

Community Centered animal Agriculture



By: Vincent Burns

Table of Contents

Intro	1
Cruelty of Animal Farming in the U.S.	2
Problems With Animal Farming in the U.S.	5
Envisioning a Compassionate Future for Animal Agriculture	6
Implementation of Community Centered Animal Agriculture	7
Conclusion	12

Human/Non-Human dualism, and foundation of this project

This project came about as a result of studying human/non-human dualism. To me human/non-human dualism is about the power dynamic of the human, being the oppressor over the non-human.

I was quickly lead to animal agriculture in the U.S.. I believe this system perfectly exemplifies our cruel dominance over the non-human.

These are the lives that 99% of all farmed animals live.



C&A Farms in Fairmont, NC :: Randall Hill



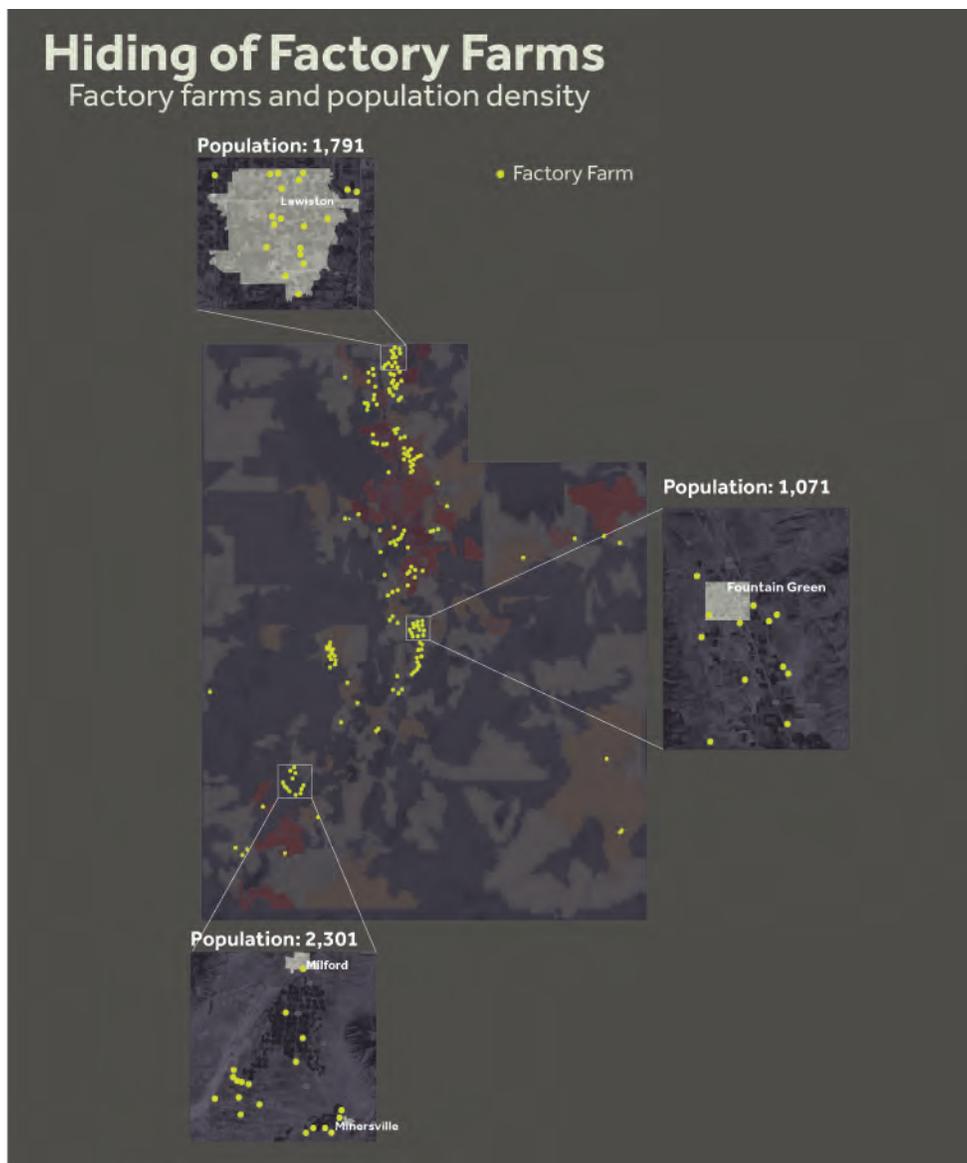
Pig Farm in Spain :: Aitor Garmendia



Dairy Farm in the U.S. :: Naphtalina/ Getty Images

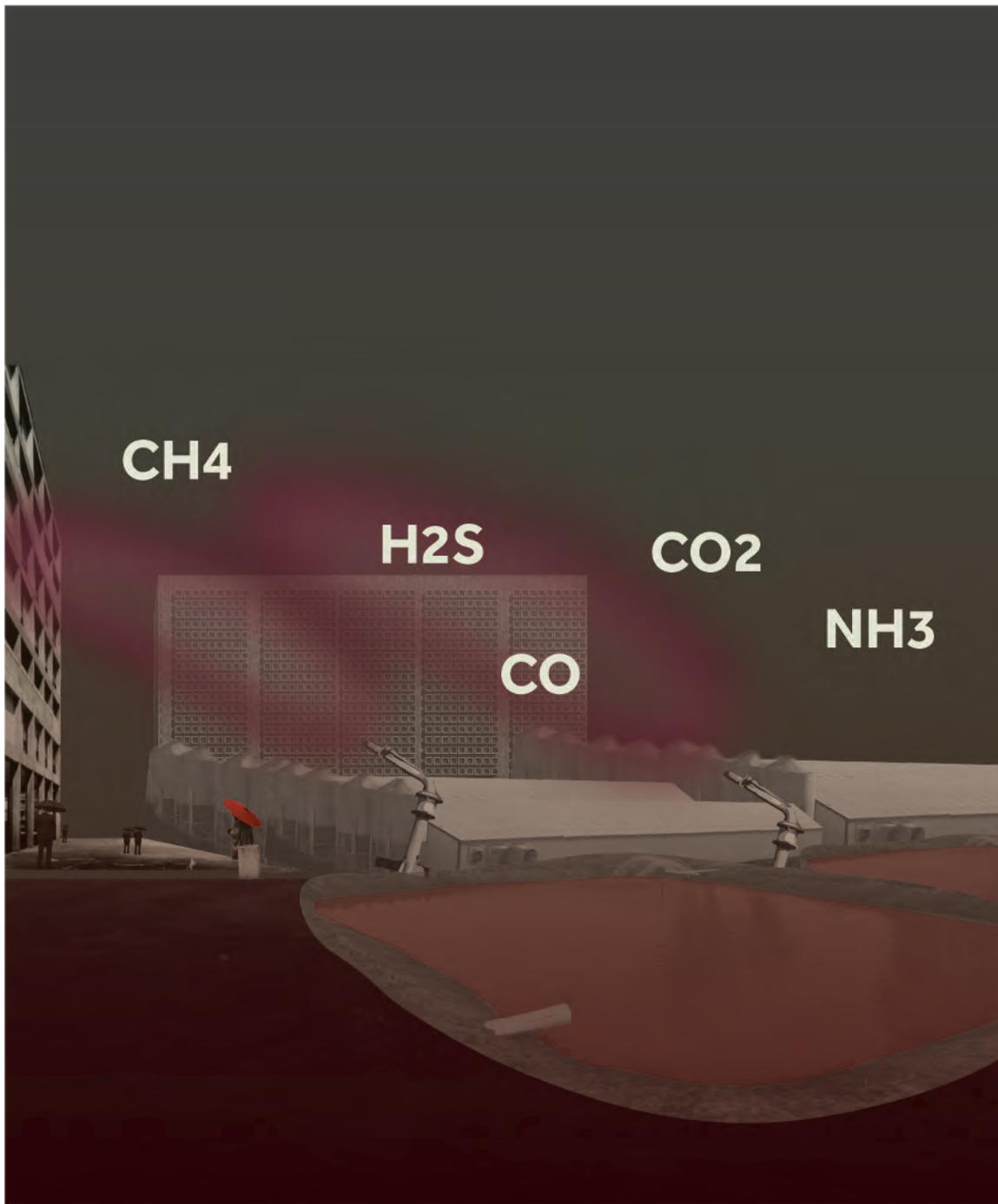
Cruelty of animal farming practices in the U.S.

