

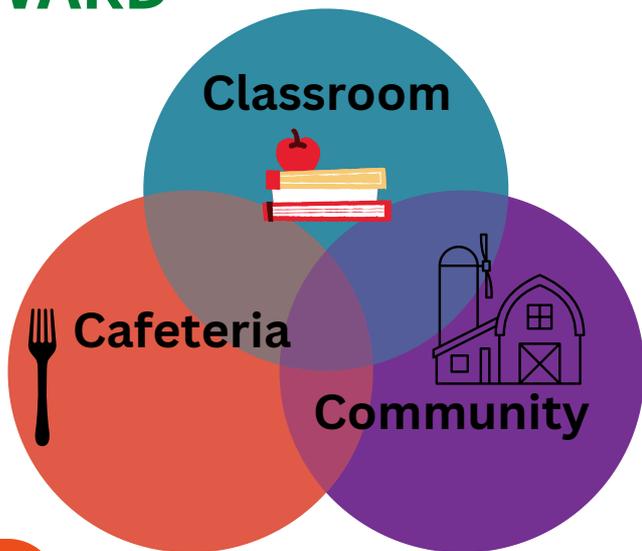


*Farm to School*

A Quarterly Newsletter from the NJ Department of Agriculture  
Farm to Everything Program

**APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR  
"BEST IN NJ" AWARD**

In schools across NJ, Jersey Fresh is being served in the Cafeteria, in the Classroom students are learning the science behind growing food, experimenting in the garden outside, and learning from their Community farmers. Each year the NJ Department of Agriculture awards the "Best in NJ" Farm to School to the school that most exemplifies the partnership and collaboration within the Cafeteria, Classroom, and Community. To apply for the "Best of NJ:"



**CLICK HERE**



*Jersey Fresh Farm to School Spirit Week*



Sept 25th - 29th , 2023

**Muddy Monday**

✔ Plant seeds and watch them grow!



**Tasting Tuesday**

✔ Feature Jersey Fresh produce in a tasting or on the menu



**Wellness Wednesday**

✔ Become a "Farm to School" chef -use MyPlate and NJ Seasonality Chart & show us the menu you created



**Traveling Thursday**

✔ Map out how far your lunch food has traveled or plan a Farm to Table lunch using a NJ map



**Farmer Friday**

✔ Dress up as a farmer or tell us about your favorite NJ Farm or Farm Market



Tag us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter: @farmtoschoolnj #f2sweek #jerseystastes or email your photos & stories to newjerseyf2s@ag.nj.gov

**JERSEY FRESH FARM TO SCHOOL WEEK  
SEPT. 25TH - 29TH, 2023**

It's not too early to start planning for back to school. September is Jersey Fresh Farm to School Spirit Week. Show us your Farm to School spirit! For more information:

**CLICK HERE**



# TOP TOMATO SUMMER 2023

## SHINING A SPOTLIGHT ON THOSE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN FARM TO SCHOOL

A Top Tomato DUO! Announcing Adrian and Sofia Carlisi, two shining students at The Lawrenceville School, as this summer's Top Tomatoes for their dedication to creating and piloting the newly launched NJ Farm to School Volunteer Ambassador Program!



Designed to be replicable as a club or community partnership program, the Volunteer Ambassador Program allows high school students - with the guidance of an advisor - to plan and implement Farm to School activities, lessons, tastings, and even field trips for and in partnership with elementary and preschools. Volunteering their time to teach and engage with younger students, Ambassadors would drive the curriculum from lesson planning and scheduling, to the actual in-person teaching and facilitating of Farm to School education.



*"By giving students the responsibility to share their expertise with one another, we are engaging them in the highest level of learning: asking them to teach." - Starr Sackstein, Peer Feedback in the Classroom*

Seeking to create a program that extended the educational resources they felt fortunate to have in their own learning journey, Adrian and Sofia dedicated time in the summer before and throughout their junior year to creating, piloting, and revising the program. Partnering with a preschool for a summer pilot run, as well as with HomeFront's Joys, Hopes, and Dreams Program in Trenton as a series of afterschool activities, the two worked in tandem with the NJDA Farm to School team to fine-tune their template. In April, they were also invited to share their program as virtual panel speakers for the '23 New England Farm to Institution Summit held in Providence, RI!

