

Alaska Farm to School listserv – Week 34: 21 - 25 Aug 2017



Aug 22nd is Eat a Peach Day (this seems pretty simple!!)
Aug 24th is National Waffle Day (yes, breakfast all day long!!)



Grants & Funding Opportunities (money!)

1. Target Field Trip Grants

The Target Field Trip Grants program provides funds for K-12 field trips to give students throughout the country the opportunity to explore more of the world outside the classroom. Online applications will be accepted between August 1 and October 1, 2017. [Learn more and apply.](#)

2. Project Produce: Fruit and Veggie Grants for Schools

The Chef Ann Foundation presents Project Produce: Fruit and Veggie Grants for Schools. This grant is designed to help increase kids' access to fresh fruits and vegetables and create experiential nutrition education when and where students make their food choices: in the cafeteria. The \$2,500 one-year grants support food costs to incorporate school-wide fruit and vegetable tastings into the school's nutrition program. Grants will be determined on an ongoing basis depending on available funding. [Learn more and apply.](#)

3. 2017 Alaska Equipment Grant

Elizabeth Seitz, the Alaska National School Lunch Program Coordinator, sent out the new 2017 Equipment Grant Application. For qualifications and information, please head [here](#). Due August 31, 2017 by 4:30pm.

4. Whole Kids Foundation Grants

Yes, it is early, but start getting your creative juices flowing with these two grants from Whole Kids Foundation.

US School Gardens Grant

Created in partnership with FoodCorps, the School Garden Grant program provides a \$2,000 monetary grant to a K-12 school, or a non-profit working in partnership with a K-12 school, to support a new or existing edible garden on school grounds. The application period is from September 1, 2017 through October 31, 2017. Stay tuned for a copy of the grant application. Email grants@wholekidsfoundation.org with any questions.

Extended Learning Garden Grants – Honey Bees

In partnership with the Bee Cause Project, the Honey Bee Grant program allows for a K-12 school or non-profit organization to receive support for an educational honey bee hive. They will offer three grant options.

For more information on each grant option, please read the [Honey Bee Grant application](#). The Letter of Intent period is from September 1, 2017 through October 31, 2017 and the full application closes on November 15, 2017. Email grants@wholekidsfoundation.org with any questions.

5. Farm to School Grant Opportunities from USDA

Key Dates

- September/October 2017 - Release of FY 2018 Farm to School Grant RFA
- December 2017 - Applications Due for FY 2018 RFA
- May/June 2018 - Award Announcement for FY 2018 Farm to School Grant

If you are interested in applying for a Farm to School Grant, the FY 2018 Request for Applications (RFA) will be released in the fall of 2017. There are additional funding opportunities for farm to school activities, take a look at the [USDA Grants and Loans that Support Farm to School Activities](#) for more details. For more information about the Farm to School Grant program, visit the [grant program](#) page for an overview of past grantees, program summary reports, and more.

Cool Resources, Reports, Opportunities

Save the Date: 9th National Farm to Cafeteria Conference – * NEW *****

April 26-27, 2018 in Cincinnati, OH

Save the date for the [9th National Farm to Cafeteria Conference](#), coming to Cincinnati, Ohio, April 26-27, 2018! Hosted by the [National Farm to School Network](#), this biennial event will convene more than 1,200 movement leaders working to source local food for institutional cafeterias and foster a culture of healthy food and agricultural literacy across America. Cafeterias in schools, early care and education settings, universities, prisons and hospitals serve more than 40 million Americans every day, placing the farm to cafeteria movement at the forefront of the fight to end obesity and strengthen local food systems and economies. The National Farm to Cafeteria Conference is the only national gathering of stakeholders from across this movement, making it the premiere opportunity to learn, network and collaborate with likeminded leaders from across the country. Learn more and sign-up for updates at [farmtoschool.org/conference](#).

Join us in Cincinnati! Save the date for the 9th National Farm to Cafeteria, April 26-27, 2018: [farmtoschool.org/conference](#) #Farm2Caf18



Alaska Traditional Foods Movement Presents Niiqpiat Nigikkavut Symposium in Kotzebue

Melissa Chlupach, Regional Healthcare Dietitian with NANA Management Services, sent this and I want to pass it along. The event itself is FREE!!! Thanks, Melissa 😊 If you can get to Kotzebue from September 6-8, make sure to attend this!!

BEE the Change Summer Pollinator Garden Giveaway

*** Note – please note it doesn't dismiss a school or garden in Alaska as a potential winner, but they do send the materials out in September!! The one thing I do know is that you can't win if you don't play!!! Once you win, you can negotiate a good time for shipping with them later 😊

KidsGardening, American Meadows, and High Country Gardens want to thank educators and parents teaching children about Pollinators with the BEE the Change Summer Pollinator Garden Giveaway. Launching Pollinator Week (June 19-25, 2017), the collaboration will give away pollinator plants and seeds to 31 winners. The Grand Prize is a pollinator garden—up to 80 plants to cover an area of 1,000 sq. ft—designed by High Country Gardens Chief Horticulturist Dave Salman or American Meadows pollinator plant expert Mike Lizotte. The additional 30 awards are a ‘10-plant collection’ each selected specifically for your region. For more information, please [read more](#). Deadline is August 31, 2017.

