

MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE MAGGIE BROOKS

Proclamation

Monroe County, in partnership with Monroe County's Cornell Cooperative Extension, is proud to help provide "farm to table" nutrition education and awareness, in addition to establishing relationships between local farmers and County residents through the innovative "Grow Monroe" initiative.

Furthermore, through its "Healthy Monroe" program, our local Cornell Cooperative Extension works tirelessly to improve the lifestyles of Monroe County residents by providing information about local food, local farm markets, and food preparation, preservation, and safety each and every day.

Both efforts aim to educate local residents that "just picked" produce simply tastes better, and often requires less complicated preparation because the natural flavors of fresh foods are more intense. Supporting local agriculture also promotes a larger selection of produce, such as varieties of heirloom tomatoes, all while helping to keep family farms alive and land in an environmentally-friendly agricultural state.

Those who do purchase locally grown foods are commonly known as "Localvores," more specifically defined as people who are committed to eating foods from their local foodshed. September represents the start of the harvest season in Monroe County, when more than twenty Farm Markets will proudly bring their annual "Localvore" harvest to the tables of countless local families.

Monroe County's "Grow Monroe" and the Cornell Cooperative Extension's "Healthy Monroe" programs are jointly linked in their commitment to promoting "farm to table" practices, which contribute greatly to the economic vitality of our community and provide healthy outcomes for the people of Monroe County.

Therefore, I, Maggie Brooks, Monroe County Executive, do hereby proclaim, the month of September, 2009, to be:

LOCALVORE MONTH

in Monroe County and encourage all local residents to purchase and consume locally grown produce.

I HAVE HEREUNTO set my hand this first day of September in the year two thousand and nine.



MAGGIE BROOKS
MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE