

Prepared by Debbie Hillman
Evanston Food Council (co-founder and chairperson)
Illinois Local Food and Farms Coalition (co-founder)
Illinois Local Food, Farms, and Jobs Council (co-founder)

Food Systems Wheel
New Mainstream: A Sustainable Food Agenda for California
(Ecotrust, 2005)

Note: The original "wheel" as published in the complete New Mainstream report was indeed a beautiful circular shape, showing the layers of the food system as concentric circles. But it was difficult to read and identify individual system components. These are all the components shown on New Mainstream's Food Systems Wheel, from the Center out. I hope New Mainstream's authors are not offended if I have sacrificed visual beauty for readability.

CENTER: Foundation of food system

Land
Water

FOOD CHAIN: Entities that handle food directly

production
wholesale
processing & manufacturing
outlets
eaters
waste management

SUPPORTING INDUSTRIES: Support the food chain

health
gardening
finance
tourism
food product/service providers
carbon trading
smart growth
green building

INFLUENCERS: Individuals or organizations that monitor, support, enhance, protest, catalyze, or make public policy affecting the Food Chain or Supporting Industries

policy-makers
faith-based organizations
cultural commentators
economic development agencies
health & nutrition advocates
consumer rights advocates
university research and development
rural community advocates
animal welfare advocates
social justice and labor advocates
environmental advocates
environmental monitoring agencies