



CONNECTICUT STATE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TUESDAY TIDBITS

December 2016

Tuesday Tidbits is the CSDE's weekly e-mail for Connecticut school nutrition sponsors. It provides simple suggestions, reminders, resources and advice to help run a successful school nutrition program. Previous editions are available on the CSDE's [Tuesday Tidbits](#) Web page.

December 6, 2016: Health Inspections Required

USDA regulations ([7 CFR 210.13](#) for the NSLP and [7 CFR 220.7](#) for the SBP) require each site participating in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Program to receive **at least two health inspections each school year**.

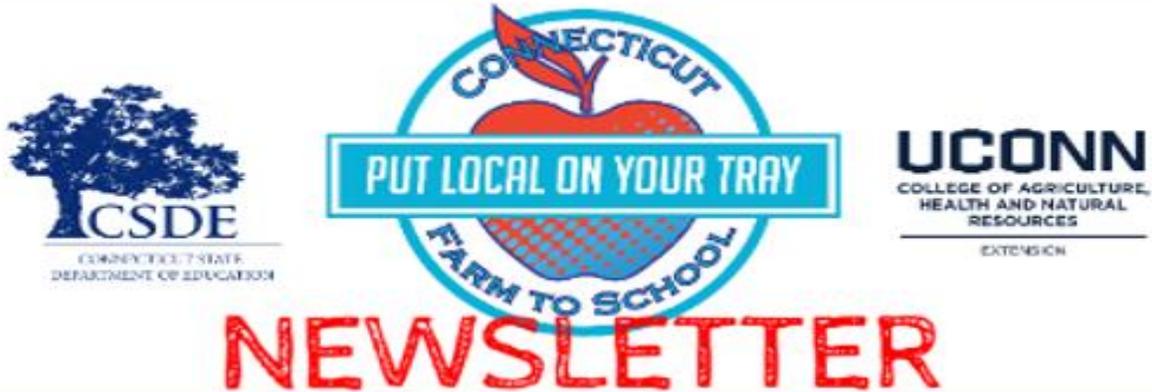
If you have not received a first inspection by **January 1, 2017**, you should write to your local health department to remind them of this requirement. While the CSDE recognizes that there may be difficulty in obtaining the two food safety inspections, we would like to stress that you are responsible for requesting such inspections and documenting such efforts. Retain a copy of the letter or e-mail sent to the local health department to document your attempt to comply with this regulation.

A sample food safety letter for health inspections is available on the CSDE's [Food Safety](#) Web page. It is the last bullet, "Sample Letter to Request Food Safety Inspection," located under the "Schools" section.

FOOD SAFETY IN CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS	
CACFP <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fight Bac! Goes to Child Care (Partnership for Food Safety Education)• Serving Safe Food in Child Care (ICN)• Share Tables in the CACFP (CSDE OM 8A-16, 10C-16 and 10H-16) Choking Prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Choking Prevention (USDA)• Connecticut Statute Requiring Signs on Choking Information (CGS 19a-36c) Connecticut Regulations * <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) Food Protection Program• Connecticut Public Health Code (PHC) Section 19-13-B42• Connecticut Temperature Guide [PDF]• DPH Compliance Guide for Food Service Inspection Form [PDF]• Qualified Food Operator (QFO)<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Alternate QFO Statement [PDF]◦ DPH QFO Regulations [PDF]◦ QFO Responsibilities for Connecticut Child Nutrition Programs [PDF]◦ QFO Exam/Course Schedule Education and Training <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food Safety Games and Activities• Food Service Employee Training Record for Sanitation and Food Safety [PDF] [DOC]• On-site Training Record for Sanitation and Food Safety [PDF] [DOC]	General <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Food Code• Federal Food Safety Information• Foodborne Pathogens Fact Sheets (ICN)• Food Safety Resources (Healthy Meals Resource System)• Food Safety Resources (USDA)• HACCP Standard Operating Procedures (ICN)• Hand Washing• Produce Food Safety Resources (USDA)• Refrigerator and Freezer Temperature Control Record [PDF] [DOC] Schools <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food-safe Schools Action Guide [PDF]• Food Safety in Schools (ICN)• Going Green in the School Kitchen [PDF]<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ C.G.S. 10-220 Green Cleaning Program at Schools (Duties of Boards of Education)◦ C.G.S. 10-231g Green Cleaning Program at Schools (Definitions and Implementation)• Guidance for School Food Authorities: Developing a School Food Safety Program Based on the Process Approach to HACCP Principles (USDA) [PDF]• Sample Letter to Request Food Safety Inspection [PDF] [DOC]• Share Tables in Schools (CSDE OM 06-16) <p>For more resources, review the Food Safety section of the CSDE's Resource Lists.</p>

