



Vermont Food Education Every Day (VT FEED) is a community-based approach to school food system change in a rural state through a collaboration of three Vermont nonprofits: Food Works, Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont, and Shelburne Farms.

## Announcing 2007-08 Farm to School Grant Applications!

The legislature has approved \$85,000 for farm to school grants for 2007-2008, to be administered by the VT Agency of Agriculture in collaboration with the VT Departments of Education and Health, and VT FEED.

Download an **application** at:

- [www.education.vermont.gov](http://www.education.vermont.gov)
- [www.vermontagriculture.com](http://www.vermontagriculture.com)
- [www.vtfeed.org](http://www.vtfeed.org)

Applications must be mailed by **November 1, 2007** to Steve Justis, VT Agency of Agriculture, 116 State Street, Drawer 20, Montpelier, VT 05620.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Steve Justis by email only: [steve.justis@state.vt.us](mailto:steve.justis@state.vt.us)

There are two separate grants:

- Planning grants
- Implementation grants.

The goals of the grant program are to encourage schools and school districts to serve food to Vermont students that is as fresh and nutritious as possible; maximize the use of fresh, locally grown, produced and processed foods; educate students about healthy eating habits through nutrition education, including using hands-on techniques to make the connections between farming and the foods that students consume; increase the size and stability of farmers' direct sales market; and increase school meal participation by increasing the selection of foods available to students.

## New FEED Staff Roles



(L to R): Erica Curry, Abbie Nelson, Kim Norris, Joseph Kiefer, Dana Hudson, Matt Tucker

**Kim Norris** has joined the VT FEED team as co-director together with **Abbie Nelson**. Kim will bring community facilitation, as well as program coordination and evaluation expertise to the rapidly expanding

support school garden development and education projects.

**Matt Tucker** is a new Americorps VISTA serving VT FEED and will be working on a Farm-to-School guide for community outreach.

program. Abbie will continue her work coordinating relationships among school food service personnel, farmers, and distributors of locally grown foods, as well as training on the use of local foods in schools.

**Joseph Kiefer** and **Erica Curry** will continue their work as the education specialists for Farm to School programs. Joseph will also continue to sup-

## Other news...

### VT FEED awarded grant

We were delighted to receive a \$7,500 grant from the Chittenden Bank to develop a toolkit to support Vermont communities in developing farm to school programs. The Socially Responsible Banking program is the centerpiece of Chittenden Bank's comprehensive community development initiatives. SRB strengthens Vermont communities by linking deposits with the needs of borrowers through traditional loans and innovative financial services.



### State-wide "Local Food Day" a Success

Local Food Day (September 22) was an opportunity to celebrate Vermonters as leading the nation in our consumption of local food, based on per capita direct sales from farmers to consumers. The day is the brainchild of Scout Proft of Someday Farm in East Dorset who won Vermont's 2007 Sustainable Farm of the Year Award. Rumney School (pictured) geared up for Local Food Day by having a local food snack the day before. The kids loved the edamame beans they had planted earlier in the year.

**Dana Hudson** has taken on new responsibilities for FEED working with the National Farm to School Network to help build and strengthen farm to school programs throughout the Northeast.

Food Education Every Day!

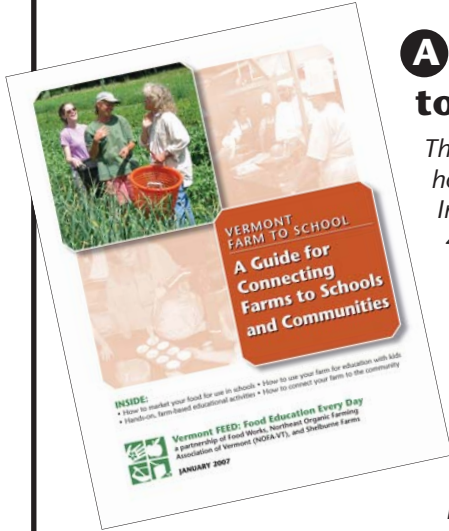


**Vermont FEED**

# Vermont Farm to School Toolkit

VT FEED is excited to offer you the Vermont Farm to School toolkit. These resources are an invaluable investment to help spark and support your unfolding farm to school initiatives.

VT FEED's mission is to raise school and community awareness about healthy food, Vermont farms and farmers, and good nutrition. We act as a catalyst to rebuild healthy food systems by cultivating links between classrooms, cafeterias, local farms, and communities.

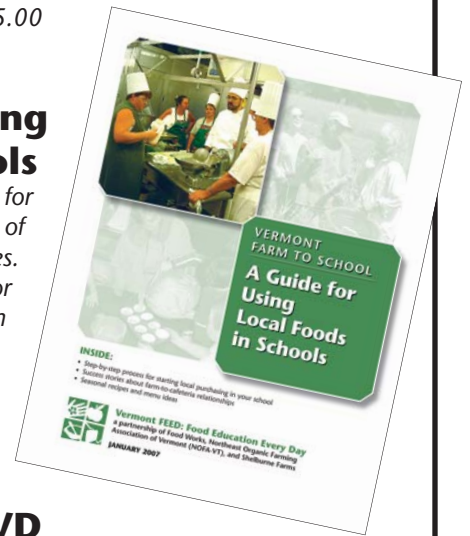


## **A** A Guide for Connecting Farms to Schools and Communities

*This resource is designed to help farmers, teachers, and others interested in how to use farms for education, and connecting farms to the community. Includes strategies to market local food to the schools, and over 45 hands-on, farm-based, educational activities.....\$15.00*

## **B** A Guide for Using Local Foods in Schools

*This step-by-step resource is filled with strategies for purchasing food from local farms, success stories of farm-to-cafeteria relationships, and seasonal recipes. Ideal for school food service, it is also a great resource for any school staff looking to build relationships with farmers to use local food in the cafeteria.....\$15.00*



## **C** "Grow Up Fresh - Vermont Farm to School" DVD

*This inspirational video is filled with stories from the schools and farms of Vermont. Hear the voices of farmers, teachers, parents, principals, doctors, and students about the success of farm to school efforts from all over the state. It is the best spent 23 minutes! .....\$10.00*

### VERMONT FARM TO SCHOOL TOOLKIT ORDER FORM

- A** A Guide for Connecting Farms to Schools and Communities \_\_\_ copies x \$15 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- B** A Guide for Using Local Foods in Schools \_\_\_ copies x \$15 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- C** "Grow Up Fresh" DVD \_\_\_ copies x \$10 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- A B C** Entire Toolkit! Order all three items for \$35 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- MERCHANDISE TOTAL** ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Shipping** \$4.75/1st item; \$1.50/each additional ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 6% VT Tax** for Vermont delivery only ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- GRAND TOTAL** ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Method:**  Check (payable to VT FEED-Shelburne Farms)  
 Visa  MC  AMEX  Discover

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_