



INDIANA GROWN FOR SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

Indiana's Statewide Farm to School Network

MIDWEST REGIONAL FARM TO SCHOOL GATHERING FOR STATE AGENCIES

The Indiana Grown for Schools Network's farm to school coordinator and Indiana Department of Education's CACFP nutrition specialist joined the Midwest Regional Farm to School Gathering in Chicago to learn about a variety of farm to school initiatives, resources and how they can continue to support community partners across the state.





WEBINARS & EVENTS

VIRTUAL NATURE-BASED EARLY LEARNING CONFERENCE JULY 24-28, 2023

The Natural Start Alliance's annual conference is the nation's largest professional event for teaching, administration, research, and advocacy in nature-based early learning. Registration includes access to a week full of live conference sessions, library of on-demand sessions, virtual site tours, featured sessions, a conference workshop, and professional development certificates for every session attended.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ONLINE CONFERENCE HERE](#)

FOOD, FARMING, & SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE AUG. 2-4, 2023, SOUTH BEND

A Whole Systems Approach to Farm and School Education for the Future of School Security.

Are you interested in adding a farm component to your school program or an educational component to your small farm enterprise? Do you need some practical experience with a developed and tested curriculum? Join Food, Farming & Sustainability for a three-day conference that will leave you confident about getting started with plenty of take-aways and information to make it happen. This conference invites teachers and small farmers interested in developing farm-to-school or school-to-farm partnerships to explore topics on sustainability, environmental stewardship, and restorative farming with a variety of experts from the field, how to get started with plenty of take-aways and information to make it happen. This conference invites teachers and small farmers interested in developing farm-to-school or school-to-farm partnerships to explore topics on sustainability, environmental stewardship, and restorative farming with a variety of experts from the field.

[LEARN MORE AND REGISTER HERE](#)

GRANTS AND FUNDING



GREEN OUR PLANET GRANT PROGRAM

DEADLINE: JULY 21, 2023

Applications are being accepted for the Green Our Planet GardenConnect and HydroConnect grant programs. The GardenConnect program provides schools support and guidance from the educators at Green Our Planet as they develop or expand their school garden. This program is valued at \$3,500, and Green Our Planet will cover the full cost of the program for up to 100 schools. The HydroConnect program provides schools with equipment to install a hydroponic garden system and offers support and guidance from the educators at Green Our Planet. This program is valued at \$10,000, and Green Our Planet will cover 80% of the costs of the program for up to 300 schools. Schools are responsible for \$2,000 in total.

[LEARN MORE AND APPLY FOR BOTH GRANTS HERE](#)



RESOURCES

GROWING FOOD CURRICULUM

Created by expert nutrition educators, Growing Food provides a collection of 20 lesson plans with engaging experiences for students to learn science through the study of food systems and garden activities.

[LEARN MORE](#)

EDIBLE LANDSCAPING

Unlike traditional food gardens, which are placed in lower traffic areas such as behind the school near a playground or in a backyard, an edible landscape can also be installed in more public areas such as the school's main entrance or a front yard.

[LEARN MORE](#)

FARMERS MARKET ACTIVITY IDEAS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

Enhance learning opportunities before, during, and after a farmers' market visit with these ideas from Rooted!

[VIEW RESOURCE](#)

FARM TO PRESCHOOL TOOLKIT AVAILABLE IN SPANISH

The Growing Minds Farm to Preschool Toolkit contains a variety of farm to preschool resources, including lesson plans, "This Week in the Garden" activity guides, "Farm to School Goes Home" parent handouts, local food sourcing guidance, and tips for cooking and gardening with young children. This second edition, published in 2020, was revised with a new, easy-to-use format and streamlined recipes. The toolkit is available as a hard copy or a free digital download.

[VIEW THE SPANISH VERSION HERE](#)

DESIGNING CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE HEALTH AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS TOOLKIT

The Asian and Pacific Islander Health Forum's new, free guide, 'Designing Culturally Responsive Health & Nutrition Programs' is a fantastic resource to support cultural humility and anti-bias practice. There are some particularly useful resources for working with Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders - but this resource could be used to serve everyone. This toolkit was designed to address a broad spectrum of nutrition concerns at the individual and community levels.

[ACCESS THE TOOLKIT HERE](#)

USDA TIP SHEET-NEW!

USDA Food and Nutrition Service completed its Crediting Tip Sheet series with the release of three new resources on grains. The first sheet in the series is on what constitutes a creditable grain in child nutrition programs.