TUESDAY TIDBITS, continued

December 13, 2016: *Put Local on Your Tray* Monthly Newsletter



Welcome to the first *Put Local on Your Tray Farm to School* monthly newsletter! It's a short and sweet package of resources and inspiration for serving and promoting local food in school cafeterias. [Sign up](#) to receive the newsletter automatically. This is a simple way to keep in touch, see what's happening around the state, access a variety of tips and tricks for running great local tray days, and more.

Farm to School refers to efforts that bring regionally produced foods into schools, exposing students to local food through the cafeteria and hands-on learning activities such as gardening, farm visits, and culinary classes. Farm to school programs elevate the health of children and communities while supporting local agriculture and local economies.

You can review the [December newsletter](#) in its entirety.

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TUESDAY TIDBITS, continued



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER

Welcome to our first monthly newsletter! It's a short and sweet package of resources and inspiration for serving and promoting local food in school cafeterias. We thought this would be a good way to keep in touch, let you know what's happening around the state, and share a variety of tips and tricks for running great Local Tray Days.

December marks the beginning of winter in the Northeast, and a time when one might say "how on earth can I serve local when there is snow on the ground?" Luckily, New England farmers grow many storage crops, including winter squash and root vegetables like carrots and beets. Let your farmers and distributors know you'll be looking for these products over the next few months so they can make sure they are available.



WINTER SQUASH

[Find Recipes](#)



CARROTS

[Find Recipes](#)



BEETS

[Find Recipes](#)

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TUESDAY TIDBITS, continued

December 20, 2016: USDA Foods Webinars

Are you interested in receiving announcements for upcoming USDA Foods webinars? The USDA Food Distribution Program has created a **new e-mail list** via GovDelivery where you can sign up to receive notifications about webinar dates, topics, and registration details. Here's how to sign up:

1. Go to <https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFNS/subscriber/new>.
2. Enter your e-mail address and click Submit.
3. Scroll down to the Webinars category (click the "+" next to Webinars to expand the list, if needed).
4. Check the boxes next to the topics you'd like to sign up for based on your programs of interest:
 - Webinars – Schools/Child Nutrition USDA Foods Programs
 - Webinars – CSFP
 - Webinars – TEFAP
 - Webinars – FDPIR
5. Click Submit.

You can return to the [subscriber preferences page](#) to modify your preferences any time or unsubscribe.

GovDelivery is also used to distribute "USDA Foods from Farm to Plate" e-letters, so while you are signing up for the new webinar list, make sure you are also signed up for the e-letter! Go to the Food Distribution category and check the box next to USDA Foods to receive the e-letter each month, or check your programs of interest to receive the editions tailored to those programs.

Finally, check out the new [Food Distribution Webinars and Training](#) page to catch up on any webinar recordings you may have missed!

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TUESDAY TIDBITS, continued

December 27, 2016: Save the Date



BUILDING A BETTER BREAKFAST

Friday, March 3, 2017

Sheraton Hartford South Hotel, Rocky Hill

Mark your calendar so you don't miss the Fourth Connecticut School Breakfast Summit! New this year, the USDA Foods Processor Show will take place immediately following the Summit!

This Summit will focus on building participation in your school breakfast program. Some of Connecticut's best breakfast innovators will be sharing their secrets. You will be able to hear student customers give honest feedback about breakfast at school.

AND...keep an eye out for details on an upcoming *USDA Foods Breakfast Recipe Contest!* Winners will be announced, and prizes awarded, at the Summit!

Watch for more details and registration information in mid-January!

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