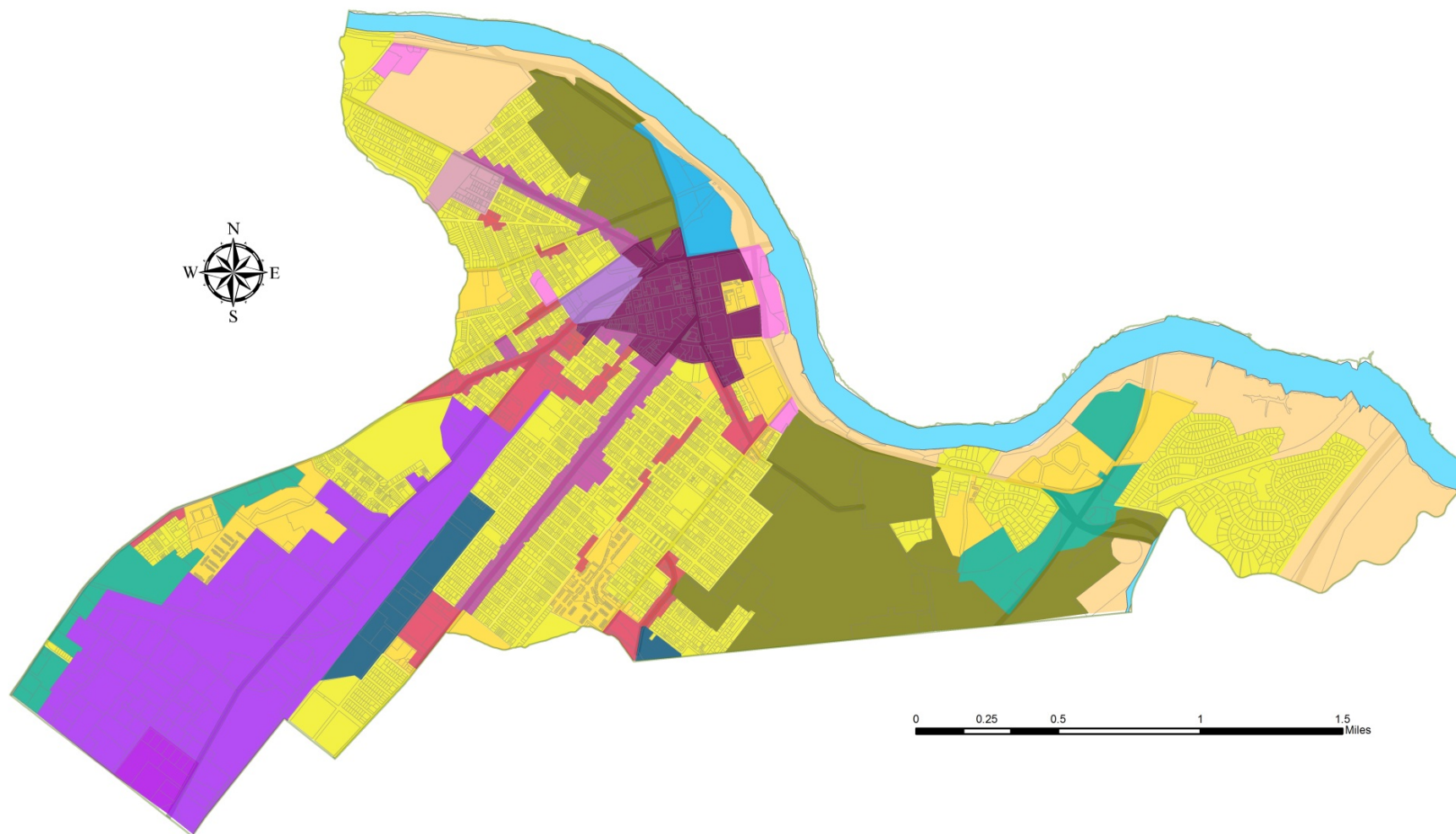
Photo Credit: Flickr User Mindfrieze

Processing



Photo Credit: Kathe Newman

New Brunswick Zoning Districts 2008



0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 Miles



Source: New Brunswick Department of City Planning

Zoning



Thursday, December 22, 2011

What is the potential for urban agriculture to address local economic development and food security?

