



**Mark your Calendars! Food Day is October 24, 2011.
A marquee event at the Rhode Island State House will take place that day.**

**But the whole month of October can highlight positive food changes in your school.
How will you participate?**

Much like Earth Day has drawn attention to environmental issues at all levels, Food Day – which organizers hope will become an annual event (see <http://www.foodday.org/> for more info on the national efforts) – aims to build momentum for a healthy, sustainable, and equitable food system in communities across the country.

Food Day offers schools the opportunity to shine the spotlight on goals, achievements and best practices that are an example of better food policies and better food environments for all Rhode Island citizens. It also offers an excellent chance to educate children about their food choices and how healthier eating can lead to stronger bodies and brains.

What can your school community do for the 1st Annual Food Day in Rhode Island?

The National Food Day website has several school-specific resources available for download including Food Day **curriculums and lesson plans, ideas for cafeteria celebrations and ways to make school gardens part of the food system**. Visit the Resources section of the national website for more information.

<http://foodday.org/participate/resources>

If highlighting the RI Grown harvest (which is abundant in October!) is one of the ways your school would like to celebrate Food Day, contact Kimberly Clark (401-475-9696 kimberlyclark@kidsfirstri.org) RI Farm to School Coordinator at Kids First for ideas, workshop availability and/or chef demos and presentations.