2015 Baltimore City Food Environment

Food Desert

Supermarkets

Alternative Healthy Food Retail

Public Markets

Virtual Supermarkets

Neighborhood Boundaries

Major Parks

A Food Desert is an area where: 1) The distance to a supermarket or supermarket alternative is more than 1/4 mile, 2) The median household income is at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level, 3) Over 30% of households have no vehicle available, and 4) The average Healthy Food Availability Index score for all food stores is low.
WHAT IS A FOOD DESERT?

A food desert is an indicator for low access to healthy food. It is an area where residents lack both access and sufficient economic resources to obtain healthy food.

Food Desert Definition:
An area where the distance to a supermarket or supermarket alternative is more than 1/4 mile, the median household income is at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level, over 30% of households have no vehicle available, and the average Healthy Food Availability Index (HFAI) score for all food stores is low.

FOOD DESERT RETAIL STRATEGY

B’More Fresh: Baltimore’s Food Desert Retail Strategy is one part of the city’s comprehensive agenda to reduce the number of people living in food deserts and grow the economy, using five key approaches:

1. Expand and Retain Supermarkets
2. Improve Non-Traditional Grocery Retail Options (i.e. small grocery stores, corner stores, pharmacies, Virtual Supermarket)
3. Improve Healthy Food Availability in the Public Market Setting
4. Expand Homegrown Baltimore to Serve Food Desert Neighborhoods
5. Transportation Strategy

PERCENTAGE OF EACH POPULATION GROUP LIVING IN FOOD DESERTS

For more information, see http://mdfoodsystemmap.org/2015-baltimore-city-food-access-map/ and http://archive.baltimorecity.gov/Government/AgenciesDepartments/Planning/BaltimoreFoodPolicyInitiative/FoodDeserts.aspx

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