Due to our high demand for meat at a low price, we force this cruelty onto animals. Most Americans would be grossed out by these scenes if they had to live with them on a regular basis however, the American government and meat industry do a really good job of hiding this cruelty from the public through Ag-gag laws that prevent videoing of farming facilities, and the purposeful location of these farms in low income and rural areas. [1]



[2]

Cruelty of animal farming practices in the U.S.



The illustration above exemplifies the inhumane practices that go on in animal farming, as well as the consequences that comes along with it. The pork industry crams pigs in warehouses with such tight corridors that they do not have the space to turn around. The waste from pigs lies in pools behind the warehouses, when the pools fill up, farmers will aerosolize the waste. This toxic waste has killed multiple farmers and stains the buildings of near by communities. [3] [4]



Problems with animal farming in the U.S.

In the drawing on the previous page I wanted to draw out my feelings about our current meat industry and the truths that had come to light in my research. It shows ignorant consumers gluttonously consuming without question, and in the background we see the powers of the meat industry to deceive the public.

Envisioning a compassionate future for animal agriculture

I wanted to know how I might envision a future for animal agriculture that is more empathic, and created greater visibility around the industry. To give myself a framework I decided to base my design around my research of how the current American public feels about factory farming. That way my project aims to focus on drawing out a future that people claim they want.

My research showed that we want change

86%

Of Americans say they are uncomfortable with how factory farms operate.

