

# Farm to School

## October Newsletter



### Announcements:

**The October: "Theme of the Day" calendar celebrates Farm to School Month**

[National Farm to School Month](#) kicked off on October 1, and schools and organizations are celebrating now! To celebrate and spotlight the many aspects of farm to school, the National Farm to School Network put together a [theme of the day calendar](#) that you can use to plan your activities. During October, each theme day will be accompanied by a blog post containing information and activity ideas. To further aid your planning process, a preview of all of the blog posts are available on [farmtoschoolmonth.org](http://farmtoschoolmonth.org). The blog posts are written by a variety of partner organizations throughout the month, providing unique perspectives and stories.

### **Weight of the Nation Screening Guide**

Kaiser Permanente sponsored the three-part series [The Weight of the Nation for Kids](#) and now offers [The Weight of the Nation for Kids Screening to Action: Quickstart Guide](#) to spark community action to address youth and childhood obesity within a school-based setting or in other youth serving organizations.

### **Farm Bill and Government**

**Shutdown** Keep an eye on the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition's [blog](#) for up-to-date information about the government shut down, the farm bill and the implications for farm to school policy work.

**If you have any farm to school month events or acknowledgements, e-mail Jacalyne Adkins at [adkins.285@osu.edu](mailto:adkins.285@osu.edu)**

### **Farm to School Month Themed Days**

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">School Gardens</a>           | <a href="#">Food Hubs</a>             |
| <a href="#">Public Health</a>            | <a href="#">Farm to Preschool</a>     |
| <a href="#">USDA Census</a>              | <a href="#">Food Policy Councils</a>  |
| <a href="#">Salad Bar Day</a>            | <a href="#">Farmer Resources</a>      |
| <a href="#">F2S in Indian Country</a>    | <a href="#">Youth Empowerment</a>     |
| <a href="#">Nutrition Director's Day</a> | <a href="#">Food Day</a>              |
| <a href="#">Farmer Appreciation</a>      | <a href="#">After School Programs</a> |
|  | <a href="#">Scratch Cooking</a>       |

### **Contact information**

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## Events/Webinars:

### **October 9th—USDA Farm to School Webinar**

#### **Webinar #2: Partnering with Cooperative Extension to Support Farm to School**

Wednesday, October 9, 2013 | 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. EST  
Presenters: Julia Govis, Program Coordinator, University of Illinois Extension and Morgan Taggart, Program Specialist, Ohio State University Extension

Julia Govis from University of Illinois Extension will share information about how she is leading farm to school in Illinois through the development of educational resources and curriculum to support Extension work in its diverse program areas. Morgan Taggart from Ohio State University Extension will describe how OSU Extension has prioritized involvement in farm to school and how other Extension professionals in urban and suburban areas can be involved with farm to school related activities. Morgan will also share how she is currently involved with farm to school across the Cleveland area through school gardens, local food procurement, and local food and agriculture curriculum development/ instruction.

#### **Connecting to Webinars| Phone & Computer**

##### **Audio**

- Call the toll-free number (from your telephone, audio is not available over the computer): **1-800-988-0278**
- When prompted, provide the operator with the participant pass code: **91613#**
- Please plan to connect 5-15 minutes early to ensure you are connected on time, the meeting will begin promptly.

##### **Live Meeting**

- Click on (or copy and paste) this link to join the meeting:  
<https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/usda/join?id=SJ9CSP&role=attend>
- You will be prompted to type in your name, email, and organization. Once you hit “continue” you will be joined with the meeting.
- Please plan to connect 5-15 minutes early to ensure you are connected on time, the meeting will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. EST.

##### **Questions**

Please contact Matt Benson with the USDA Farm to School Program at (202) 720-6740 or [matthew.benson@fns.usda.gov](mailto:matthew.benson@fns.usda.gov). For technical support please contact Kristin Caulley at [Kristin.Caulley@fns.usda.gov](mailto:Kristin.Caulley@fns.usda.gov) or (703)305-2295.