Explored the capacities and needs of local

Individuals and families



Restaurants & businesses

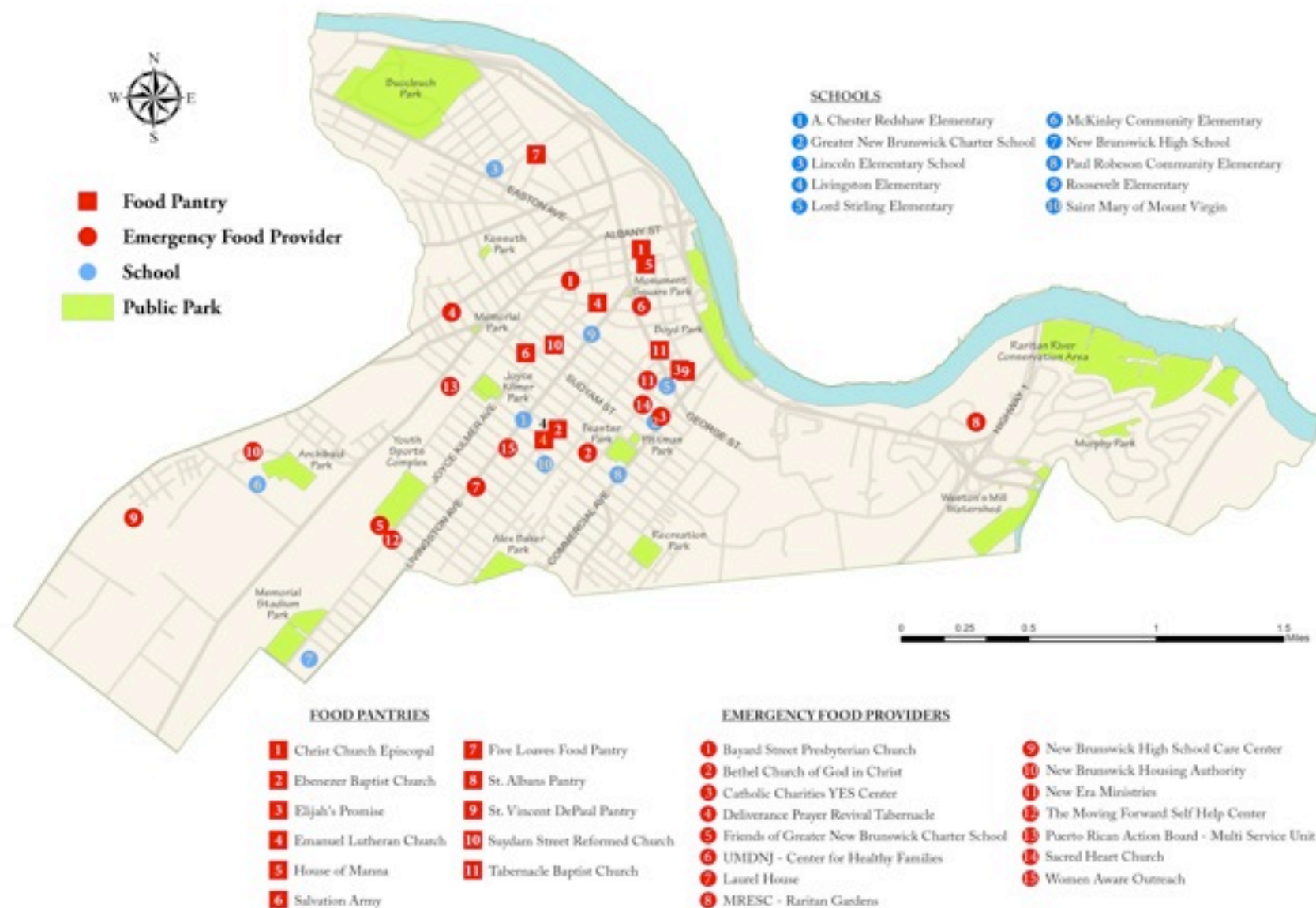


Larger institutions



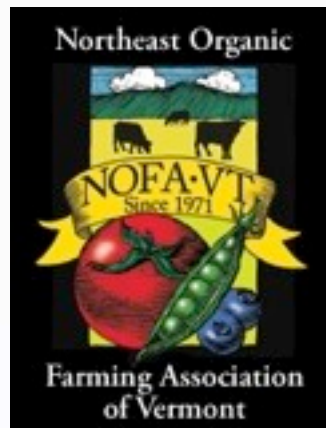


New Brunswick Food Pantries & Emergency Food Providers



