

# You CRUNCHEd! And we heard it!

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## Wisconsin Farm to School

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

**November 17, 2015 | Happy November!**

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

- [The Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch! Share your story!](#)
- [General Updates](#)
- [New Tools and Resources](#)
- [Farm to School Funding Opportunities](#)



## The WI Farm to School Advisory Council CRUNCHES with Mount Horeb School District!

A big THANK YOU to Food Service Director Michelle Denk and all of the Mount Horeb School District for hosting the WI Farm to School Advisory Council the day of the Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch. We had a wonderful time!

**The Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch!**  
**Share your story!**



North Crawford School District Crunched with 485 participants! Soldiers Grove, WI knows how to support their healthier generation thanks to Sunrise Orchards of Gays Mills, WI! [#GreatAppleCrunch](#)

## You CRUNCHED and we heard it!

Congratulations! **Over 200,000 participants from WI** were part of nearly 600,000 students, school staff, and farm to school supporters across the Great Lakes region who CRUNCHED to celebrate Farm to School month! Here are some follow up steps to help you amplify and extend the message of the Crunch!

**Social media:** Please continue to collect and share stories. Share pictures and stories onto the [Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch](#) Facebook page. Please continue to use the hashtags, it's the easiest way for me to find you! [#GreatAppleCrunch](#) [#F2SMonth](#) [#FoodDay2015](#) and [#wiapplecrunch](#) Post to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Be sure to share to the GL GA Crunch page, and scan through all the social media for really good stories about the amazing things going on in our region. Make sure to have appropriate school photo release forms for any students featured in your photos.

**Garden Contest:** Contest photos must be shared to the [Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch Facebook page](#) with the hashtag [#WIAppleCrunch](#) or emailed to [WIFarmtoSchool@wisconsin.gov](mailto:WIFarmtoSchool@wisconsin.gov) by **midnight on Nov. 26, 2015**. Finalists will be selected by McKay Nursery and announced in the beginning of February 2016 on the McKay Nursery Facebook page. The public will vote for their favorite finalist on the McKay Facebook page by "liking" their favorite finalists. The three Finalists with the most "Likes" will be named as contest winners and announced in the WI Farm to School Newsletter and on the McKay Nursery Facebook page by March 2016. The three winning schools will win Fruit Packages to be shipped in the Spring 2016. All Wisconsin schools with a school garden or ability to plant edible perennial plants on school property are eligible to apply. Fruit Package prizes must be used on school grounds.\*Fruit Package will consist of available products in spring 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](mailto: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](mailto:beth@communitygroundworks.org) or 608-240-0409.

## General Updates



# 8TH NATIONAL FARM TO CAFETERIA CONFERENCE

**MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER**  
JUNE 2-4, 2016 | MADISON, WISCONSIN

### Proposals now accepted for National Farm to Cafeteria Conference

Organizers of the 8th [National Farm to Cafeteria Conference](#) are seeking proposals for workshops, posters and lightning talks to feature during the two-day gathering in Madison, Wis., June 2-4, 2016. This event is the premier gathering of individuals and organizations working to source local food for institutional cafeterias and foster a culture of food and

agricultural literacy across America. Cafeterias in schools and early care, colleges and universities, hospitals, prisons and other institutional settings serve tens of millions of Americans every day, placing the farm to cafeteria movement at the forefront of the fight to end obesity and strengthen local food systems. The 2016 conference theme Moving Forward Together lifts up new and innovative partnerships to continue building momentum and ensure long-term sustainability in the movement. The application period is open now through **Dec. 4, 2015**. Learn more at [farmtocafeteriaconference.org](http://farmtocafeteriaconference.org).

## November is Native American Heritage Month

Read this short newsletter post on [Traditional Foods in School Gardens](#) as a way to celebrate Native American Heritage Month in November. There's a lot of other great information on farm to school in the USDA FNS [Office of Community Food System Newsletter](#).