### **October 24<sup>th</sup>—Food Day**

[Food Day](#) is a nationwide celebration of healthy, affordable, and sustainably produced food and a grassroots campaign for better food policies. It builds all year long and culminates on October 24. Food Day aims to help people Eat Real. That means cutting back on sugar drinks, overly salted packaged foods, and fatty, factory-farmed meats in favor of vegetables, fruits, whole grains, and sustainably raised protein. Food Day envisions shorter lines at fast-food drive-throughs—and bigger crowds at farmers markets.

This annual event involves some of the country’s most prominent food activists, united by a vision of food that is healthy, affordable, and produced with care for the environment, farm animals, and the people who grow, harvest, and serve it.

### **Oct. 23-Nov.12 Online Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) course offered for growers, processors**

Cornell University offers two sessions of [Implementing GAPs: A Key to Produce Safety](#), a self-directed online course on Good Agricultural Practices. The sessions are Sept. 18-Oct. 10 and Oct. 23-Nov. 12, 2013. The course typically takes 15-20 hours to complete. Course fee is \$190.

### **November 6<sup>th</sup>—Cuyahoga Farm to School Model Practice Webinar**

Cuyahoga Co., Ohio received a model practice award and representative Alison Patrick of Cuyahoga County Board of Health and farm to school advisory member will be presenting in the webinar. [Register for the webinar.](#)

### **November 6-8--Women in Sustainable Ag Conference**

Open registration for the [4th National Conference for Women in Sustainable Agriculture](#),

Nov. 6 - 8. “This is the first time this conference will be held in the Midwest, and we are excited to invite colleagues from all across the country to join us as presenters and attendees,” said Leigh Adcock, WFAN executive director.

### **Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>—Farm to Food Bank to School: An Emerging Model in Communities Across the Country (Register Here)**

In many communities across the country, food banks are emerging as community food hubs, connecting local farms to other markets, including schools. Some food banks are engaged in other farm to school activities including experiential farm education. Join us for the November LunchBites webinar to hear from individuals who are leading this model at their local food banks.

### **Dec. 9, USDA Local Procurement Train the Trainer Event**

The USDA Farm to School Program is hosting a local procurement train-the-trainer event on **Monday, December 9, 2013** in Arlington, VA. The session is designed for state agencies, farm to school coordinators, and anyone who routinely instructs or trains schools on proper procurement practices or local sourcing techniques. Please complete [this survey](#) to gauge interest in this event.

## Funding Opportunities:

NATIONAL  
FARM to  
SCHOOL  
MONTH



### Lowe's Toolbox for Education Accepting Applications for K-12 Public School Improvement Projects

Grants of up to \$5,000 will support basic necessities, with a preference for funding requests that have a permanent impact, such as facility enhancement as well as landscaping/cleanup projects....

**Deadline: October 15, 2013**

### Whole Kids Foundation Accepting Applications for School Garden Grant Program

Grants of \$2,000 are available to public and private K-12 schools in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada to help fund school garden projects....

**Deadline:** October 31, 2013

### Open Calls for Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Grants

The 2014 **Research and Education Grant** call for preproposals is now available. Preproposals must be submitted online by 4:00 p.m. CDT, **October 24, 2013**. [Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [Text](#)

The 2014 **Youth Educator Grant** call for proposals is now available. Proposals must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. CDT, **November 1, 2013**. [Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [Text](#)

The 2014 **Farmer Rancher Grant** call for proposals is now available. Proposals must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. CST, **November 14, 2013**. [Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [Text](#)

Timelines for NCR-SARE's grant programs can be found [here](#). Sample calls for proposals and lists of recently funded projects can be found [here](#).

### Applications Invited for Terri Lynne Lokoff/Children's Tylenol National Child Care Teacher Awards

Fifty teachers will be selected to receive grants of up to \$1,500, plus the chance to win an additional prize of \$1,000, in recognition of their dedication to providing high-quality child care....