Existing Models

The Northeast Organic
Farming Association Vermont
Farm Share Program



Uprising Organics
Food Stamp-CSA

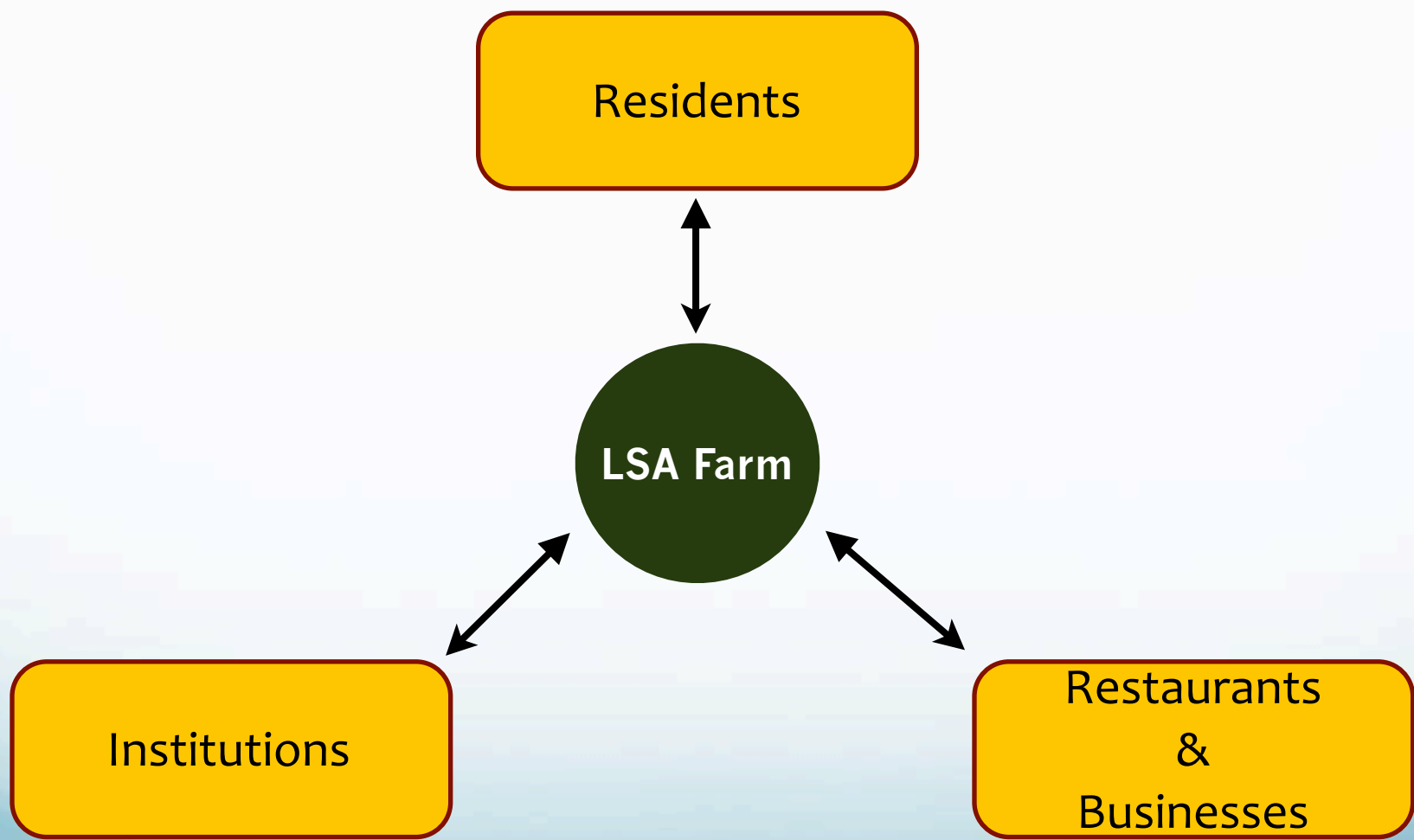
Growing Power, Inc.
Farm-to-City Market
Basket Program