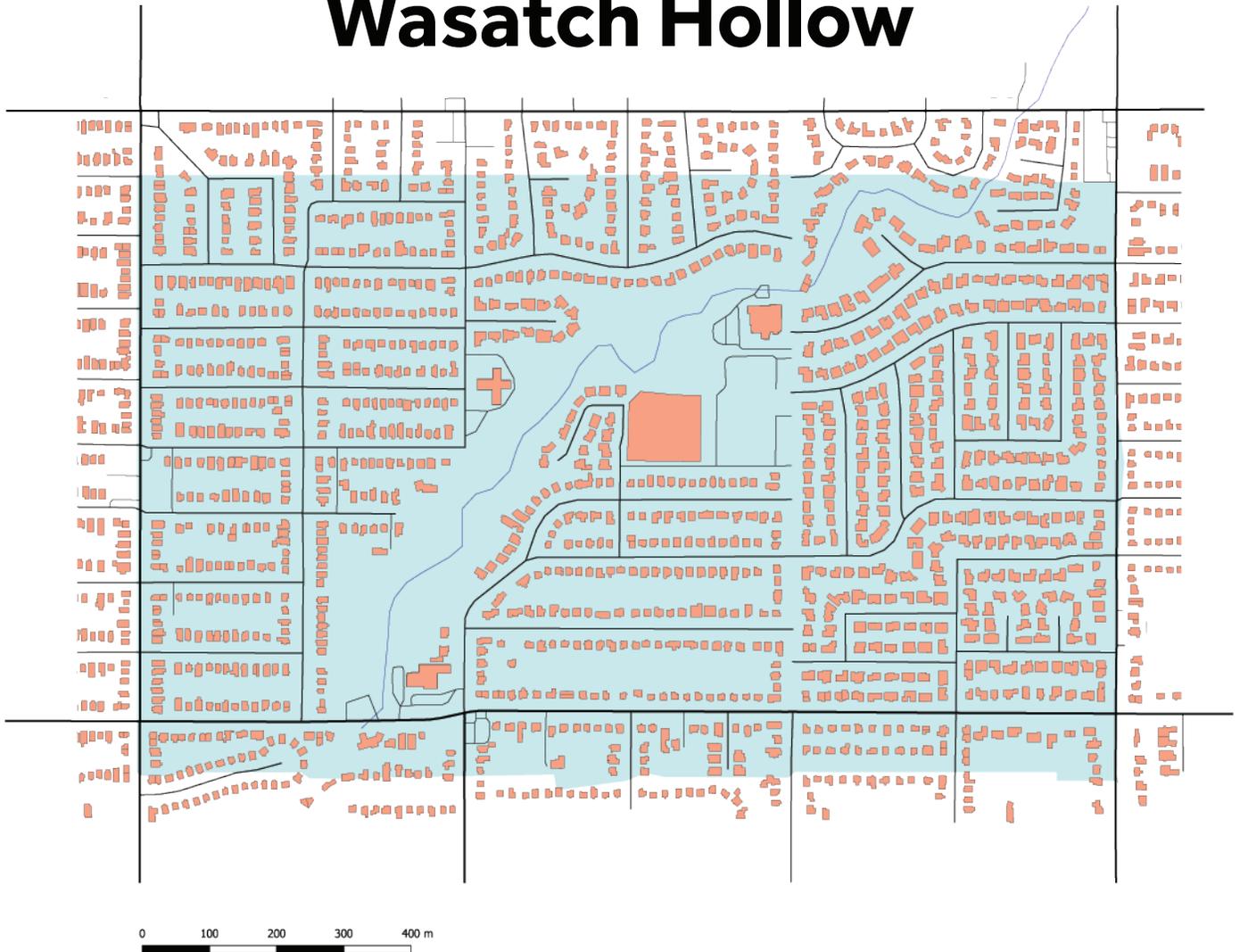
68%

Of Americans say they want a more transparent food system. [5]

Based off of this understanding I knew I wanted to focus on creating a future for animal agriculture that is both less exploitative and also creates more transparency in the industry.

Integrating animal agriculture into our community

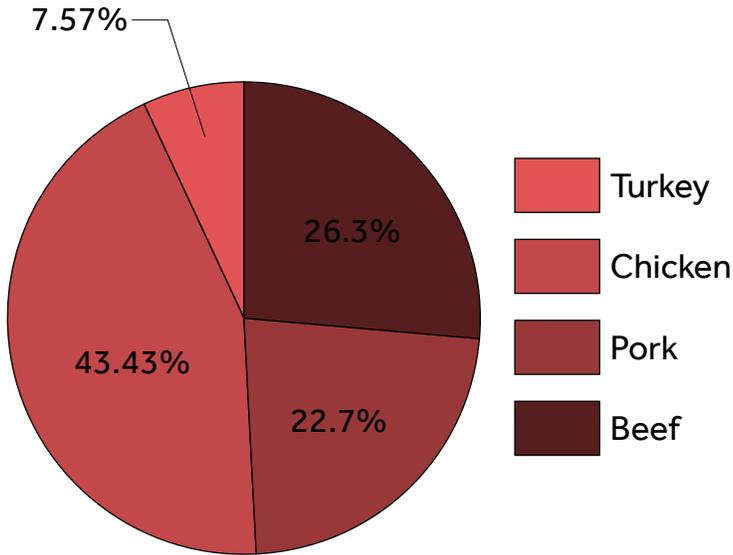
Wasatch Hollow



To help me better understand how I might envision this future system I chose a community to work off of. This community was Wasatch Hollow. Wasatch Hollow is a small suburb of Salt Lake City, consisting of 3,458 people 1,450 homes and 240 acre of land suitable for raising animals

