

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver
Proclamation CP11-0778

Celebrating October 24 as the first annual Food Day, in Denver as part of the nationwide Food Day to promote sustainably and humanely produced, healthy, and affordable food

WHEREAS, Denver is taking a leading role in promoting smart food policy through Mayor Hancock's Denver Seeds initiative- a strategy to support small businesses, create jobs and shift food production away from large out-of-state industrial operations toward local growers and produce; and

WHEREAS, major goals of Denver Seeds and the local food movement, which builds on the work of Denver's Sustainable Food Policy Council, are to drive Denver's economy forward, lead to more sustainable neighborhoods, fewer food deserts, and healthier citizens while establishing Denver as a leader in the clean-energy economy; and

WHEREAS, Denver Botanic Gardens, along with numerous community partners, hosted an all day food festival today with free activities including hands-on cooking for adults and kids, speakers with expertise in food access, nutrition, and screenings of a documentary about community gardening and a thought-provoking movie about food production; and

WHEREAS, currently less than .2% of Metropolitan Denver's food needs are produced within the state of Colorado, and the strengthening of the local food shed is paramount to the health, security and sustainability of the community; and

WHEREAS, although research indicates that access to healthy food reduces diet-related illnesses, such as diabetes, obesity and heart disease, some Denver communities continue to lack access to fresh, affordable, and healthy food.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That today is proclaimed to be Food Day in Denver to celebrate National Food Day and build on the efforts of citizens, businesses, community-based organizations and neighborhoods to support a locally-based, healthy food production system in Denver.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Shannon Spurlock, Community Initiatives Coordinator, Denver Urban Gardens.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL October 24, 2011

_____ PRESIDENT