Just Food
Food Stamp CSA Workshops



A Hybrid Model of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)
Locally Supported Agriculture (LSA)



Current and Potential Agriculture Sites for Elijah's Promise

- Agricultural Site Usage**
- Current Community Garden
 - Potential Hoop House Site
 - Potential Orchard Site



Source: Anthony Capece and Tim Shek

Soil Testing



Photo Credit: Anthony Capece

Hoop House Site



Photo Credit: Anthony Capece and Tim Shek

Water & Energy in the Hoop House Model

Water

- Rainwater Harvesting Systems
- Ferrocement Tanks
- Drip Irrigation

Energy

- Thermal Massing



Photo Credit: Flickr user Chiot's Run



Photo Credit: Flickr user cote

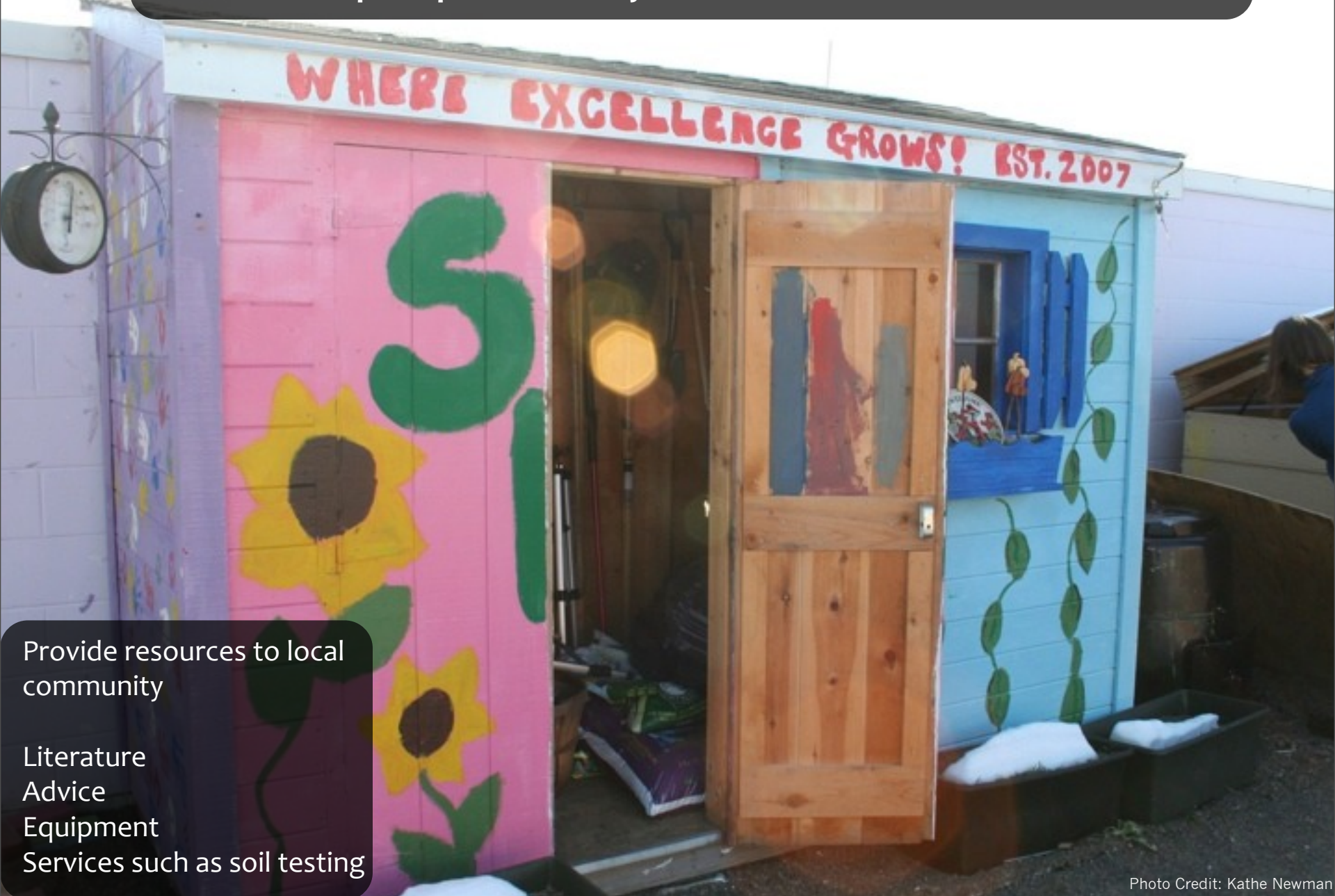
Composting

- Benefits the Environment
- Boosts Local Economic Development



Photo Credit: Anthony Capece

“One Stop Shop” Community Garden Resources Center Model



Provide resources to local community

Literature
Advice
Equipment
Services such as soil testing

Photo Credit: Kathe Newman

Current and Potential Agriculture Sites for Elijah's Promise

Agricultural Site Usage

- Current Community Garden
- Potential Hoop House Site
- Potential Orchard Site



Source: Anthony Capece and Tim Shek

Choosing a Model

- Community Outreach and Education
- Talk to Food Policy Council
- Identify Goals
- Build Resources
- Plant
- Grow
- Harvest
- Eat, Process, Sell
- Maintain Momentum

Photo Credit: Katie Nosker

