Join Us in Vermont This Summer

Summer Session is coming up soon at Vermont Law School, and the Center for Agriculture and Food Systems is offering a wide variety of food and agriculture law and policy courses. Taught by scholars and advocates from across the country, these courses are open to all; you don’t need to be a law student to apply. Join us in beautiful South Royalton, VT to take Cannabis Law, Farmworkers and the Law, Conservation Agriculture Policy, The International Law of Food, The Farm Bill, a range of animal law courses, and more. We hope you can join us!

New Food Law and Policy Resources

Gleaning Resource Hub
We’re excited to share a new, community-driven gleaning project that will connect with resources from gleaning organizations across the country. It includes sample handbooks for volunteers, waivers, practice materials, and other useful tools for gleaning organization to reference and share.

What is “Local” Food?
What is the meaning of “local” when it comes to food labeling? The latest brief on our Labels Unwrapped site explores how the term is defined (or not) across state and federal laws, and how differing understandings of the subjective term relate to consumer values.

Is “Organic” Humane?
Another new issue brief on our Labels Unwrapped site explores the relationship between USDA Organic meat and animal welfare, including limits to the existing federal laws around meat labeling and how the proposed Organic Livestock and Poultry Practices rule could add additional animal welfare benefits.

FoodAg Research Guide
Compiled by Environmental Law Librarian Christine Ryan, a new research guide includes free, open-access resources related to food and agricultural law and policy, including summaries, research professionals, and allows conducting food law research easy to find helpful resources.

Anti-Racist Market Toolkit
A new resource from our Farmers Market Legal Toolkit partners at the Farmers Market Coalition, this toolkit can help market operators examine their organizational structures and culture to ultimately make changes to improve experiences for BIPOC communities.

Catch Up With CAFS

Stay up to date with the latest news articles, webinars, podcasts, and more.

▸ "How some big grocery chains help ensure that food deserts stay barren." The Counter consulted CAFS director Laurie Beyranevand about restrictive grocery covenants and their food security implications.

▸ "Farm Bill Advocacy & Allyship." Senior legal fellow Fran Miller appeared on Federation Conversation, a podcast published by the Federation of Southern Cooperatives, to discuss her own career, CAFS’s work, and farm bill issues.

▸ "7 Tips to Slash Food Waste at Home." Food Tank highlighted CAFS’s Labels Unwrapped website as a resource to tackle food waste by better understanding food labels.

▸ "Organic Livestock and Poultry Practices: What you should know." Last month, Claire Child co-published an opinion piece on the implications of restricting access to SNAP with Stephanie Clark (professor and director of VLS’s restorative justice program) for Civil Eats.

▸ "Farm-to-Table Retailers Serve Fairy Tales to Conscious Consumers." Laurie Beyranevand spoke with Sentient Media about the vagueness of terms like “farm to table” and “local.”