



Alternative Energy Resources Organization

Linking People, Sustainable Agriculture, and Energy Solutions since 1974

Growing Food Businesses: Opportunities under Montana's New Food Law Workshop Agenda: Billings, Arlee, & Great Falls

Program Purpose: Get food and agriculture entrepreneurs informed, excited and using Montana's new food law to build successful businesses. Help ensure the Law's successful implementation.

Workshop Objectives:

- Learn about Montana's Food Law history, new opportunities and implementation requirements and strategies.
- Build relationships with other Montanans who want to start or grow a food business. Learn from each other and work directly with resource people (DPHHS, county sanitarians, Montana Ag and Food Development Centers, Extension, etc.).
- Assist participants in formulating their ideas and plans and help to identify questions, needs and next steps.
- Identify what still needs to be clarified or developed to most effectively use the new Food Law.

Time	Activity
9:15 - 9:30	Arrive and Settle In
9:30 - 10:10	Welcome, Introductions, and Getting Started
10:10 - 11:40	Orientation to the New Food Law and the Opportunities it Provides (15 minute break around 11:45)
11:40 - 12:00	What's Getting Stirred-up? <i>Table Talk</i>
12:00 - 12:30	Peer Learning Network: <i>One way to continue and expand the conversations you've just begun</i>
12:30 - 1:30	LUNCH and Informal Networking
1:30 - 2:40	Live Exploration Sessions: <i>Get to the Details of Your Ideas and Plans</i> (10 min. break decided by each group)
2:40 - 3:00	Moving Forward: <i>Next Steps and Evaluation</i>

AERO is a grassroots nonprofit organization dedicated to solutions that promote resource conservation and local economic vitality. AERO nurtures individual and community self-reliance through programs that support sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, and environmental quality.