



VIRTUAL TOOL KIT

PROMOTING THE CT SUMMER MEALS PROGRAM

ABOUT US



About End Hunger Connecticut!

End Hunger CT! is a statewide anti-hunger and food security organization. By focusing on advocacy, outreach, education, and research, EHC! serves as a comprehensive anti-hunger resource for policymakers, community organizations, and low-income families.

Visit [ENDHUNGERCT.ORG](https://endhungerct.org)

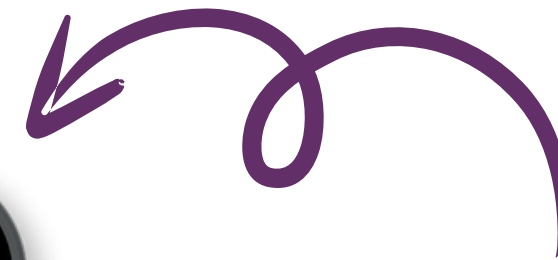


About CT Summer Meals

End Hunger CT! conducts statewide promotion of the CT Summer Meals program. We are not a meal site distributing food directly, but we work with sites, partners, businesses, and community members to make sure families know about this important program. CT Summer Meals is federally-funded and part of the USDA's SUN Programs: Summer Nutrition Programs for Kids. SUN Meals (CT Summer Meals) is administered by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and provides no-cost, nutritious meals to all children aged 18-and-under throughout the summer. No questions asked, no ID/proof of need is required. Sites serve combinations of breakfast, lunch, supper, and snacks. The program typically distributes more than 1.75 million meals to over 37,000 children 18 and-under at over 600 locations statewide. Families can find the closest meal site near them by accessing the Meal Site Finder at ctsummermeals.org. Powered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the map can show you all the sites near you serving free, healthy meals to all kids 18 and under and is updated weekly with new site information.

Visit
[CTSUMMERMEALS.ORG](https://ctsummermeals.org)

MEAL SITE FINDER MAP



1

This is the Meal Site Finder Map! It shows you where your local Summer Meals sites are.

2

If you don't see a site near you yet, check back often as USDA updates the map with new information weekly.

3

Find the site locator on our website CTSummerMeals.org and simply enter your address! *Note: This is a nationwide map so be sure you are entering a Connecticut address.*

SUMMER MEALS FOR KIDS SITE FINDER MAP

CT Summer Meals is a federal [SUN Program](#) of the USDA. The map below, powered by USDA, will help you find information about meal sites near you.

Please note that this is a nationwide map controlled by the USDA. If Connecticut sites or a site in your city/town does not yet appear on the map, please check back often. The USDA currently updates the site finder with new state submissions every Friday throughout the summer. Information is updated regularly during the summer months and discontinues when the program ends in late August.

Enter your address in the search box on the map to find a location near you. ↴

Click on a map icon for more information. You can also turn the "Eat-On-Site" and "Meals-To-Go" buttons off/on to show where meals must be eaten at the sites, and where meals are offered to take home.