## New Tools and Resources

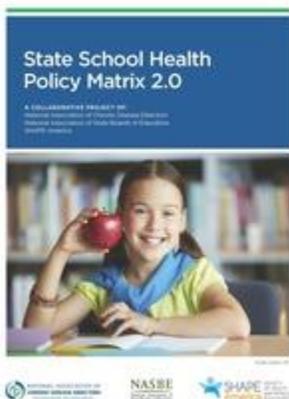


### **NEW! USDA New Farmers Tool**

The USDA has announced a [new, tailored web tool](#) designed to connect burgeoning farm entrepreneurs with programs and resources available to help them get started. The new web tool is available at [www.usda.gov/newfarmers](http://www.usda.gov/newfarmers). The site features advice and guidance on everything a new farm business owner needs to know, from writing a business plan, to obtaining a loan to grow their business, to filing taxes as a new small business owner. By answering a series of questions about their operation, farmers can use the site's Discovery Tool to build a personalized set of recommendations of USDA programs and services that may meet their needs. [Learn more here](#).

## NEW! Cultivating collective action: The ecology of a statewide food network

In order to continue to foster and grow a sustainable partnership with food network leaders across the state, [University of Minnesota Extension Health and Nutrition](#) educators explored the opportunities and challenges presented by the emergence of a statewide food network in Minnesota and the role of Extension within it. [This report](#) provides a summary of the findings and highlights opportunities, challenges, and best practices that emerged through 10 categories that describe the different phases and key activities of a network. Additionally, the report findings are presented through an overarching concept of understanding networks as ecosystems, because the processes at play within food networks mimic many of those found in nature. [Read the report here.](#)



## NEW! State School Health Policy Matrix 2.0

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors, National Association of State Boards of Education and the Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE America) have released the [State School Health Policy Matrix 2.0](#), an updated guide to state-level school health policies in all 50 states for the following topics: competitive foods and beverages, physical education and physical activity and administration of medication in the school environment. [Learn more here.](#)

## NEW! Food Policy Council Directory

The [Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future's Food Policy Networks](#) project began surveying food policy councils (FPCs) and similar groups across North America annually in 2012. The [FPC directory](#) and [map](#) have been updated for 2015, which include updated contact information, goals, webpages and social media sites, governance structures, top priorities, and notable accomplishments for the 282 active FPCs listed across North America. [Visit the directory here.](#)



## Call for papers: Childhood Obesity in Underserved Populations

[Childhood Obesity](#) plans to publish a special issue dedicated to Childhood Obesity in Underserved Populations. New ideas and initiatives are needed for understanding the factors that predispose or lead to obesity in these populations (biological, behavioral, and ecological). New analyses that enable us to understand why previous programs have not been successful (especially mediation and moderator analyses), and for innovative programs that deliberately attempt to minimize previous recognized problems and take new approaches to better serve these populations are needed. Editors are interested in original research and meta-analyses in regard to any aspect of childhood obesity in underserved populations. The deadline for manuscript submission is March 15, 2016. [More information here.](#)

## Farm to School Funding Opportunities

### USDA Community Food Project Grant Program

The 2016 [USDA Community Food Projects Grant Program](#) Request for Applications is open, with \$8.4 million in grant funding available. Community Food Projects are designed to increase food security in communities by bringing the whole food system together to assess strengths, establish linkages, and create systems that improve the self-reliance of community members over their food needs. Eligible grant applicants include food program service providers, tribal organizations, or private nonprofit entities, including gleaners. The [New Entry Sustainable Farming Project](#) is providing free one-on-one technical assistance and resources to organizations interested in applying for the Community Food Projects Grant Program through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture. For more information and to apply for technical assistance, please visit the [Community Food Projects' website](#). Applications are due **Monday, November 30, 2015** at 5:00 pm EST.



### Educator Grants, Herb Society of America

The [Herb Society of America](#)'s mission is to promote the knowledge, use, and delight of herbs through educational programs, research, and sharing the experience of its members with the community. Through the Grant for Educators program, the society will award a grant or two totaling up to \$5,000 to a project(s) that enhances herbal education in school systems, communities, or in any public forum (electronic or person-to-person). Visit the [Herb Society's website](#) for complete program guidelines and application instructions.



## 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/>

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact DATCP's Sarah Elliott at 608-224-5046 or [sarah.elliott@wisconsin.gov](mailto:sarah.elliott@wisconsin.gov).