

Farm to School Program



**Cornell Cooperative Extension
Warren County**

Inside this issue:

<i>Kitchen Equipment for Schools in our Farm to School Program</i>	1
<i>Farm to School Art Contest</i>	1
<i>School Gardens</i>	2
<i>NYS 30% Incentive Additional Reimbursement for your school!!</i>	2
<i>Farm to School - Taste Testing Events</i>	3
<i>Field Trips</i>	3
<i>Additional Information</i>	3

Kitchen Equipment from CCE Warren County

In the spring of 2019 the Cornell Cooperative Extension Farm to School Program was able to purchase over \$7,500 in kitchen equipment for schools in our program! This equipment (i.e. salad bars, salad spinners, meat slicers, blenders, food processors, fruit sectionizers and vegetable slicers) is intended to assist in preparing or serving local food items. We still have some money budgeted for the 2019-2020 school year. Priority will be given to schools who are committed to serving local items in their school lunches.

Our program is funded through a two-year grant from the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets.



Donna at Hadley-Luzerne loves working their new deli bar. Food Service Director Jackie Adler even said the sandwiches from the deli-bar were mistaken for homemade lunches by some students at the school!

Farm to School Logo Contest Winners!!!

Check out the 1st place winner from our Farm to School Logo Contest held earlier this year! We had 23 entries from K-12 students from four school districts in the region. The top 3 submissions received Stewart's Shops gift cards. Thank you to all the educators who supported our Farm to School contest and to all of our student participants!



1st Place went to Aazrum Tatar of Lake George Elementary



2nd Place was submitted from North Warren Central School District



3rd Place was submitted from Southern Adirondack Education Center

School Garden Assistance

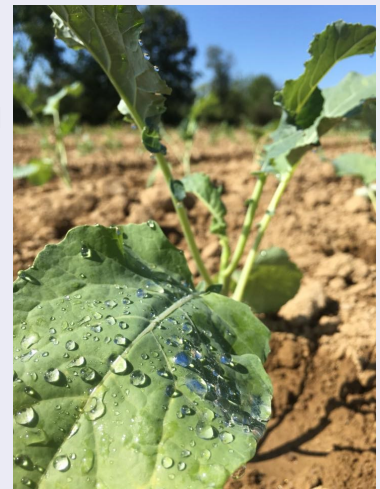
Looking for someone to help educate students about your school garden? Call our Farm to School Coordinator! Annie can consult on pest and disease management issues in your school garden and help teach students about what to plant for garden success. Our office has secured some funds for school garden supplies during the 2019/2020 school year and we are happy to partner on grants geared toward agricultural education in schools.

Contact us to learn more about our Farm to School program.

Farm to School Coordinator: Annie Mills

Phone: 518-623-3291

Email: akm233@cornell.edu



30% NYS Initiative Application Now Available

Schools that purchase food from local sources support local farmers, the economy, and provide healthy choices for students in their school meal programs. According to Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2018, schools that spend at least 30% or more of school lunch costs on New York State food items are eligible for increased reimbursement from the state. School Food Authorities that work under a Food Service Management Company and SFA's that prepare their own school lunches are eligible. A NYS food item is described as a food item grown, harvested, or produced in NYS; or a food item processed inside or outside NYS comprising of 51% agricultural raw materials grown, harvested, or produced in NYS, by weight or volume. All applicable federal, state, and local procurement rules must be followed in purchasing products for the 30% initiative. Reimbursement must be applied for annually through the SED's Child Nutrition Management System and all Child Nutrition claims from the previous school year should be submitted prior to completing the application.

Amount of 30% NYS Initiative State Subsidy for 2019-2020 SY lunches:

- \$.1901 for each free and paid lunch meal bringing total State reimbursement to 25 cents per lunch.
- \$.0519 for every reduced-price lunch meal bringing the total State reimbursement rate up to 50 cents per lunch.

Please encourage finance officials to work with School Food Service Authorities to calculate the potential reimbursement at your school. If interested in pursuing this additional funding it is critical to begin by calculating the value of 30% of school lunch costs needed for this initiative. A 30% calculation tool is available through the link below. Then, use this value to evaluate how much your school already spends on NYS products to strategize purchasing additional NYS products for the menu. Schools in the WSWHE/BOCES region were able to secure NYS milk for the 2019/2020 school year, a great first step for our region.

Please see the following link for more information: <http://www.cn.nysed.gov/content/additional-state-subsidy-purchasing-new-york-state-food-products>



Farm to School Taste Testing Events

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Warren County will be offering taste testing events to schools in our program during the 2019/2020 school year. Taste testing can be offered in lunchrooms, classrooms and at after school events. Students will have the opportunity to try new foods and give feedback on their preferences! Taste testing will focus on two main types of products:

1. Locally grown produce (within 200-mile radius of Warren County).
2. Value-added products sourced from New York State farms (i.e. concord grape juice, cheeses, maple syrup, applesauce, marinara).

Please contact our office if you would like to schedule a taste testing at your school! Items and quantities available will vary throughout the year. Call 518-623-3291 or email Annie Mills at akm233@cornell.edu.



Agricultural Education Field Trips in Warren County

Our Farm to School Program is looking to offer educational field trips to a class or grade level of students in Warren County. Allowing students to visit farms and agricultural businesses offers students opportunities to learn about our local food system and the many careers in agriculture in NYS.

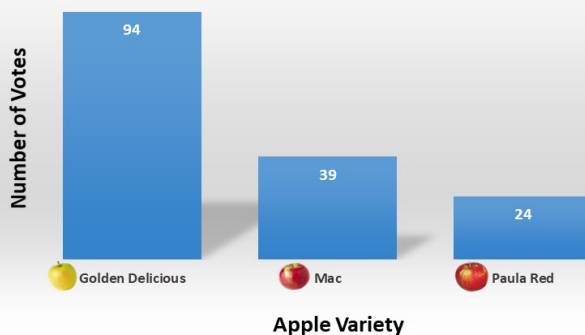
We also have educational gardens at our office that we'd love to share with students at your school. Please call our office to coordinate a field trip with us! Call 518-623-3291 or email Annie Mills at akm233@cornell.edu



Additional Farm to School Resources

1. Farm to School Grants for your school
www.wholekidsfoundation.org/programs
2. Cornell Farm to School Outreach
<http://blogs.cornell.edu/farmtoschooloutreach/about/>
3. National Farm to School Network
<http://www.farmtoschool.org/about>

NY Apple Preference
Grade 4 & 5 Queensbury



Promote healthy eating habits and cafeteria sales at your school through implementing research-based strategies from the "Smarter Lunchrooms Movement" by visiting:

smarterlunchrooms.org