



CENTER FOR  
AGRICULTURE &  
FOOD SYSTEMS

## February News



### Legal Food Hub Supports Local Food System

PROGRAM REFLECTS ON A SECOND SUCCESSFUL YEAR

In January, our team at Vermont Law School's [Center for Agriculture and Food Systems](#) (CAFS) celebrated two years of the [Vermont Legal Food Hub](#). Launched in 2020 in partnership with the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF), the program connects income-eligible farmers, food entrepreneurs, and related organizations with attorneys willing to provide free legal assistance. Visit the [Vermont Law School blog](#) to learn about the hub's progress and some of the successful food entrepreneurs it supported in 2021, from a women-led Latinx food collective, to a nut processing collaborative, to a program to help restaurants during COVID-19.

LEARN MORE



#### Guide to "Bioengineered" Label

On January 1, a new law went into effect requiring that some genetically modified foods be labeled "bioengineered." But what does that mean, and how is it different from GMO? A [brief on our Labels Unwrapped site](#) breaks it down.



#### Barriers to SNAP Access

In some states, individuals with a drug-related felony conviction are barred from accessing SNAP benefits. A [new paper](#) by CAFS' Claire Child and restorative justice professor Stephanie Clark examines the implications.



#### Seeking Summer Media Fellows

VLS is now accepting applications for 2022 [Summer Media Fellowships](#) in environmental law and animal law! This is a great opportunity for journalists focused on the intersections between food, agriculture, and the environment.



#### Determining a Farm's PSR Status

Under the FSMA's Produce Safety Rule, many small-scale diversified farms straddle the line between covered and exempt. A [new article](#) from CAFS's Sophia Kruszewski and Samuel Ingraham proposes a test to determine coverage status.



#### CAFS Year in Review

Our faculty, staff, and students were busy working alongside partners to conduct research and create new law and policy resources throughout the 2020-21 school year. [Read all about it in our annual review](#).



#### Welcome, Andrew Marchev!

Andrew Marchev recently joined our team as Legal Food Hub Fellow. Andrew earned a JD from VLS in 2018 and has since worked with farmers on a range of legal issues. Over the next year, he'll help CAFS and CLF run the Vermont Legal Food Hub.

### Catch Up With CAFS

Hear from our faculty and staff in recent news articles, webinars, and more.

- ["Farmers Market Legal Toolkit: Managing Risks."](#) CAFS professor **Emily Spiegel** gave an online presentation to farmers market managers and direct-to-consumer producers at *From the Land of Kansas: 2022 Farmers' Market Virtual Workshops*.
- ["After years of injustice, black farmers rise in Spring Lake."](#) *North Carolina Health News* referenced CAFS' Farmland Access Legal Toolkit to explain heirs' property issues.
- ["Labels Unwrapped: A New Interactive Site Helping Consumers Digest Their Food Labels."](#) *Food Tank* profiled CAFS' Labels Unwrapped project and why it's so important given the proposed Food Labeling Modernization Act.
- ["The 'humanewashing' of America's meat and dairy, explained."](#) CAFS director **Laurie Beyranevand** weighed in for *Vox* about food label regulation for meat and dairy products.
- ["Pesticides can hurt agricultural communities—so why do farmers fight back against bans?"](#) *Popular Science* spoke with **Laurie Beyranevand** about the EPA's ban on chlorpyrifos.
- ["Biden's Call for Racial Equity Lacks Protections for Marginalized Workers."](#) In an opinion piece for *Truthout*, **Laurie Beyranevand** explained how weak safety standards in slaughterhouses cost lives and perpetuate racial injustice—and what the federal government can do about it.

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