

POLY CULTURES

Food Where We Live

PolyCultures: Food Where We Live is a feature-length documentary portraying the diverse communities in Greater Cleveland coming together to grow a more sustainable and equitable food system. *PolyCultures* is firmly rooted in the idea that local food is good for the **health** of individuals, **communities**, local **economies**, and the **environment**.



The term “polyculture” refers to the ecologically-minded technique of growing a diversity of crops/animals on one farm, but it also represents the documentary’s participants coming from very different backgrounds to arrive at similar conclusions and take coordinated action. To balance that in-the-field perspective, *PolyCultures* features many national and international experts who place area food production in the bigger picture of **sustainability**. The aesthetic is a mix of “**agrarian**” camera techniques portraying post-industrial Cleveland and surrounding farmland, symbolizing the ground-level nature of this movement.

PolyCultures was produced by **LESS Productions** in conjunction with the **New Agrarian Center** from 2006 to 2009. The movie officially premiered at the 2009 **Cleveland International Film Festival**, where the number of screenings was doubled due to audience demand. It's also been featured at the **Community Food Security Coalition's** 2009 Conference and in the 2010 **Wild & Scenic Environmental Film Fest**.

WVIZ (Cleveland's **PBS** affiliate) aired a streamlined hour-long version of *PolyCultures* just before the national television premiere of *Food Inc.* as part of their Earth Day festivities in 2010. In addition to accolades like these, *PolyCultures* has been shown from DVD in several **schools/universities** and has been featured in dozens of **community screenings**, locally and across the country.

For more information on licensing *PolyCultures* for public use or attaining a home-use DVD, please visit: <http://polycultures.blogspot.com>