

Food For Thought

Promoting a healthy, school nutrition environment through information, discussion topics, research and funding opportunities.

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Planting the Seeds of Healthy Eating through School Gardens” Webinar

When: April 27th

Time: 4-5 PM (Mountain Time)

To Register, go to: <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/488590395>

Presented by: Mary Stein, MS (Farm to School Coordinator – Montana Team Nutrition Program-Montana State University)

School gardens provide an experiential classroom for endeavors across the curriculum while supporting healthy eating and nutrition among school children. Through this webinar learn about some basic steps in creating a school garden, ideas for connecting the school garden to the cafeteria, and some exciting garden-based learning curriculum resources and Montana case study examples. Learn about ready resources to support nutrition education like First Lady Nancy Schweitzer’s Garden Kits and more!

Guest webinar presenters:

Jason Mandala - Garden City Harvest (regarding the Missoula model of school garden initiation through a community non-profit organization)

Heather Musselman - Irving School’s Edible Schoolyard, Bozeman

Greg Owens - Bozeman Youth Initiative Greenhouse Bus - a traveling garden-based education

Robin Vogler - perspectives from a school nutrition program director, Somers School

Janet Dochnahl - Madison Farm to Fork (pending availability), Ennis

*If you are unable to attend the live session, this webinar will be recorded and posted online to view at your convenience. Please contact Carolyn Pollari to receive the link.

For connection details or any other questions, please contact:

Carolyn Pollari @ cpollari@montana.edu or (406) 994-5310

Upcoming Conferences, Summits and Workshops

MT Dietetic Association Conference June 1-3, 2011

Montana Dietetic Association Conference Keynote- Helena, June 1, 2011

Registration: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/SchoolFood/CurrentNews/11JuneMDAKeynoteReg.pdf>

School Nutrition Program staff invite you to join the Montana Dietetic Association for the keynote address at their annual meeting in Helena. The Western Dairy Association is sponsoring Constance G. Mueller, the retired Director of School Nutrition at Bloomington Schools and Chair-elect of the School Nutrition Services Dietetic Practice Group, and Dayle Hayes, the president of Nutrition for the Future, Inc., who will both speak on “Healthier Children for a Healthier Montana.” Plan to stay afterward for snacks and to meet the speakers and the new Montana Dietetic interns.

DATE AND LOCATION

Keynote Address Great Northern Hotel, Helena June 1, 2011 2:20-4:00 p.m.

Meet and Greet Great Northern Hotel, Helena June 1, 2011 4:00-4:30 p.m.

THE SESSION IS FREE BUT REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Deadline for Registration is May 13, 2011

Call School Nutrition Programs at (406) 444-2501 for more information.

Montana School Nutrition Association Conference, Billings, June 21-23, 2011

MSNA 2011 Agenda-at-a-Glance: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/SchoolFood/CurrentNews/11MSNAConfAgenda.pdf>

MSNA 2011 Pre-conference Class Descriptions:

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/SchoolFood/CurrentNews/11MSNAPreConfClassDescrip.pdf>

MSNA 2011 Registration Form: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/SchoolFood/CurrentNews/11MSNAConfReg.pdf>

Fun in the Sun: Montana Summer Food Summit 2011- Helena, May 3-4, 2011

Registration is due on Friday!

Registration (<http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/SchoolFood/CurrentNews/11MayFunInSunSummitReg.pdf>) and **Agenda**

2011 Summer Food Service Program Training Workshops – May, 2011

Registration: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/Pdf/SchoolFood/CurrentNews/11SFSPTrainingWorkshopReg.pdf>

Trainings

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Training- Billings, June 20, 2011

Training Announcement: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/SchoolFood/CurrentNews/11FFVPTTrainingAnnounce.pdf>

Monthly HealthierUS School Challenge Support Telephone Call

A monthly HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSSC) support telephone call, hosted by Montana Team Nutrition, is available to **anyone who needs information or has questions about the HUSSC**. A toll free number is provided.

Calls will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 3:30 – 4:30 pm.

Please join us on: 5/11, 6/8, 7/13, 8/10, 9/14, 10/12, 11/9 and 12/14.

Dialing instructions:

Anyone dialing in from Helena, MT, please dial 444-7956. Password 5020

Anyone out of the Helena area, please dial 1-888-224-5889. Password 5020

Please contact Molly Stenberg stenberg@montana.edu, if you plan on participating.

Resources:

To access the **Summer Food Service Program Calendar** go to:

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/Pdf/SchoolFood/Summer/11SFSPCalendar.doc>

School Breakfast Program Fact Sheet

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/Pdf/SchoolFood/Forms/Breakfast/BreakfastFactSheet.pdf>

For more information call School Nutrition Programs at (406) 444-2501.

Please send questions, comments or a Healthy Montana School highlight to Hannah Cowgill at: hannah.cowgill@montana.edu