

# Nutrition News

Summer Food Service Program



August 2019 • Edition XLVII

## Boys and Girls Club of Metro Atlanta Wraps Up Summer 2019

The Boys and Girls Club of Metro Atlanta (BGCMA) has been a Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsor since 2013. This year, the club operated 20 meal sites across the metro Atlanta area. The sites opened the last week of May and operated over an eight week period, ending the third week of July.

Throughout the summer, the Club opens its doors to more than 3,000 metro Atlanta children and teens. Each site offers a different combination of breakfast, snack, and lunch to accommodate children at different club locations. Last summer the BGCMA served 157,266 meals and snacks. Read more [here](#).



DECAL's Summer Food Service sponsor BGCMA recently hosted their biggest event of the summer, the 12th Annual Salsa Salsa Celebration. This celebration emphasizes farm to table ideas and promotes the Club's healthy lifestyle initiatives. Participating club members planted and harvested salsa ingredients from the Club's own garden. Judges named Norcross' A. Worley Brown Club's "Spicy Sweet Salsa Like Us" the winner, pictured above.

## End the Summer Right

As you wrap up the summer meals season, please remember to refer to Policy #5- Record Keeping Requirements and Policy #20- Financial Record Keeping. They offer guidance in preparing for a SFSP Review or a record retention in the event of future reviews. There are checklists included in the policies for additional guidance. Maintaining accurate, complete, and well organized records are the key to success!

- [Policy #5 - Record-keeping Requirements for the SFSP](#)
- [Policy #20 - Financial Record-keeping in the SFSP](#)

**SFSP Annual Year End Reconciliation Forms**  
**Due September 16**

In accordance with policy memo dated August 20, 2014 titled "Simplified SFSP and Bright from the Start's Annual Year End Reconciliation Process," all SFSP organizations are required to complete and submit the Summer Food Service Program Annual Year End Reconciliation Form. The policy memo and form instructions can be found on the DECAL's [website](#).

Please submit completed reconciliation forms via email to [Shonda.Franklin@decals.ga.gov](mailto:Shonda.Franklin@decals.ga.gov) or fax to 770-342-3160 by September 16.

## We Want To Hear From You!

---

The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) Nutrition Services Division appreciates your participation in the 2019 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). To better understand your experience as a SFSP sponsor, we are compiling an end-of-summer survey. Your collected responses will be submitted anonymously, and we will use the information to ensure we are providing you the resources needed to actively and efficiently participate in the SFSP.

Keep an eye out for the survey in your inbox. We will send out the end-of-summer survey soon. Again, thank you for your commitment to serving children free and healthy meals during the summer months!

## A Word on the Inventory Control Sheet

---

USDA SFSP regulations do not require sponsoring organizations to maintain the Inventory Control Sheet (previously referred to as Attachment #17 or #18) to support meals on hand for service and/or meals served. This is an **optional** tool for self-prep sponsors. However, some sponsors may still find the document useful for tracking purposes.

Although not required, if the inventory control sheet is utilized, DECAL will review the records to support your service of creditable meals. If the Inventory Control Sheet is not maintained, your organization will not be cited.

If you have additional questions regarding the use of inventory records, please contact your assigned Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator or e-mail [NutritionTA@decals.ga.gov](mailto:NutritionTA@decals.ga.gov).

## Local Sourcing Spotlight:

---

### More Melons Please!

---

Summer is beginning to wind down but that doesn't mean you can't take advantage of melons available here in Georgia. Watermelon and Cantaloupe are two types of melons grown here in Georgia. August is a peak season month for Cantaloupes.



According to [Georgia Grown](#) the optimal way to purchase the freshest melons is to look for fully round melons with a firm, slightly dull rind. For cantaloupes specifically, choose one that is medium sized with thick "above surface netting."

## Home Grown Farming - Jaemor Farms

---

Since we are in peak season for Cantaloupe harvesting, this is the time to take a visit to your favorite farm, farmer's market or farm stand and purchase cantaloupe while still in season. **Jaemor Farms**, located in the North Georgia Mountains, is one of many growers with access to Cantaloupe. Click [here](#) to plan a visit to your nearest farm to purchase cantaloupe while in season.

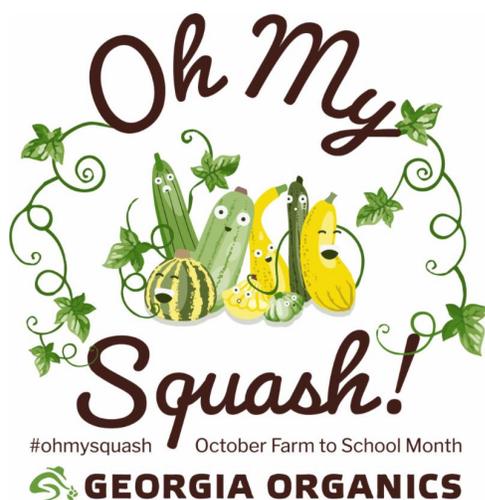
## Purchasing Food Safety

---

Once you've purchased your cantaloupes thoroughly cleanse the melon to prevent contamination as cantaloupes grow on the ground and have close contact with bacteria. First, start by washing your hands as well as any surface you will be working with. Then proceed to wash the rind of the cantaloupe with a produce brush and cool water. Be sure to refrigerate fresh cut melons immediately.

Refer to the USDA recommended [Colorado State University Extension](#) resource on beneficial food safety practices when handling cantaloupe.

## Nutrition ED Nook



October is Farm to School Month and DECAL is excited to partner with Georgia Organics to celebrate all things squash! *Oh My Squash!* is a state-wide celebration to get kids eating, growing and participating in squash-themed activities. To participate in *Oh My Squash* at your school, early care center, or in your community, click [here](#) and sign up.

Participants will receive free electronic resources to help plan and implement activities. Resources include standards-based lesson plans, quick activities, recipes, videos, school garden planting and harvesting information, and more!

The first 300 people to sign-up will be mailed a free packet of squash seeds, washable squash tattoos, and a Georgia Planting and Harvest Calendar for school gardens. Share your *Oh My Squash* pictures and activities on social media with #ohmysquash. Each week during October, anyone who uses this hashtag will be entered to win a gift card and at the end of the month, we will have a grand prize winner of a two day education pass to the Georgia Organics Conference on Feb. 7-8, 2020 in Athens (a \$425 value)!

Questions? Click [here](#) or email [Kimberly Koogler](#).

## Have you listened to DECAL Download?

---



Students are heading Back to School in Georgia!  
Listen to this special edition of DECAL Download, where we discuss Georgia's Pre-K Program, Before and After School care at local child care programs, CAPS scholarships and more.

# DECAL Download

**New Episodes Every Wednesday!**

Listen on Apple Podcasts  and  Spotify

You can find DECAL Download [here](#) or on Apple Podcasts, Google Play, Spotify, Stitcher, TuneIn, Overcast, and more!



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

## **Nutrition Division Marketing & Outreach Team**

**Cindy Kicklighter  
Gabrielle Phillips  
Giovanna Lucas**

FOLLOW US

