

WPI Fish are Friends *and* Food

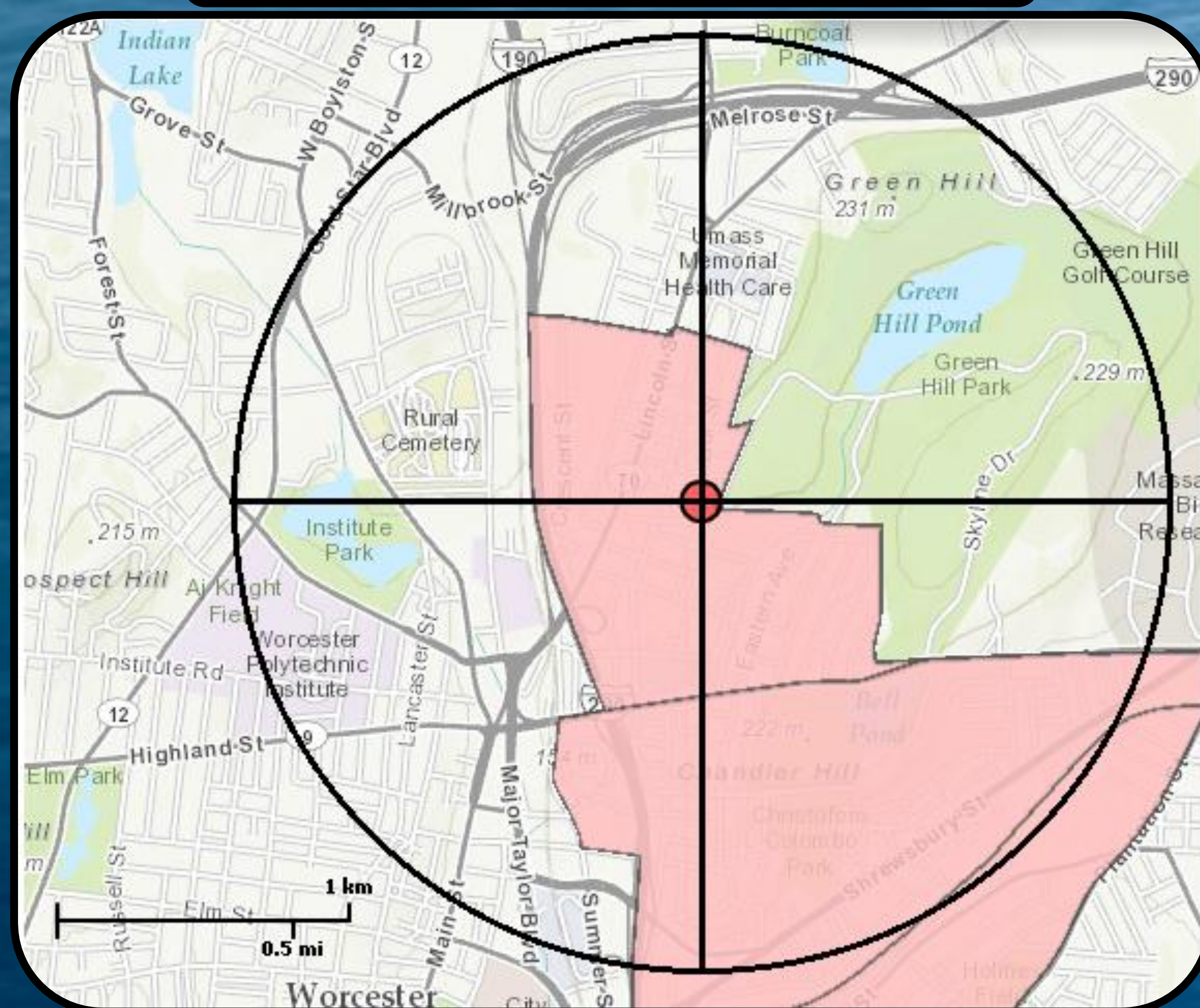
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GPS: Food Sustainability
B-Term 2012

Background

Urban Food Deserts

- Low access - Greater than 33% of the population live more than 1 mile from a supermarket
- Low income – Poverty rate greater than 20%
- Unhealthy options

