



Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) Bulletin

October 1, 2024 - Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) Bulletin No. 18 - October is Farm to School Month!

This October is the 15th anniversary of **National Farm to School Month**, an annual 31-day campaign to recognize, appreciate and celebrate the connections happening across the country between kids, families, and their community food systems. This is an opportunity for 10 Cents a Meal for Michigan's Kids and Farms grantees to promote the program and serve Michigan's bountiful variety of local produce to children.

Celebrate with an Apple Crunch Day

To help us celebrate National Farm to School Month, we plan to participate in the 11th annual Michigan Apple Crunch on October 17. It's simple and easy to participate. Register at [Michigan Apple Crunch - Community Food Systems \(msu.edu\)](https://msu.edu/michigan-apple-crunch), purchase local apples, and celebrate your Crunch **anytime in October**. Get a FREE Crunch Guide when you register! Anyone can Crunch, including schools, early care sites, colleges and hospitals across Michigan - even after-school programs and families can sign up – no event is too small! Be sure to follow the Michigan Apple Crunch on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/michiganapplecrunch) and share photos of your crunch using the hashtag #MIAppleCrunch.

Happy Crunching!

New this year

Our 10 Cents a Meal for Michigan's Kids and Farms grantees can now use transportation funds to help with delivery costs for bringing fresh apples and other Michigan-grown produce to school.

Along with [free resources](#) and [events](#) from the [National Farm to School Network](#), here are several other ways to acknowledge Farm to School Month in Michigan:

- [National School Lunch Week \(NSLW\)](#) - October 14 - 18, 2024. NSLW promotes the importance of a healthy school lunch in a child's life and the impact it has inside and outside of the classroom.
- Order Free Farm to School Month Stickers from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Stickers are available for entities participating in National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs, Child and Adult Care Food Program, and Summer Food Service Program! [Place your order today](#).
- Check out [Cultivate Michigan](#) resources to help you [source](#) Michigan apples from distributors and food hubs for your institutions and [promote](#) them in your cafeterias.
- Use [Cultivate Michigan Featured Foods](#) materials to find and promote local, seasonal foods at institutions, including for fall: tomatoes, winter squash, potatoes, salad greens, celery, and broccoli.
- Visit the [Michigan Apple Committee](#) website for searchable tools to help you find Michigan apples at farm markets and stores as well as activities for kids and resources for teachers.
- Explore the many [Michigan Farm to School](#) and [Michigan Farm to Early Care and Education](#) resources available to support these programs in action.
- Visit Discover Michigan Farm Fun to find fun events to get moving on your local purchasing: [Find Your Fun - Michigan Farm Fun](#).
- Michigan Agriculture in the Classroom provides resources including: on-farm events, reading books, career exploration and teaching classroom lessons. Visit [Michigan Agriculture in the Classroom \(miagclassroom.org\)](#) to find these resources.
- Michigan grows a wide variety of crops each year and our farmers take pride in growing high-quality, diverse products. Learn more about our state's agriculture production at [Michigan Ag Facts and Figures](#)

Michigan Farm to School Video Series

These short videos include topics on 10 Cents a Meal, Why Farm to School, School Gardens, Purchasing and Sourcing, Meal Quality, Local Procurement, Food Safety and Agriculture Education. [Watch the Video Series](#)

Contact Us

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