Question List

Alaska FFA Association and USDA Northwest Climate Hub

Grade Levels 6-12

Students can choose five questions from this list or brainstorm five questions for their interviewee.

Personal History

● When did you start farming/gardening/hunting/etc.?
● Why did you start farming/gardening/hunting/etc.?
● Are there any differences between weather in Alaska and weather when you were younger (say a kid or when you first moved here)?
● What was the biggest change you encountered during your years as a farmer/gardener/hunter/etc.?
● Have you observed changes in farming/gardening/etc. in the past few decades? What is your attitude toward any trends you may have noticed?
● How do you see your role in the community?
● Who has had the biggest influence on your life? How?

Basic Questions

● What is your favorite place in Alaska? How has it changed in the last twenty years?
● Are you a first-generation farmer/gardener/hunter etc. or has your family done it in the past?
● What is the hardest part of farming/gardening/hunting etc. for you?
● What is the most satisfying part of farming/gardening/ hunting etc. for you?
● What is your favorite part about farming/gardening/agriculture/working with the land?
● What is your least favorite part about farming/gardening/etc.?
● What are you proudest of?
● What is the hardest thing you have ever had to do in relation to farming/gardening/etc.?

Farming Specific Questions

● How do you deal with weeds? With insect pests?
● Is farming your only source of income?
● Can you think of any tools that contemporary farmers must employ to stay competitive? How do they differ from those that you used in your earliest days as a farmer?
● What do you think was the most useful advance in farming?
● How did this farm start?
● Have you noticed any differences in when plants need to be planted or harvested in the past few decades?
Do you have any concerns about food security in Alaska?

Climate Change Questions
- Have you made any changes to the way you farm/garden/hunt etc. that have been due to climate or weather?
- What does climate change mean to you?
- In your time in Alaska, what changes have you seen in the length of season or intensity of storms? How do you think that might affect your activity in the future?
- What possibilities do you think might arise if the climate continues to change in Alaska? What issues might arise?
- What do you think we can do to successfully adapt to changes in weather or climate?

Advice for Another Generation
- What advice would you give young people who are interested in farming/gardening/etc.?
- How could young people prepare for a changing climate in Alaska?