

Farm to School Programs Across the Country

Florida Department of Agriculture

Each month, a locally grown produce item is highlighted for grades K-8 with lesson plans, fun activities, letters to parents, recipes, powerpoints, and more. All the documents are very Florida-centric, but could be used as ideas/templates for creating similar content for harvest of the month in the DMV area.

<https://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Food-Nutrition-and-Wellness/National-School-Lunch-Program/Farm-to-School/Harvest-of-the-Month2/Published-Materials>

Massachusetts Farm to School

In Massachusetts, schools promote local food initiative by highlighting and serving a different locally grown food every month. To improve awareness, their website includes recipes and links to classroom lessons used in Massachusetts and other states that relate to the harvest of the month.

<https://www.massfarmtoschool.org/get-involved/harvest-of-the-month/>

Georgia Department of Education School Nutrition Programs

The Harvest of the Month (HOTM) is a farm to school campaign to promote a different local, seasonal fruit or vegetable each month. The schools feature the item in taste tests or on the cafeteria menu that month, provide nutrition education (bulletin boards, fact sheets, morning announcements) and the teachers receive resources to encourage integration of nutrition education as part of classroom lessons.

<http://gafarmtoschool.org/harvest-of-the-month/>

California Farm to School

Harvest of the Month elements showcase the diverse and sometimes extensive availability of California's produce across seasons. The program offers free of charge resource such as contact information for regional agricultural programs, food and nutrition education information, and best practices. They also encourage schools to perform school-wide taste tests, feature items as part of a lunch or snack, use classroom teaching tools, send newsletters home with students to share with their families, and grow the foods in a school garden.

<http://harvestofthemonth.cdph.ca.gov/Documents/EdCorner/040612%20files/Farm%20to%20School%20Brochure.pdf>

<http://harvestofthemonth.cdph.ca.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Vermont Green-Mountain Farm to School

Harvest of the Month (HOM) is a farm-to-school campaign that provides ready to go materials for the classroom, cafeteria, and community that promotes the use of local, seasonal foods. This campaign also includes a HOM pledge, a monthly newsletter, and free resources, recipes, and lessons.

<http://greenmountainfarmtoschool.org/programs/harvest-of-the-month/>

Illinois Farm to School Network

The Harvest of the Month program provides each registered school with a copy of their program manual, fun facts and nutrition facts, drag and drop language for school and community communications, curricular activity, book lists, and recipes for food service and families.

<http://harvestillinois.org>