

# Food Inequality

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As an engineering major, I have learned about improper zoning laws that have left marginalized communities unrepresented. Extreme weather can leave these areas devastated and lost due to cheap building solutions and planning. I was not surprised to see that the same goes for food insecurity. Low income areas are vulnerable to food deserts and food swamps, leaving residents "out of luck" when trying to achieve a wholesome diet. These food deserts and swamps do not allow access to healthy and reasonably priced food. Not only does this effect our environment through greater amounts of food waste and pollution, but it raises poverty ten fold! I cannot believe how large of an issue this is in our world.

Since I am a freshman this year, I have not been at my campus long enough to observe evidence of food insecurity. However, our campus and local community are very helpful in providing food to students and families in need. We have a Food Bank and Food Forest directly on campus and there are multiple food banks throughout our local community. We also have multiple Farmer's Markets that provide availability to fresh produce for residents!

As a civil and environmental engineering major, I will be learning about zoning laws and building codes for the next 4-5 years. I will make sure to observe flaws I see within those zoning and building laws and brainstorm ways I can make them better when I enter the field of engineering within my career. Granted, this goal is set far in the future. In the meantime, I can volunteer at my campus through the Food Forest and Food Bank to provide healthy and organic food to those in need.

# Here is our social post:

