



UNC
GREENSBORO
Department of Library
& Information Science



Feeding America: Gardens, Seed Exchanges, Summer Meals, & More!

ARSL Annual Conference, Friday, September 6, 2019

Description: Three-quarters of the counties with the highest rates of food insecurity are in rural areas. This session will cover how public libraries feed America: 1) Distributing food at the library, 2) Teaching and supporting gardening, 3) Teaching how to prepare healthy food, and 4) Offering the library's support to food programs (e.g. Food for Fines). We will then go over how you can use the resources of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, including its Cooperative Extension, Summer Food Service, 4-H, and Master Gardener programs. We will conclude with interactive discussion on how you can start feeding America at your library.

Access **this handout**, **slide presentation**, and more at: <http://letsmovelibraries.org/sept-6-feeding-america/>

Speaker: Noah Lenstra, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, lenstra@uncg.edu, @NoahLenstra

Stay involved and connected at **LetsMoveLibraries.org!**

My past (and forthcoming!) writings on this topic

Food Justice in the Public Library: Information, Resources, and Meals. (with Christine D'Arpa). *International Journal of Information, Diversity, & Inclusion*. 3(3). <https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/ijidi/index>.

Libraries and Parks and Recreation Come Together to Tackle Food Insecurity and the Summer Slide, One Community at a Time. Blog post for the National Recreation and Park Association. <https://www.nrpa.org/blog/libraries-and-parks-and-recreation-come-together-to-tackle-food-insecurity-and-the-summer-slide-one-community-at-a-time/> and <https://bit.ly/33MIbdW>.

How to Develop Healthy Living Programs through Shared Use Partnerships. Free webinar offered through National Network of Libraries of Medicine on October 3 at 2 Eastern. Register and access recording after at <https://nnlm.gov/class/how-develop-healthy-living-programs-through-shared-use-partnerships/16667>.

Thinking Outside of the Stacks: The Growth of Nature Smart Libraries. Blog post for the Children & Nature Network. <https://www.childrenandnature.org/2019/06/20/thinking-outside-of-the-stacks-the-growth-of-nature-smart-libraries/> and <https://bit.ly/2XADW4I>.

The Cooperative Extension System: Your Library's Go-To Partner for Gardening, Nutrition, and Healthy Living Programming. <http://programminglibrarian.org/blog/cooperative-extension-system-your-library%E2%80%99s-go-partner-gardening-nutrition-and-healthy-living/> / <https://bit.ly/31SbzxI>.

Healthy Living at the Library: Programs for All Ages. Available in February 2019 from Libraries Unlimited/ABC-CLIO. <https://www.abc-clio.com/ABC-CLIOCorporate/product.aspx?pc=A5725P>.

Additional Resources:

Where can I ask questions and get support related to this topic??

- 1) *ARSL Listserv* – Free for members! Ask away and librarians will respond. Search the listserv too.
- 2) *Libraries are Champions of Healthy Communities* – Facebook group moderated by NNLM staff. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LibsChampionHealth/>.
- 3) *Programming Librarian Interest Group, including PLIG Facebook Group*. Get started at: programminglibrarian.org/about/programming-librarian-interest-group.
- 4) OCLC/Webjunction's Health Happens in Libraries. Especially pages on gardening/seeds, <https://www.webjunction.org/news/webjunction/growing-library-garden-programs.html>, and multiple webinars and blog posts on food distribution programs in libraries. Get started at: <https://www.webjunction.org/explore-topics/ehealth.html>.

Resources from ARSL website and past conferences: 1) *Establish a Seed Saving Library* by David Mixdorf (ARSL 2013). <https://arsl.info/2013-program-and-handouts/>; 2) *Growing Your Library's Role: Creating a Community Garden with Impact* (ARSL 2017 – session subsequently recorded by ALA and now available at <http://programminglibrarian.org/learn/growing-your-librarys-role-creating-community-garden-impact>); 3) *Stimulating Summers* – Carolyn Petersen (ARSL 2018) on how rural libraries in Washington addressed summer hunger in library-based summer day camp program; <https://arsl.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/CPetersen-StimulatingSummers.pptx>; 4) *Stand up for Health* – Staff of NNLM (ARSL 2018 pre-conference) – access content at <https://nml.gov/classes/stand-up-for-health>.

Public Library Association. Fresh Food, Fresh Thinking: An Innovative Approach to Youth Development and Learning in Rural Communities. Webinar featuring story of Richland Library, based in Columbia, South Carolina. <http://www.ala.org/pla/education/onlinelearning/webinars/ondemand/fresh>.

Cooking Classes without a Kitchen – A free webinar sponsored by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) Mid-Atlantic Regional Library, featuring the Newburgh Free Library (NY). September 24, 2019, 3 EST, recording available after. Register at <https://nml.gov/class/cooking-classes-without-kitchen>.

From Movies to Meals: Senior Services and Spaces at Your Local Library. A free webinar from NNLM held January 23, 2019, feat. Dawn Cline & Madeline Jarvis of the Marion (IA) Public Library. Recording available online at: <https://nml.gov/class/from-movies-to-meals>

Culinary Literacy: A Toolkit for Public Libraries – A free how-to guide by the Free Library of Philadelphia. <https://libwww.freelibrary.org/assets/pdf/programs/culinary/free-library-culinary-literacy-toolkit.pdf>.

Libraries and Gardens: Growing Together - New book published in 2019 by ALA editions. <https://www.alastore.ala.org/content/libraries-and-gardens-growing-together>.

Lunch at the Library – Resource guide organized by California State Library / California Library Association. Huge amount of resources applicable nation-wide. <https://lunchatthelibrary.org/>.

Libraries and Summer Food – How-to guide organized by the Collaborative Summer Library Program. Library Stories under “Resource Page” highly recommended. <https://www.cslpreads.org/libraries-and-summer-food/>.

Find Your Extension Agent – Drill-down list from the USDA's NIFA to help you find your local extension agent. <https://nifa.usda.gov/land-grant-colleges-and-universities-partner-website-directory?state=All&type=Extension> also available at <https://bit.ly/2RXSxeZ>.

Association for Library Service to Children – Children's Learning Garden (blog post highlighting library garden in Cleveland, Ohio, funded by ALSC) - <https://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2018/08/childrens-learning-garden/>.

Seed Libraries – “Why So Many Public Libraries are Now Giving Out Seeds,” <https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/public-seed-library>.