Worcester Food Desert



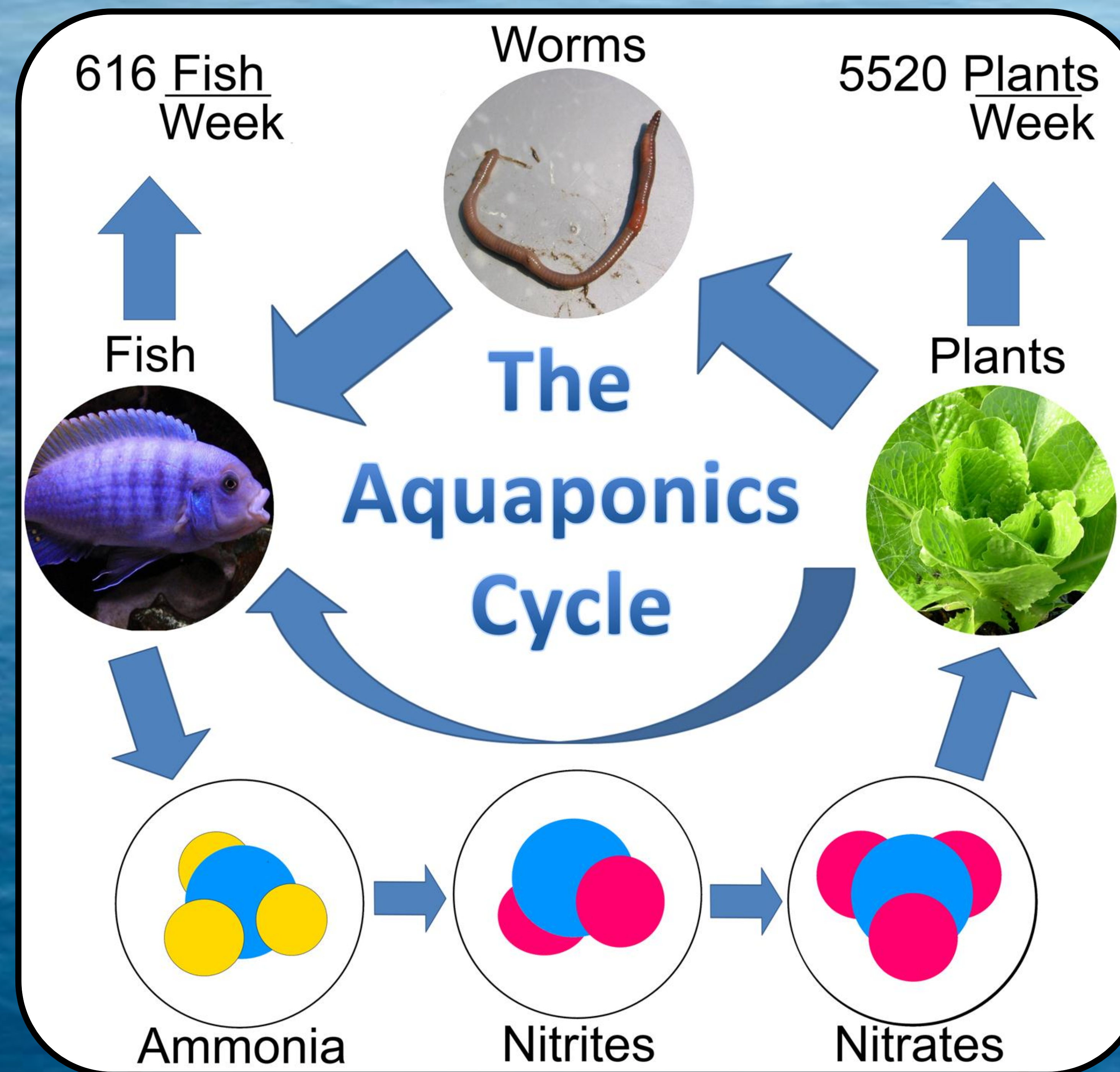
Problem

Urban Food Desert in Worcester

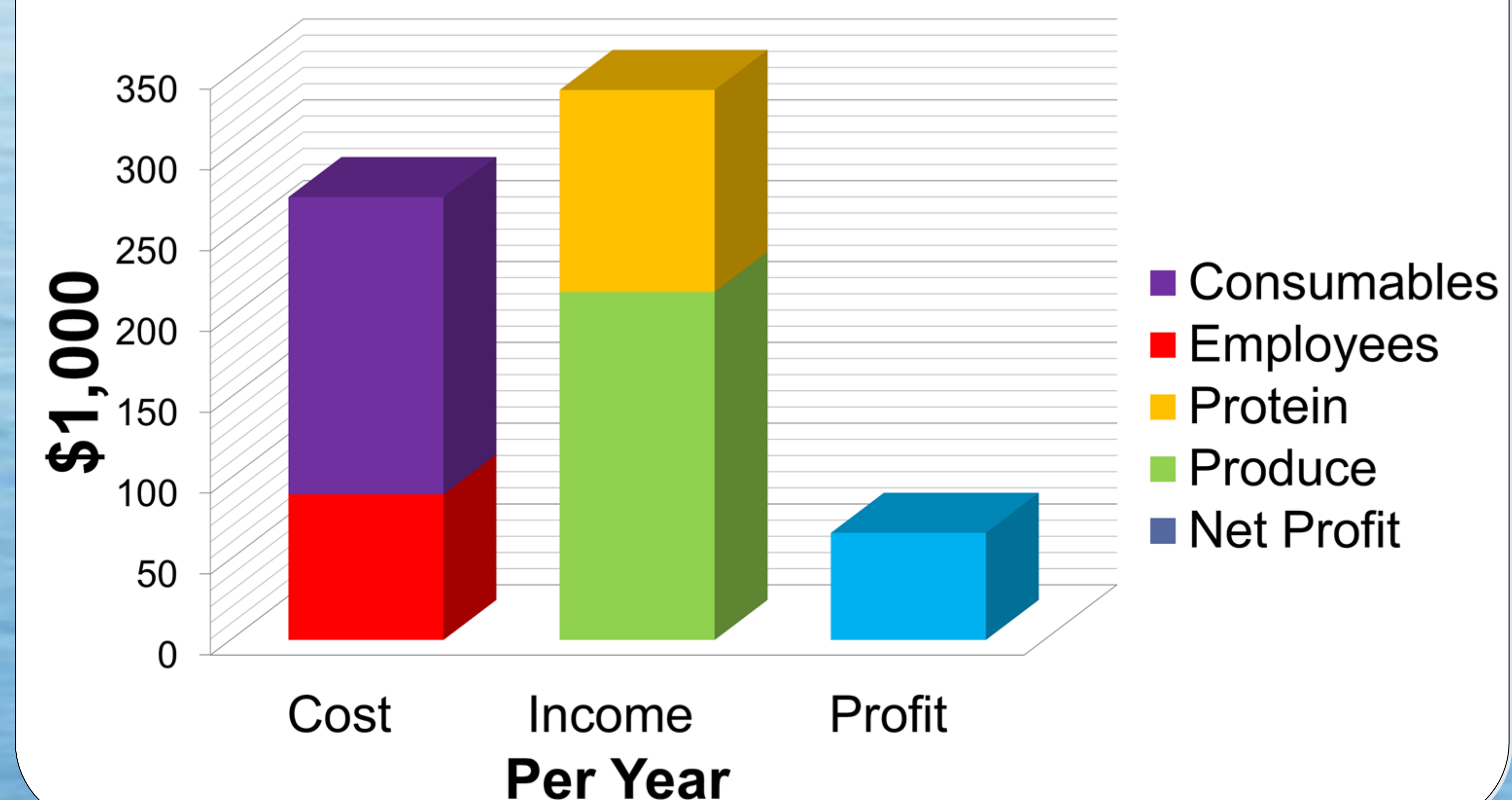
- Area of 0.5 square miles Population: 5248
- Percentage of Low Access: 100%
- Percentage of Low Income: 30.4%
- Percentage of households without vehicles: 29.4%

Solution

Renovate an existing foreclosed house (26 Windsor St, Worcester MA) to support an aquaponics system.



Financial Model



Cost

- Acquisition of a house and building permits
- Large set up cost
- Training and education
- Possibility for technological or biological failures

Benefits

- Efficient yield
- Minimum inputs
- Small production costs
- Subsidies costs through government grant
- Access for community
- Steady reliable source of protein and produce
- Jobs

Assessment

- Calculate new "low access levels"
- Membership

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