

# Town of Northport Local Food Sovereignty Ordinance

## **Title**

This ordinance is enacted pursuant to Title 7, M.R.S.A. Chp 8-F the Maine Food Sovereignty Act, and shall be known as the Town of Northport Local Food Sovereignty Ordinance. This Ordinance is not applicable to any meat or poultry products that are required to be produced or processed in compliance with the Maine Meat and Poultry Inspection Program per 7 M.R.S.A. §285.

## **Definitions:**

The following definitions shall have the same meaning as set forth in Title 7 MRSA, §282 definitions

1. **Direct Producer to Consumer Transaction:**  
Direct Producer to Consumer Transaction means a face to face transaction intended for human consumption involving food or food products at the site of production of those food or food products.
2. **Local Food:** Local Food means any food, food product, or drink that is grown, produced, or processed by Producers or Processors for human consumption as herein defined, who sell directly, face to face, with their patrons through farm or home based sales.
3. **Producer:** Producer means any farmer or gardener who grows any plant for food or drink or raises any animal for food or drink.
4. **Processor:** Processor means any individual who processes or prepares local food in a private home kitchen.
5. **Patron:** Patron means with regard to local food, the last person who:
  - a. Purchases for human consumption or consumes the local food;
  - b. Does not resell the local food, and
  - c. Has been informed the local food was produced in an uninspected, unlicensed establishment, and the local food has not been inspected by the applicable State agency.
6. **State Food Law:** State Food Law means any provision of Title 7, or Title 22, that regulates direct producer to consumer transactions.

## **Licensure and Inspection**

1. Except for the provisions of paragraph 2 below, producers and processors in the Town of Northport are not subject to licensure or inspection provided:
  - a. Transactions are only between producers or processors and patrons at the site of production including sales that:
    - i. Are made directly to a patron, face to face;
    - ii. Occur at the site where the food product originated;
  - b. Patrons understand that the product is not manufactured under license from, or inspected by, the applicable State agency; and
2. Meat and poultry producers and processors are subject to all State and Federal licensing and inspection requirements, and are not exempt under this Ordinance for licensure or inspection.

**Compliance:**

1. Individuals who grow, produce, process or prepares food or food products for other than direct producer to consumer, face to face, transactions, shall grow, produce, process or prepare the food or food products in compliance with all applicable State and Federal food safety laws, rules and regulations.
2. The Town of Northport shall refer all complaints received concerning Direct Producer to Consumer Transactions to the applicable Federal and/or State agency.

**Severability:**

To the extent any provision of this Ordinance is deemed invalid by a court or competent jurisdiction, such provision will be removed and the balance of the Ordinance shall remain valid.

**Effective:**

This Ordinance shall be effective immediately following its enactment by the legislative body of the Town of Northport.

June 2018

A true copy attest.



Jeanine Tucker  
Town Clerk