

Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food" local foods initiative

Earth Day April 22, 2010

USDA Rural Development's Deputy Under Secretary Cheryl Cook will be visiting Nevada for the day on April 22nd. As Deputy Under Secretary, Cheryl manages policies and programs in Rural Development's three main areas: Business and Cooperatives, Housing and Community Facilities and Utilities. Before joining USDA, Cook served as Deputy Secretary for Marketing and Economic Development at the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

In that role, she often worked with several other USDA agencies, including the Food and Nutrition Service, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and the Agricultural Marketing Service. Cook had previously worked for the Keystone Development Center, a non-profit organization in Pennsylvania that helps new and emerging cooperatives.

She was also a member of the National Farmers Union's public policy staff. With her background, we would like to showcase our local food efforts and take advantage of this opportunity to further our accomplishments in this area.