

50 x'50: Pathways to Ohio's Mid-Century Food System and Agricultural Economy

1. Form and properly resource a Farm, Food, and Health Partners Alliance.
2. Align state agencies toward effective and coordinated food, health, and agriculture programs.
3. Restore the Ohio state government's role as a marketer and champion of agricultural goods and services.
4. Restructure the Ohio Department of Agriculture's Ohio Proud program to make it relevant and engaging to today's consumers, institutional foodservice markets, and commodity-scale agriculture.
5. Quantify and regularly assess demand for local food.
6. Quantify and regularly assess the food preferences of Ohio consumers.
7. Expand and remove barriers to institutional purchase of Ohio food and agriculture products.
8. Grow more of what Ohioans need.
9. Develop an independent "food-system finance authority."
10. Restore processing capacity and supply chains for Ohio-raised food.
11. Restore processing capacity and supply chains for Ohio-raised meat and poultry.
12. Develop markets and supply chains that serve immigrant populations.
13. Develop and fund a pilot, small-scale, mobile meat-processing program.
14. Improve access to affordable and nutritious food, especially in underserved communities.
15. Promote food as medicine.
16. Expand Ohio farmer outreach and advocacy to address food insecurity challenges.
17. Welcome and support the next generation of farmers.
18. Develop programs to assist young, underserved and "new-American" farmers.
19. Develop programs to assist limited-resource farmers.
20. Promote training in schools, colleges, and prisons in support of the entire food system.
21. Create new agriculture-education programs for adults, communities, and students.
22. Build human capital in the form of workforce development and community resources.
23. Reform immigration policy to help fill agriculture jobs.
24. Ensure living wages for farm and agriculture-related jobs.
25. Support local food aggregation and processing to ensure ease of marketing for farmers.
26. Adjust state regulatory policies to be more collaborative and/or less adversarial.
27. Increase the number of malt houses, grain mills, and other processing facilities to assist the brewing, distilling, baking, snack food, livestock feed, and other industries.
28. Promote controlled-environment production for horticulture and floriculture.
29. Support development and expansion of aquaculture and creation of a processing and distribution supply chain for fish.
30. Promote new processing options and markets for Ohio wood products.
31. Promote new processing and markets for Ohio bio-products and the bio-economy.
32. Invest in rural broadband infrastructure.
33. Diversify commodity production with identity-preserved or value-added products.
34. Develop and implement a climate-smart action plan for Ohio agriculture.
35. Create and implement a new water quality strategy.
36. Identify pathways for accelerating and scaling up the delivery of ecosystem services to Ohio farms and from Ohio's agricultural landscapes.
37. Through knowledge sharing, increase the use of precision farming technologies.
38. Create a strategic forestry roadmap and strengthen programs to promote good management of woodlots on farms.
39. Harmonize tax incentives to protect working lands.
40. Boost awareness of the role that farmers play in Ohio's economy and environment.
41. Create a network of government and private consultants to help develop a landscape scale plan for ecosystem management.
42. Promote research and education about cover crops and other soil-enhancing practices.
43. Track and publish statewide data in order to assure and celebrate continuous improvement.
44. Increase research and data on the handling and application of manure on fields.
45. Increase research and data on the services to agriculture that come from the land.
46. Promote policies and practices that support the ways in which agricultural land can provide public benefits: zoning policies, water resource protection, forestry and woodlot management, and tracing the sources of food.
47. Strengthen land use policies that keep land in agricultural production.
48. Develop a brand and recognition for Ohio farm products of all kinds, including ecosystem services.
49. Create risk management programs.
50. Increase awareness of ecosystem services.