2017 Northwest Intertribal Agriculture Council Conference and Youth Summit

REGISTRATION IS FREE! Register for the Council Conference online at this [Google Form](#). This is in Pendleton, OR September 11-12, 2017. The hosts, Tilcham Tribal Conservation District does encourage those attending to make reservations at the Wild Horse Casino and Resort, 800-654-9453, as soon as possible. A block of rooms have been reserved for September 10, 11 and 12. When making reservations refer to the NORTHWEST INTERTRIBAL AGRICULTURE COUNCIL CONFERENCE to secure the group rate of \$85.95/courtyard and \$105/tower (plus tax) per night. The Native Youth in Food and Agriculture Leadership Summit application is [here](#).

Teaching Nutrition, Health, or Science this Year? How about wanting cool posters for the lunch line?

Printed Team Nutrition materials are available, as supplies last, to schools, child care providers, summer meal sites, State agencies, and sponsors that participate in the USDA Child Nutrition programs via an online [order form](#). All others are welcome to download materials from our [website](#). To inquire about bulk orders, please send an email to teamnutrition@fns.usda.gov.

Growing/Gardening/Farming News

Are you in Kenai or Soldotna this week? Attend the 5th Annual Harvest Moon Local Food Festival

Heidi Chay told me about this awesome event and I had to share it – **most events are FREE!!!**

Kenai Soil & Water Conservation District is pleased to be a sponsor of the 5th Annual Harvest Moon Local Food Festival coming up Aug. 23-29 in Kenai and Soldotna. This year's theme is "A Community that Cooks." From cooking demonstrations to nature walks and keynote speakers, there is something for everyone!

Aug. 23, 1 pm: Wild Edibles Hike

Aug. 23, 4 pm: Cooking Class

Aug. 24, 4 pm: Cooking Class

Aug. 25, 10 am and 11 am: Cooking Classes for Kids

Aug. 25, 6 pm: Keynote Talk by author and health educator, Verne Varona

"Kitchen Alchemy Made Easy: Fast Tips, Healing Strategies & the Cure for Kitchen Phobia!"

Aug. 26, 5:30 pm: Annual Soup Supper & Auction for Kenai Peninsula Food Bank

Aug. 27, 3:30 pm: Keynote Talk by Alaska Dispatch News columnist Maya Wilson

"Food as Mindfulness"

Aug. 27, 5:30 pm: Farm to Table Supper (tickets required)

Aug. 28, 4:30 pm: Local Berry Walk

Aug. 28, 6:30 pm: A Special Evening with Verne Varona

"Don't Even Think about Laughing -- The Everyday Healing Power of Humor"

Aug. 29: Chef at the Farmers Fresh Market

Tickets for Farm to Table Supper are on-line at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/harvest-moon-farm-to-table-supper-tickets-36293564027>. ALL OTHER EVENTS ARE FREE and open to the public. See the full schedule with times and locations attached and at www.kenailocalfood.org.

Success Stories

So many amazing things happening all around the state. . . lemme hit ya' with some awesome work happening out and around!!!



Are you in Fairbanks this week? Hit one of the School Garden Farm Stands – it is their last week!!!

Susie and Tom and the gang at Calypso Gardens and Ecology Center work to run three school gardens around Fairbanks and each week throughout the summertime have school garden farm stands to sell all the awesome results from the gardens! This is the last week for the farm stands so hit Woodriver Elementary School on Wednesday from 4 to 6 and then head over to Hunter Elementary School on Thursday from 4-6. The farm stand at Ballaine Lake was yesterday ☺, but you can still hit two stands before the end of this week!!

Support all the great work that went into the school gardens this summertime – buy and support local gardens and thank Susie and Tom and the Calypso gardeners next time you see them!!

***** UPDATE/CORRECTION ***** Heading to the Alaska State Fair at the end of the month? Do I have a deal for you and your family. . . Be sure to check out the agricultural exhibits at the 2017 Alaska State Fair that runs from August 24th through September 4th. If you wear your Alaska Grown Apparel on 31 August “Alaska Grown Day” (BIG veggie weigh-in day), you’ll get a \$2.00 discount on your admission price at the Fair gates. Thank you for supporting our Alaskan Farmers and Alaska Grown!



What are you doing to support local producers? Take the \$5 Challenge and spend \$5 every week on Alaska Grown at your local retailers. It’s prime season for Alaska Grown produce, meat, and flowers so take the challenge and support our local economy by spending \$5 a week on Alaska Grown.

Now, get outside and get your hands dirty!! It is time to harvest what you have planted!! Tell me about your amazing gardens and what is happening with you!! Send me YOUR success – no matter what size or from where!! Happy local foods and your farm to school successes!! Let me know if you have some great photos or success at your schools – I’ll post everything I get!!! It isn’t bragging if it is true!!

Be well,
Jodie