

Farm to Summer Week

July 27-31, 2020

What is Farm to Summer?

Farm to summer brings the core elements of farm to school into the USDA Summer Food Service Program to ensure that students receive nutritious meals when school is out of session. SFSP's flexibility offers a great chance to use seasonal produce to maintain and enjoy harvests from school gardens, and to engage students and their families in education and enrichment opportunities in addition to summer meals.

Farm to summer implementation differs by location but always includes one or more of the following:

- **Procurement:** local foods are purchased, promoted and served
- **Gardens:** students engage in hands-on learning through gardening
- **Education:** students participate in education activities related to agriculture, food, health and nutrition

Local Foods Benefit Everyone!

Students: Adding local foods ensures participants have access to healthy, delicious meals when school is out and connects them to where their food comes from.

Community: Sourcing from local producers strengthens the local economy and builds engagement with families and community members.

Sponsors: Incorporating local foods and corresponding activities into the SFSP helps boost participation by increasing the quality of meals and engaging kids and teens in fun, educational programming.

How to Celebrate!

Step 1: Find out what's local and in season.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Minnesota Grown Resources

- [A Seasonal Look at Fresh Produce](#)
- [Wholesale Directory](#)

Step 2: Plan ahead with your procurement process. Where can you find local foods?

- Gardens
- Farms & Farmers Markets
- Distributors
- DoD Fresh Vendor
- Meal Vendors

Step 3: Serve the local products during Farm to Summer week and all summer long.

July 30: Cucumber Crunch

Procure local cucumbers (or a few slices or mini cucumbers) and have everyone crunch into them at once! [Register your site now for the Cucumber Crunch.](#)

July 30: Minnesota Thursdays

Optional local menu: turkey burger on a whole wheat bun, cucumber slices, blueberries and milk

- [Minnesota Thursdays Toolkit](#)

Additional Resources

- [Farm to Summer Report: Farm to Summer Week Case Studies](#)
- [About Farm to School: National Farm to School Network](#)
- [Farm to Summer Fact Sheet: USDA FNS](#)
- [Minnesota Farm to School: University of Minnesota Extension](#)
- [Farm to School: Minnesota Department of Education](#)
- Minnesota Department of Education:
[Sami Burington](#), 651-582-8376