Many thanks to everyone who helped make this studio possible!

- Michele Bakacs, RU Middlesex County Extension
- Michael Baker, Baker Farms
- J.R. Belt, Catherine Lombardi
- Vinnie Bevivino, Seed and Cycle
- Stacy Brody, SEBS Student
- Bob, George Street Co-op
- Win Cowgill, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Hunterdon County
- Luke Drake, Doctoral Student, RU Geography
- Heather Fenyk, Doctoral Student, RU Urban Planning
- Lisanne Finston, Elijah's Promise
- Philip Forsyth, Philadelphia Orchard Project
- Gwen Greenburg, Christ Church Food Pantry
- Paul Helms, Elijah's Promise
- John Karakoglou, RU Transportation
- John Leary, George Street Co-op
- Rick Ludescher, RU SEBS
- Lorena Gaibor, Unity Square
- Pam Mount, Terhune Orchards
- Joseph Nosker, Brickman Group
- Nik & Dom, Soupervan
- Glenn Patterson, City of New Brunswick
- Jack Rabin, Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station
- Lisa Tenore, Rutgers Dining Services
- Jennifer Rovito, Voorhees Transportation Center
- Caitlin Salemi, Food Planner
- Jaymie Santiago, New Brunswick Community Farmers' Market
- Dena Seidel, RU Mason Gross
- Theresa Viggiano, First Field & RU Doctoral Student, Sociology



Chike Achebe, Marc Brotman, Anthony Capece, Emily Joiner, Anita Kambhampati, Harini Kidambi, Dorothy Kieu Le, Ronit Leib, Dori Nguyen, Katie Nosker, Timothy Shek, Alex Tereshonkova

Instructor: Kathe Newman

Photo Credit: Kathe Newman

Thursday, December 22, 2011