**Deadline: December 6, 2013**

2014 Mantis Tiller Award Mantis Tiller 2012-2013 winners! For the past 18 years, Mantis has provided the Mantis Awards to charitable and educational garden projects that enhance the quality of life in their host communities. To date, Mantis has provided 296 programs with tillers...

**Deadline: March 7, 2014**

### Unsung Heroes Program Invites K-12 Educators to Apply for 2014 Class Project Awards

Each year, one hundred educators who are using new teaching methods and techniques to improve learning are selected to receive awards of \$2,000 each to help fund a class project.

**Deadline: April 30, 2014**

### Awesome Food \$1000 Project Grants

Each month, Awesome Food will give one applicant \$1,000 to help pull off an awesome idea involving food. The ideas must relate to food in some form, and the definition will be more inclusive than exclusive. Examples could include educating the public about DIY-farming, creating an ad-hoc eatery in a subway car, or recording videos of immigrants' recipes. Anyone is eligible to apply: for profit, nonprofit, individuals, companies, schools, adults and children. Applications are reviewed as they are received. One grant is awarded each month.

**Deadline: Rolling**

### Simply Organic 1%

The Simply Organic 1% fund supports and promotes the growth of organic and sustainable agriculture, including research, education and efficient/quality improvement projects.

**Deadline: Rolling**

### Fruit Tree Planting Foundation - Orchard Donations

The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation (FTPF) is dedicated to planting fruitful trees and plants to alleviate world hunger, combat global warming, strengthen communities, and improve the surrounding air, soil, and water. FTPF programs donate orchards where the harvest will best serve communities for generations, at places such as community gardens, public schools, city/state parks, low-income neighborhoods, Native American reservations, international hunger relief sites, and animal sanctuaries. Recipients must be nonprofits, public schools, or government entities. In addition, the "Fruit Tree 101" program creates outdoor edible orchard classrooms at public schools of all levels, across the country, to provide generations of students with environmental education opportunities and a source of organic fruit for improved school lunch nutrition. **Deadline: Rolling**

## Media Mentions in the State, Region, and Nationally:

### [Ohio State University's Chow Line Feature Farm to School](#)

The article highlights changes in school menus and the implementation of the "Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010".

### [Education blossoms in the learning garden](#)

WCSH-TV

It's one of 18 gardens around the state that participated in the Green School Grounds Tour on Saturday. Students gathered in the garden, eager to show locals ...

### [Farm To \(Preschool\) Table: Abeona House Gets Healthy Food To ...](#)

WWNO

"We asked for someone who would help us develop a farm-to-table, locally-sourced food program. I remember one of the items on her proposed menu was pink ...

### [WSD students benefit from 'Farm to School' program](#)

Newsmagazinenetwork

The Wentzville School District Child Nutrition Department says it is always looking for ways to get fresher, higher quality foods onto the plates of ...

### [Florida Commissioner's Spotlight on National Farm to School Month](#)

Southeast AgNET

FL Ag Commissioner Adam Putnam On this week's Commissioner's Spotlight, Florida's Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam talks about how National ...

### [FoodCorps program launches in Hawaii](#)

Hawaii 24/7 (press release)

The island's school garden program is blossoming, but this year it's getting the biggest boost in its five-year history. FoodCorps, a national non-profit program in ...

### [School garden plants seeds of learning](#)

The Daily Citizen

Fruits, vegetables and herbs grown in the garden are used in the school's cafeteria. The garden is also used to teach students about several different topics, ...

### [Farm to School Week celebrated](#)

Asbury Park Press

Local Farm to School: Officials from the Department of Agriculture visit with students at the Audrey W. Clark School in Long Branch during Farm to School Week.

### [Sharing their homegrown success](#)

Marshall Independent

Charlie Poster, assistant commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, visited both schools to see how MDA Farm to School grants have helped ...



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