We applaud our young leaders for their commitment to building out a vision, for creating something, not just for themselves, but for their peers and others of all ages, that offers enriching leadership opportunities and engaging, hands-on learning experiences in the areas of food/food growing education and knowledge of farming and the local farming community. Cheers to our founding Volunteer Ambassadors!

# WHAT ARE NJ SCHOOLS UP TO?

## NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ



McKinley Community School celebrated "March Snackness" with local flair. The winning fourth grade class featured Jersey Fresh lettuce wraps with a peanut sauce as their winning recipe! Congrats!

## MONROE TOWNSHIP, NJ



Applegarth Elementary celebrated National Nutrition Month with their own Wellness Week and featured Jersey grown pea shoots as a school-wide tasting event during lunch!

## CAMDEN, NJ

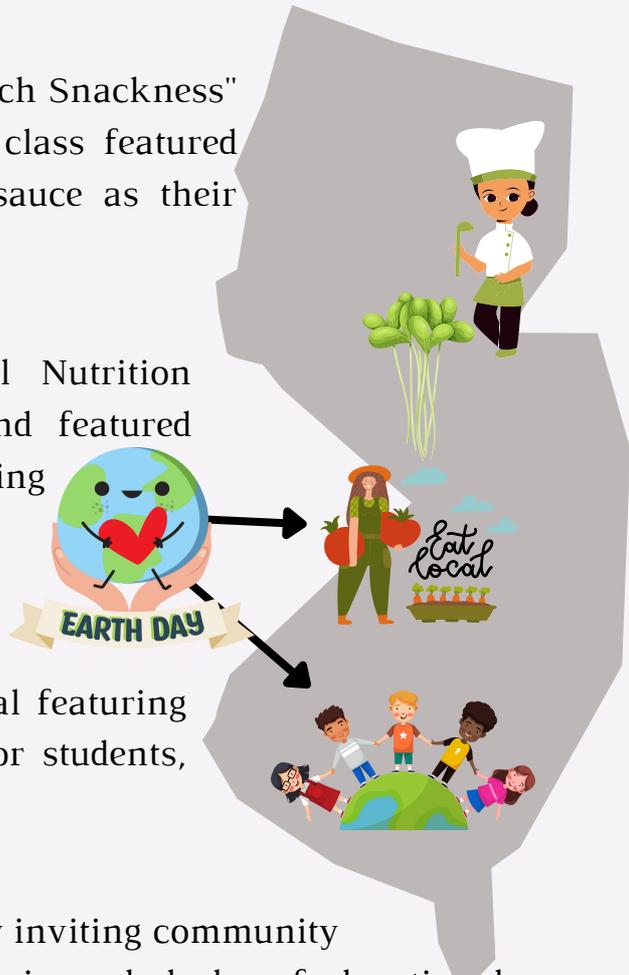


Camden City Schools celebrated Earth Day with a Local Food and Sustainability Festival featuring planting activities, food, music, and more for students, their families and the entire community!

## MILLVILLE, NJ



Maurice River School celebrated Earth Day by inviting community members from across the state to lead students in a whole day of educational eco-conscious activities that included art, planting, vermiculture and more!

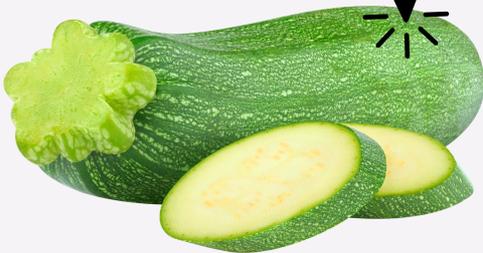


# Jersey Tastes! Monthly Activity Center

**June**



**July**



**August**



NJ DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
DIVISION OF FOOD & NUTRITION  
JERSEY FRESH FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

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TAG US ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM  
AND TWITTER: @FARMTOSCHOOLNJ  
#F2SWEEK #JERSEYTASTES  
OR EMAIL YOUR PHOTOS & STORIES TO  
NEWJERSEYF2S@AG.NJ.GOV