



FARM TO EVERYTHING!

A Monthly Newsletter from the NJDA Farm to School Team

June 2017
Volume 2

Have a Healthy Summer!

June already? School year almost over?? How did that happen so fast?

For anyone who is operating during the summer, check out some of the resources listed below for ways to highlight local produce in taste tests and meals.

And for those of you who are closing the books and heading off to your summer vacation, please take note of upcoming events in September that will highlight Farm to School activities at your schools.

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 for information on all programs related to **Farm to Everything!**

Inside this issue:

Healthy Summer	1
Seasonal Forecast	1
Farm to School	2
Farm to Summer	2
Farm to Preschool	2
Share Your Story	2
Farm to School Award	3
Follow Us	3

Monthly Seasonal Forecast

According to recent **Jersey Fresh Availability & Forecast Reports**, ample rain and warmer temperatures at the end of May bode well for the 2017 season.

Basil and blueberries are here so start your pesto making and muffin baking now!

Click [here](#) each week to see an updated report on the season as it progresses and how recent weather conditions are affecting New Jersey's farms and crops.

Our colleagues from the New Jersey Department of Agriculture [Jersey Fresh](#) team have the up-

to-date information you need to plan menus that feature produce at its peak and inspire recipes that children will love.



Continued

Growing, Cooking, Serving



FARM TO SCHOOL:

Start planning now for Jersey Fresh Farm to School Week, September 25-29th, 2017 and the launch of *Jersey Tastes*, a year-round taste-testing celebration of locally grown fruits and veggies.

We'll kick off September's *Jersey Tastes Tomato*

celebration with a statewide tomato tasting on Tuesday, September 26th.

Click [here](#) for our two-sided flyer about tomatoes and join in the celebration of New Jersey's most famous crop through social media links using hashtags #jerseytastes, #farmtoschoolnj and #jerseyfreshfarmtoschoolweek.



FARM TO SUMMER:

Summer Meals are an important part of keeping children healthy during the summer months when schools are out of session. Click [here](#) to find a Summer Meals site in your area.

Share your site's story! Fill out the 2017 Farm to Summer Survey online [here](#).

Strawberries are at peak season in June! Click [here](#) for our two-sided flyer to share with children when you serve local strawberries from Garden State farms.



FARM TO PRESCHOOL:

We've put together our very own Farm to Preschool webinar with the help of [FoodCorps New Jersey](#) service members serving in Newark and Paterson.

Check out the webinar [here](#) to learn some classroom taste test ideas using classic books for preschool-aged children.

Are you doing any type of Farm to School activities at your site? Would you like to share with us what those activities are? Click [here](#) to fill out our Farm to Preschool Survey and help us learn more about what is going on in New Jersey's CACFP early childcare education and preschool settings.

Share Your Story

Let us know your "Farm to" story! Send an email to 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”



One month left to apply to be included as a **JERSEY FRESH FARM TO SCHOOL RECOGNITION PROGRAM** school. Application deadline is July 1, 2017.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the process. Preview the survey questions [here](#) prior to applying. Recognized schools will receive Farm to School promotional materials in Fall 2017, prior to Jersey Fresh Farm to School Week with one school chosen to receive the “Best in New Jersey Farm to School Award” to highlight best practices.

Follow Us!



NJ Department of Agriculture
Division of Food & Nutrition
Farm to School

P.O. Box 334
Trenton, NJ 08625
Phone: 609.292.8747

farmtoschool.nj.gov