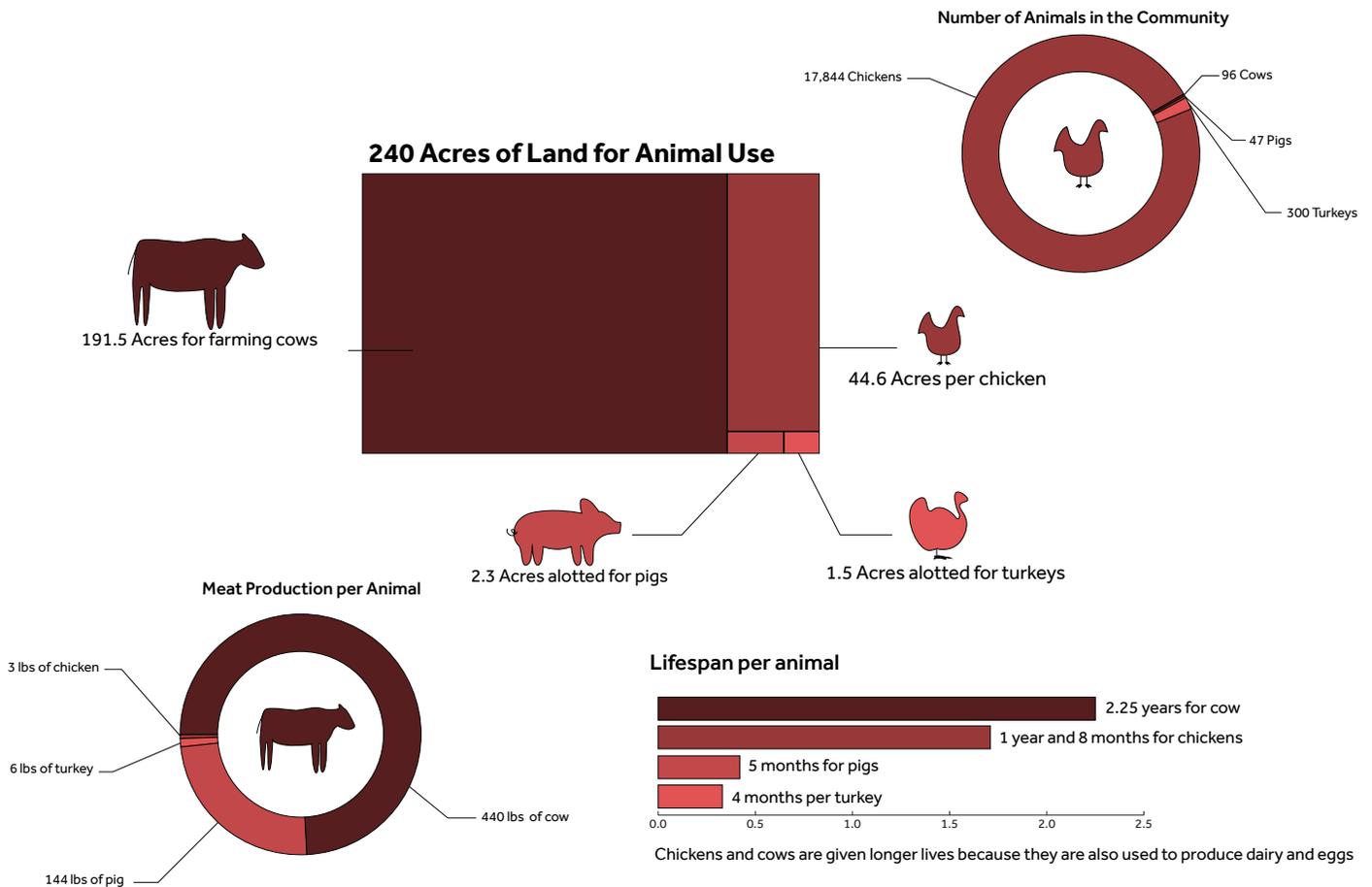
Devison of land and "ethical" animal farming

Consumption breakdown



This is the current breakdown of meat consumption in America. For consistency and simplicity calculations are based off of this distribution of animal consumption.[6]

Using the information gathered in my research and represented here, I set up the details for my system. How an ethical animal farming system may run, and the logistics of how the animals could be dispersed into a community.



[7] [8] [9] [10]

Diet reflects the community that you live in

Implementation across the U.S.

I wanted to know how the constraints of this system would affect different populations, in particular their eating habits.

Amount of Farmland per Person

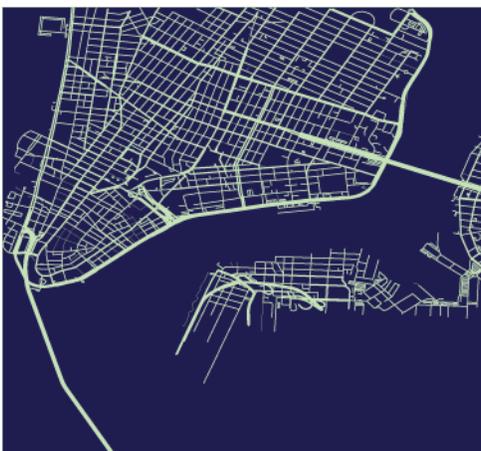


Its interesting to reflect on what life would look like if our consumption habits were linked to the places we live. This would obviously reduce consumption, but would it also result in people moving away from the cities in order to consume more meat?

