



# FARM TO EVERYTHING!

*A Monthly Newsletter from the NJDA Farm to School Team*

July 2017  
Volume 3

## Farm to School Grants Awarded

**The New Jersey Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Division is proud to announce that it is the recipient of a USDA Farm to School grant in 2017.**

Click [here](#) to see a full list of awardees and to learn more about the grant.

With this funding, the NJDA Farm to School Program will host its second bi-annual Farm to School Summit to be held in the spring of 2018, support the service our state's 12 FoodCorps service members perform in 8 sites across

the Garden State and create more resources for farms, schools and teachers to use to highlight local produce in all nutrition programs supported by USDA.

Please check out the **Jersey Fresh Produce of the Week Report** [here](#) to see what's in season right now and visit our website at [www.farmtoschool.nj.gov](http://www.farmtoschool.nj.gov) for information on each program related to **Farm to Everything!**

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## Monthly Seasonal Forecast

Summer is finally here and we're loving it! We're hearing from some food service professionals who say that they're using our newsletter to read up on what's happening with the growing season, clicking [here](#) each week to see an updated report on the season as it progresses.

The [Jersey Fresh](#) team is currently hosting two [Jersey Fresh Contests](#) for residents of New Jersey to submit their best recipes and pictures using Jersey Fresh produce. If you're ["quite the cook"](#) or fancy yourself a [good photographer](#), check out

this website to enter one or both of these contests that shout out support for our family farms.



Continued

# Growing, Cooking, Serving



## FARM TO SCHOOL:

It isn't too early to think about September and how you can celebrate what grows in New Jersey.

Schools across New Jersey honor our agricultural history by connecting with farms, hosting school garden events and offering produce that is

grown on local farms during Jersey Fresh Farm to School Week, September 25-29<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Check out our [Farm to School Activity Ideas](#) here or come up with your own activities to celebrate the Garden State.



## FARM TO SUMMER:

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) meals are kicking off all over the state while schools are out.

Click [here](#) to locate a summer meal site near you and to tap into the organizations that provide important meals for youth in the summer.

[Check out our 2018 Summer Top Tomato, Joe Njoroge, COO/CFO at the Food Bank of South Jersey, who believes that healthy food is the key to a healthy life!](#)



## FARM TO PRESCHOOL:

The National Farm to School Network's [Roadmap for Farm to Early Care and Education](#) includes a basic overview of Farm to Preschool principles and practices.

This [one-page resource](#) is a good primer for early childcare programs thinking about starting a garden.

If your program runs during the summer, there is plenty of produce to purchase at local farmers markets and road stands. Check out the NJDA listing to find Jersey Fresh products [here](#) and start to offer seasonal fruits and vegetables in your meals.

## Share Your Story

Let us know your "Farm to" story! Send an email to [newjerseyf2s@ag.state.nj.us](mailto:newjerseyf2s@ag.state.nj.us) or call us at 609-292-8747 so we can highlight your local procurement, gardens and nutrition around New Jersey fruits and vegetables!

## “Best in New Jersey Farm to School Award”



Thank you to all of the schools that submitted an application to be recognized for our Farm to School Recognition Program.

Recognition Program schools will be notified in August as well as the school chosen as the “Best in New Jersey Farm to School Award” to highlight best practices and efforts.

Stay tuned for more information in the August newsletter and on social media links below.

### Follow Us!



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