



Register now for Wisconsin Farm to School Summit

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MADISON – Get ready to “dig in” to learn more about connecting Wisconsin schools with locally grown foods.

The third annual Wisconsin Farm to School Summit is scheduled Jan. 29, 2015, at Hotel Mead in Wisconsin Rapids. The theme for this year’s event is “Digging In: A Hands on Approach to Growing and Sustaining Farm to School.”

Summit participants will be “digging in” to beginning and advanced farm to school topics, including local procurement, food safety, culinary skills, school gardens, farm to preschool, and farm to college. The Summit also features keynote speaker, Deborah Kane, the USDA’s National Director of Farm to School.

Sarah Elliott, economic development consultant with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection’s (DATCP’s) Agriculture and Food Center, is a member of the Farm to School Summit planning committee.

“I’m really excited about the 2015 Farm to School Summit. It will be different from most conferences because it really focuses on interactive, hands-on learning and networking,” Elliott said. “All of the participants will be able to select an intensive afternoon session from a list of so many exciting options that it will be hard to choose just one.”

Topics throughout the day include food safety, developing community partnerships, culinary skills, local food procurement, farm to preschool and farm to college. DATCP’s Sarah Elliott will be presenting during the local food procurement session.

For a presentation schedule and details, go to cias.wisc.edu/2015-f2s-summit.

Immediately following the Farm to School Summit will be the Ninth Annual Local Food Summit on Jan. 30 and 31 at the same hotel. Topics include market development, consumer education, policy outreach, food security and more. Several members of DATCP’s staff will be presenting on topics including producer resources, farm to institution and more. Learn more about the conference and see a tentative schedule at wilocalfood.wordpress.com.

The cost for the Farm to School Summit is \$45 for general admission and \$30 for students. The cost for the Local Food Summit is \$125 for general admission and \$105 for students. Tickets for both events may be purchased in packages at various costs, and one-day tickets are available for the Local Food Summit. Register for one or both events online at <http://widoublesummit.eventbrite.com/>.

Learn more about Wisconsin Farm to School and about other DATCP local food services at [datcp.wi.gov/Business/Local and Regional Food Program](http://datcp.wi.gov/Business/Local%20and%20Regional%20Food%20Program).