I like this scenario because we often overconsume because we do not have to live with the consiquences. This forces people to live with the consiquences of eating meat.

City Living

New York City



This environment would produce 1 lb of meat for each individual over an entire year. [11]

Rural Living

Orangeville Utah



This environment would produce 206 lb of meat for each individual over an entire year. [12]

How it compares to our current food system

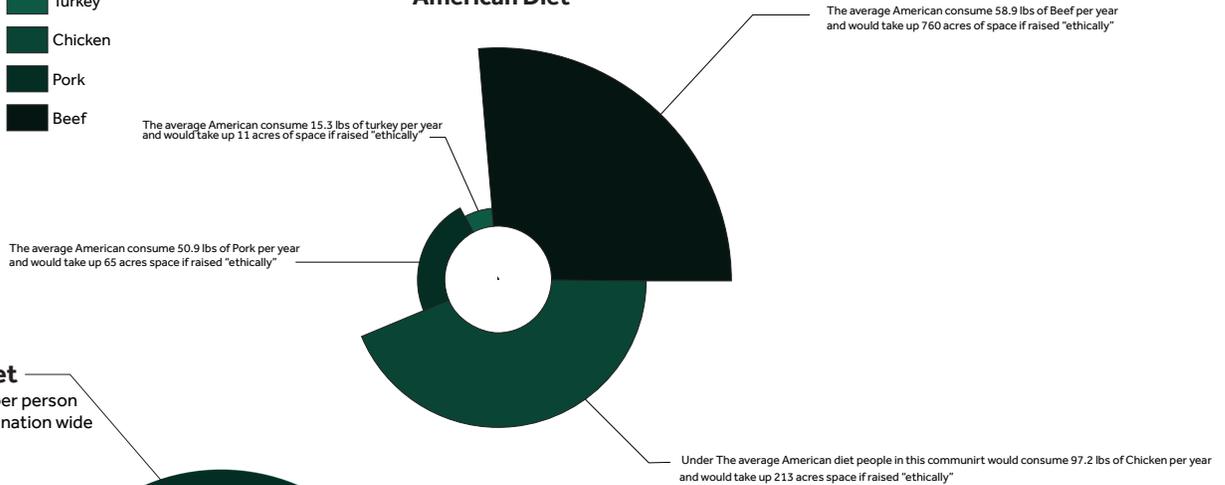
- American Diet
- Wasatch Hollow Diet



Land and meat production

- Turkey
- Chicken
- Pork
- Beef

American Diet



American Diet
223.8 lbs of meat per person
727.4 Million acres nation wide



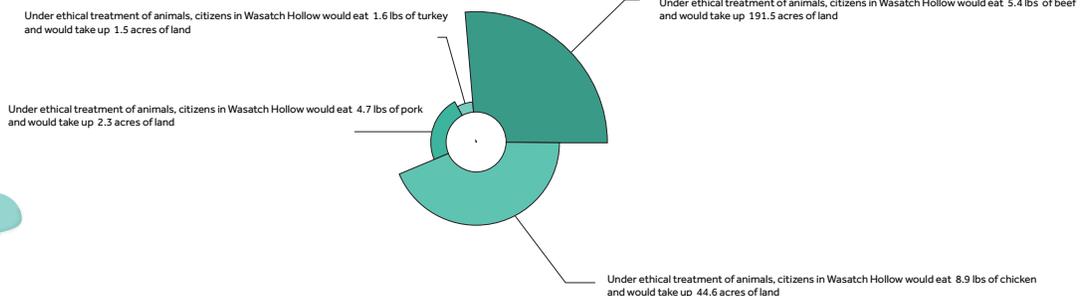
Wasatch Hollow Diet
20.6 lbs of meat per person
74.6 Million acres nation wide

land usage if raised "ethically"



- Turkey
- Chicken
- Pork
- Beef

Wasatch Hollow Diet



Logistics of adopting farm animals into our communities



Moving deeper into the logistics of how this community would work, I drew out a neighborhood of the community. It shows a community at the brink of capacity, every household has a chicken coop, housing 12 chickens, and the neighborhood has a central barn capable of housing the 2 cows and 3 pig that would be present in this neighborhood.

