

Calais Organization of Local Agriculture Support Systems **Purpose Statement**

The Calais Organization of Local Agriculture Support Systems [COOLASS] is a task force of the Calais Planning Commission. Its members are volunteers.

The Calais Town Plan has a goal that 50% of food eaten by Calais residents will be produced locally in the Calais region. The purpose of the committee is to make this goal a reality.

We believe that a local agriculture system can:

- Strengthen the bonds of our community, uniting the corners of Adamant, N. Calais, Maple Corner, E. Calais, and Kents Corner through the growing, eating, sharing, processing, and storing of food.
- Assist in building a local economy
- Preserve our agricultural land
- Provide a means to food security for all citizens of Calais
- Provide education in methods of preserving food, how to build greenhouses and root cellars, how to garden

COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS

We see the functions of this committee to be networking, facilitating communication, sharing information, and motivating citizen involvement to help us reach a level of local food sustainability.

Our first endeavor was a food survey, results found on this web page.

Now we hope to connect those people wanting to purchase local food with the producers that grow the food. To do that, we have started a Calais region food producer directory.

We invite everyone to step up to the plate and help by forming small work groups to form a farmer's market, build area root cellars, and other items of interest as found in the survey. We cannot do this without you!

We will use Front Porch Forum as a means of communicating. We welcome hearing from you as to your concerns and desires for a food sustainable future.

The co-leads of this task force are Peter Brough, peterbrough874@hotmail.com or 456-7440 and Jan Ohlsson, jgohlsson@gmail.com or 232-1028.