[ACCESS TIP SHEET HERE](#)

LOCAL SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICY OUTREACH TOOLKIT

Engage school staff and parents in school wellness using ready-to-go communication tools! Sharing news about your local school wellness policy is easy with these flyers, presentations, newsletter articles, and social media posts. Your school can personalize them to make them specific to your local school wellness policy activities.

[LEARN MORE AND ACCESS TOOLKIT HERE](#)

FARM TO SCHOOL LOCAL WELLNESS POLICY SAMPLE GOALS

Farm to School enriches the connection communities have with fresh, healthy food, and local food producers by changing food purchasing and education practices at schools. Farm to School includes three components: buying and serving local or Indiana-grown food in meals, gardening with students, and teaching food and nutrition education. A comprehensive Local School Wellness Policy that addresses a school or district's needs can be updated to support local purchasing, school gardens, and other farm to school activities. When your district wellness policy is reviewed and updated, consider selecting some of the sample goals from our partners at the Michigan Department of Education that fit the needs and interests of your district and increase your Farm to School program.

[VIEW SAMPLE WELLNESS POLICY GOALS HERE](#)

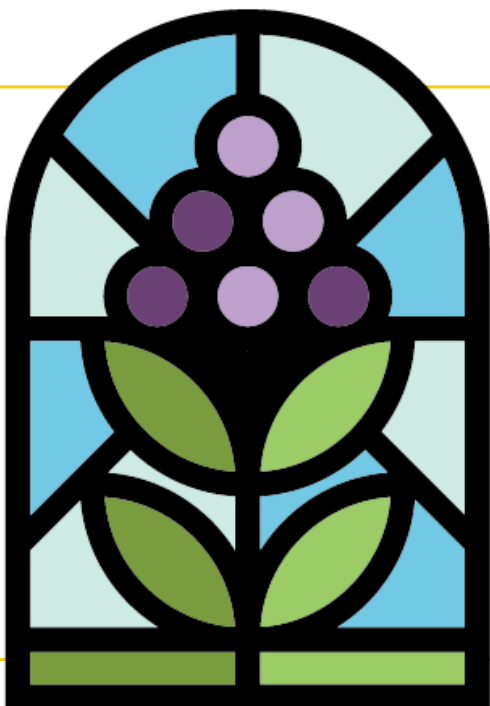
FARM FIELD TRIPS

WESTWIND FARM AND FIBER

701 N. CR 725 W. YORKTOWN, IN 47396

Westwind Farm and Fiber is open for farm field trips! They are able to host field trips for children of all ages. They have provided field trips for preschoolers thru elementary students as well as homeschool groups and high school FFA groups. During the trips, they will discuss a wide variety of farm topics such as wool processing, egg production, animal husbandry, gardening, and fiber arts!

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE!](#)



THE REJOICING VINE FARM

8440 W 82ND ST. INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46278

Rejoicing Vine Farm is a regenerative fruit farm and winery in Indianapolis, IN owned by the Kumfer family. Their farm is relatively new, but they are eager to share the joy and excitement of growing and eating fresh produce with local schools in their community!

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE!](#)

JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES

COMMUNITY FOOD SYSTEMS MANAGER

The Indiana Department of Health Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity is hiring a Community Food Systems Manager. As part of the SNAP-Ed team, this position facilitates the collaboration of food system partners to develop, support, and sustain projects and programs that further the goals for an equitable, vibrant, and resilient statewide food system.

[LEARN MORE & APPLY HERE](#)

NW INDIANA FARM TO SCHOOL COORINATOR

The Northwest Indiana Food Council is hiring a farm to school coordinator. The farm to school coordinator will be a resource for developing and supporting farm to school efforts in the northwest region, and for the networks and organizations supported by the NWI Food Council. This position will support continued development of organizational farm to school program. The ideal candidate will excel in this role by building meaningful , lasting relationships and serving as a reliable connector and bridge to stakeholders in the value chain, their respective organizations, and networks.

[LEARN MORE & APPLY HERE](#)

PAOLI JR. SR. HIGH SCHOOL AGRICULTURE EDUCATOR

Paoli Community School Corp. in looking for a passionate agriculture educator to lead the plant and soil science side of their agriculture program. Paoli takes great pride in their Farm to Table curriculum model and is excited about finding a candidate to help build a completely balanced and innovative program.

[LEARN MORE & APPLY HERE](#)

STAY IN TOUCH!



#INGROWN4SCHOOLS

CONTACT INFORMATION

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