Logistics of adopting farm animals into our communities

This is a drawing that came as the result of my design research into this speculative future for animal agriculture. It shows the collection of my research into the workings of this speculative future.



The mood shows the unsatisfied emotions of the community. They know they are doing the right thing by eliminating factory farming and adopting animals into their community but it still feels wrong because they are now the ones taking the lives of the animals, and they cannot help but feel it is all unnecessary.

I wanted to show that even though we are constantly attempting to make great steps to better this world for our future, that there is no end goal, there is always something better, or more humane that we can be doing.

Conclusion

While it is incredibly unlikely that this exact future unfolds I do believe that as a society we will continue to work on improving our actions to better serve everybody living on this planet, including animals. I enjoyed thinking up a future for animal agriculture that would challenge people's beliefs by forcing them to live the truths that they say they believe.

Bibliography

- 1.)What is ag-gag legislation? ASPCA. (n.d.). Retrieved May 10, 2022, from <https://www.aspc.org/improving-laws-animals/public-policy/what-ag-gag-legislation>
 - 2.)Project counter glow. Project Counter glow. (n.d.). Retrieved May 10, 2022, from <https://www.counter-glow.org/>
 - 3.)democracynow. (2017, May 3). North Carolina hog farms spray manure around black communities; residents fight back. YouTube. Retrieved May 10, 2022, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eyAF-NV4Afgw>
 - 4.)Eller, G. R. and D. (2015, July 30). Iowa father, son die from manure pit fumes. Des Moines Register. Retrieved May 10, 2022, from <https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/2015/07/28/iowa-father-son-die-manure-pit-fumes/30809037/>
 - 5.)ASPCA surveys. ASPCA. (n.d.). Retrieved May 10, 2022, from <https://www.aspc.org/shopwith-ourheart/business-and-farmer-resources/aspc-surveys>
 - 6.)Livestock, dairy, and poultry outlook - ers.usda.gov. (n.d.). Retrieved May 10, 2022, from <https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/outlooks/98848/ldp-m-313.pdf?v=3423.6>
 - 7.)Plamondon, A. R. (2016, November 11). How many chickens per acre? Robert Plamondon's Rural Life. Retrieved May 10, 2022, from <https://www.plamondon.com/wp/how-many-chickens-per-acre/>
 - 8.)Forrest Pritchard is a full-time sustainable farmer and New York Times bestselling author, N. (2018, August 4). Pastured Turkey basics. Smith Meadows. Retrieved May 10, 2022, from <https://smithmeadows.com/farm/pastured-turkey-basics/>
 - 9.)How many animals should how many acres of pasture be on your ... - USDA. (n.d.). Retrieved May 10, 2022, from https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1167344.pdf
 - 10.)YouTube. (2020, May 1). Getting started with pastured pork - how to set up a pastured pig Paddock. YouTube. Retrieved May 10, 2022, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PKN3Rg9y7hl>
 - 11.)Rizzo, A. (2019, July 16). New York ranks last for amount of green space per resident among the major US cities. NBC New York. Retrieved May 10, 2022, from <https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/new-york-ranks-last-for-amount-of-green-space-per-resident-among-the-major-us-cities/1529935/>
 - 12.)Orangeville, Utah. Orangeville, Utah (UT 84537) profile: population, maps, real estate, averages, homes, statistics, relocation, travel, jobs, hospitals, schools, crime, moving, houses, news, sex offenders. (n.d.). Retrieved May 10, 2022, from <http://www.city-data.com/city/Orangeville-Utah.html>
- Other helpful sites in my research:
- 2022 U.S. animal kill clock. Animal Clock. (n.d.). Retrieved May 10, 2022, from <https://animalclock.org/>
- People for the ethical treatment of animals (PETA). PETA. (2022, May 10). Retrieved May 10, 2022, from <https://www.peta.org/>