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# Summer Meals Newsletter

## Upcoming USDA/Partner Webinars:

**October 4, 2018 | 1:00 PM EDT**

[Summer Meals Matter Conference Call](#)

Food Research & Action Center (FRAC)

## In Case You Missed It:

[Webinar: Year-Round Meals - Connecting Summer and Afterschool Meals](#)

This webinar from the No Kid Hungry Center for Best Practices discusses streamlining options for summer and afterschool meals, as well as best practices. Sponsors who are interested in transitioning between the two programs can watch this webinar to learn more about their options.

[Webinar: USDA Food Buying Guide Mobile App and Interactive Web Tool](#)

This webinar from USDA, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is a live demonstration of the mobile app and web tool. You'll learn how to utilize the innovative features of these tools including search and navigation, the ability to compare food yield information, and the ability to create a favorite foods list. Fall is a good time to test new tools and prepare for summer!



## Recently Released Reports

USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) recently released their *Household Food Security in the United States 2017* report. The report presents statistics from the survey that cover household food security, food expenditures, and use of Federal food and nutrition assistance programs in 2017.

To learn more about food security trends in the United States, click [here](#).

## October is National Farm to School Month!!!!

Join thousands of schools, early care and education sites, farms, communities, and organizations across the country to celebrate healthy and local ingredients.

This is a good opportunity to reach out to producers in your community to learn how you can incorporate local ingredients in summer 2019!

Visit the [Farm to School Network website](#) to get free resources for planning and promoting celebrations in your community.



# TURNIP THE BEET

## Award for Summer 2018!

The [Turnip the Beet Award](#) recognizes outstanding Summer Meal Program sponsors across the nation who work hard to offer high quality meals that are appetizing, appealing, and nutritious during the summer months. The award is open to all sponsors operating the Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option in participating states.

To learn more about the Turnip the Beet Award and the nomination process, please see the [Turnip the Beet webpage](#), where you can find the Nomination Form, Award Overview, and other resources for planning and serving healthy meals: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/turnip-the-beet>.

Contact your State agency for more information!

