

December news

WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection sent this bulletin at 12/15/2015 09:00 AM CST

Wisconsin Farm to School

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

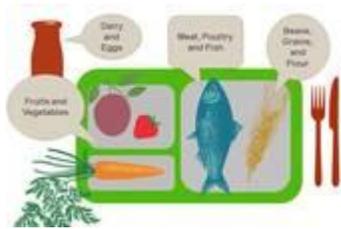
December 15, 2015 | What a wonderful year....

In today's Wisconsin Farm to School newsletter, you will find:

- [New Tools and Resources](#)
- [Webinars, Conferences and Events](#)
- [Farm to School Funding Opportunities](#)
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New Tools and Resources



USDA Fact Sheet

[A new fact sheet from the USDA on using local meat, eggs, poultry, and game in your school meal programs.](#)



[Parents for Healthy Schools](#) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Resources to help schools, school groups, parent-teacher organizations, and school wellness committees to help parents engage to create a healthy school environment for their kids



From the Edible Schoolyard Project!

Our First Harvest: “Magic in a Bulb”, City Blossoms
[This lesson](#), offered in both English and Spanish, introduces young students to the basic needs of plants as they grow paperwhites from bulbs.



GROWING FARM TO SCHOOL WITH FARM CREDIT

The National Farm to School Network recently completed a project with Farm Credit to explore ways our networks can work together to grow farm to school and expand market capacity for local products.

A new NFSN fact sheet helps guide farm to school practitioners in building relationships with local Farm Credit organizations, with an overview of Farm Credit, ideas for partnership, and short case studies of successful projects. [Download the fact sheet here.](#)

And, NFSN hosted a webinar with Farm Credit to dig into innovation partnership ideas. [Watch a recording of the webinar here.](#)

Agricultural lending institutions rooted in your local community can be great allies for expanding farm to school activities. We hope you will find these resources helpful as you continue to expand the diversity of partners in state and regional farm to school networks.

Webinars, Conferences and Events



Eat Wisconsin Fish Summit - Wednesday, January 13

Sheboygan, Wisconsin. Meet the people who raise and harvest fish from our local Wisconsin waters, and learn how they can supply local fish for your restaurant, school or market.

[Get more](#) information [Register for FREE Now!](#)



Wisconsin Local Food Summit, January 14-15

The local food industry is inherently a vital part of Wisconsin's economy. Join us this January as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Wisconsin Local Food Summit. Celebrate and learn about the components of Local Food System Development with more

than two days of breakout sessions and workshops (including Farm to School sessions!), leading presentations, Community Food Systems Tours, and more! This wonderful and unique opportunity is an event that you won't want to miss! Mark your calendars now and plan to attend. Attendees can expect to gather with a diverse group of local food advocates to exchange information, strengthen regional alliances, and gain practical strategies and best practices that address issues within local food system development.

[Registration Here](#)



Save the Date: 2016 National Farm to Cafeteria Conference

Save the date for the 2016 [National Farm to Cafeteria Conference](#), to be held June 2-4, 2016 in Madison, Wisconsin. The National Farm to Cafeteria Conference is a biennial event that convenes a diverse group of stakeholders from across the farm to cafeteria movement who are working to source local food for institutional cafeterias and foster a culture of food and agricultural literacy across America. The conference is hosted by the National Farm to School Network, in partnership with local host organizations. Registration opens Feb 15, 2016.



The Wisconsin Farm to Cafeteria Video Project

Calling all WI Farm to Cafeteria partners – students, teachers, food service professionals, farmers, and community partners!!

We want to showcase all of the amazing farm to cafeteria work in Wisconsin at the [2016 National Farm to Cafeteria Conference](#), June 2-4, 2016 in Madison, WI, and **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Pull out your camera, tablet, or smart phone and record a short video (2 minutes or less) describing and illustrating the great farm to cafeteria work that you are doing! Just three steps separate you and your favorite farmer, school, hospital, college or organization from being featured at the National Farm to Cafeteria Conference.

1. **Film** your favorite farmer delivering local squash, food service staff filling the salad bar with lettuce from their hospital garden, students singing about vegetables, or however YOU do farm to cafeteria.
2. **Interview** a farm to cafeteria champion or two about how farm to cafeteria impacts your school, institution, and community. Use the questions below to help get the juices flowing.
 - What does WI Farm to Cafeteria mean to you?
 - Why do you love farm to school?
 - How does WI Farm to Cafeteria impact your school or community?
3. **Submit** film footage to Beth Hanna at beth@communitygroundworks.org by **Jan. 15, 2016**.

We hope to see your farm to cafeteria project on the big screen in June!
Questions? Contact Beth Hanna at beth@communitygroundworks.org or 608-240-0409.

Farm to School Funding Opportunities

Frontera Farmer Foundation Grants

The Frontera Farmer Foundation will award grants up to \$12,000 for capital improvements to small and medium-size, individually owned farms that sell to customers in the Chicago area. Farmers must have been in business for at least three years and must demonstrate how the grant will improve both their farm's viability and the availability of locally grown food products in the Chicago area.

Applications must be received by February 27, 2016.

Carton 2 Garden Grant

Show us your students' creativity by re-purposing milk and juice cartons from your school cafeteria to either build or enhance your school garden. Educators can engage students in a hands-on experience creating teachable moments on environmental stewardship, sustainable packaging and healthy living. The best use of cartons in a school garden gives your school the chance to win one of 14 prizes with a grand prize valued at \$5,000.

<http://carton2garden.com/contest-details/spring-2016-contest/>

Job Openings

Director, Minnesota Food Charter Network

The Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute at the University of Minnesota is seeking a new director for the Minnesota Food Charter Network. This position will foster the development of the Minnesota Food Charter Network and implementation of Food Charter strategies, represent the Minnesota Food Charter Network in communities, manage budget and business operations, and provide direct support to multiple teams charged with various Minnesota Food Charter Network responsibilities. For more information on this position [click here](#). (Job ID: 305825)

Farm to School Media Mentions

10 Champions of the Local Food Movement - shoutout to the National Farm to School Network Executive Director and Co-Founder, Anupama Joshi!

Behind the local and urban food movement stand hundreds of people, each adding their own unique momentum. From urban farms in the city, to activists and writers, each of these people contributes something to a brighter future of food. See Bright Agrotech's top 10 list of local food movement champions [here](#).

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact DATCP's Sarah Elliott at 608-224-5046 or sarah.elliott@wisconsin.gov.