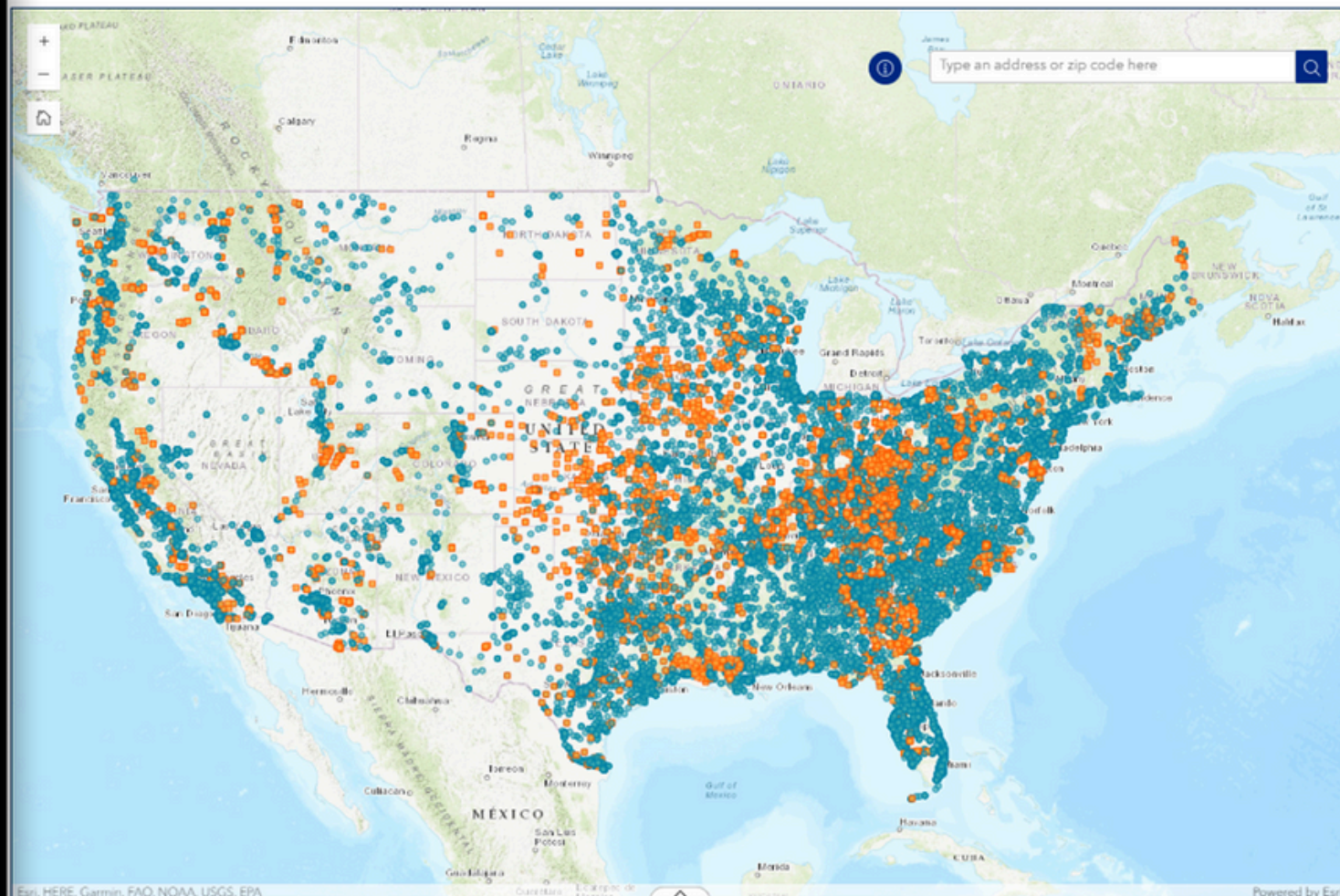
Summer Meals Site Finder

Last Updated June 28, 2024

☒ Eat-On-Site



☒ Meals-To-Go



Template Posts

Don't forget to tag @ctsummermeals and use hashtag, #ctsummermeals!

TIP: The best time to post is usually between 11am and 5pm.

GET SOCIAL ABOUT SUMMER MEALS!

We want to spread info about no-cost summer meals all over the internet. It's an all-hands-on-deck effort to get the word out to CT families about no-cost meals for kids while school is out.

To get started, click the post design(s) to download pre-made posts on the next few pages and upload them to your social media pages on their designated day. Captions are provided but feel free to make them your own!

We encourage you to reach out to others and share this toolkit to help spread the word!



Template Posts: Day 1

Facebook



Suggested Caption:
A healthy diet is crucial to a kid's performance in and outside of school. CT Summer Meals is a program that helps fight youth hunger through no-cost meals throughout the summer ☀️. Visit www.ctsummermeals.org to find the closest meal site! 🔍



Instagram



Template Posts: Day 2

Facebook



Suggested Caption:
No child should be hungry this summer. The CT Summer Meals Program provides free nutritious meals to all children 18-and-younger 😊. Share this post to help a family find a Summer Meals site near them! Find the Summer Meals Site Map at www.ctsummermeals.org 🔍

Instagram



Template Posts: Day 3

Facebook



Suggested Caption:
Did you know that there are Summer Meal sites all over CT that offer NO-COST meals to children 18 and younger? 🍴📱 Find the Summer Meals Finder Map at www.CTSummerMeals.org



Instagram



Template Posts: Day 4

Facebook



Suggested Caption:
CT Summer Meals sites provide FREE, healthy meals to ALL CT children and teens 18- and-under 🧒. NO paperwork or ID required. No questions asked! Please visit www.CTSummerMeals.org to learn more. 🔍📍

Instagram



Template Posts: Day 5

Facebook



Suggested Caption:
There's still time this summer to get to a CT Summer Meals site! 🧑 📱 Share with others to help fight child hunger and promote NO-COST meals! Go to www.CTSummerMeals.org to learn more. 🔍 📍

Outreach Email Template



Dear [Partner, Organization, Group, etc.],

Summer is often the hungriest time for kids. Just as hungry kids cannot learn in school, hungry kids cannot play in the summer. This summer, please join us in helping to spread the word about a critical program in our State, the CT Summer Meals Program. CT Summer Meals is federally-funded and part of the USDA's SUN Programs: Summer Nutrition Programs for Kids. SUN Meals (CT Summer Meals) is administered by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and provides no-cost, nutritious meals to all children aged 18-and-under throughout the summer. No questions asked, no ID/proof of need is required. Sites serve combinations of breakfast, lunch, supper, and snacks. There are hundreds of sites across Connecticut, which can easily be found on the USDA's Meal Site Finder Map, made available at ctsummermeals.org.

Join us in helping to spread awareness of CT Summer Meals with End Hunger CT!'s resources all summer long. You can spread the word with the Virtual Toolkit, which includes templates for social media posts (graphics and captions) by clicking [here](#). You can also download free educational activity and coloring pages for kids, as well as promotional flyers, posters, and bookmarks to use digitally or in print to easily support the program - all located at ctsummermeals.org.

We hope that you will join us in increasing awareness of this essential and important program, so that families know that there are no- cost meals available for their children. Additionally, please feel free to share these resources with others.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Best,
[Your Name]

MESSAGING

Our Name

The most important thing to remember about End Hunger Connecticut! is that an exclamation point must always be placed at the end of our name regardless of its position in a sentence. Here are some examples to help you:



- End Hunger Connecticut!
- End Hunger CT!
- EHC!



- End Hunger Connecticut
- End Hunger CT
- EHC

Our Logo



Please use any of the following logos to signify the CT Summer Meals Program, End Hunger CT!:



Learn more about resources and how to use the USDA's SUN Program logos:
fns.usda.gov/summer/promotion



Contact the CT State Department of Education directly to inquire about usage of CSDE's logo.

TONE OF VOICE

At EHC! we strive to make anyone who engages with our material feel welcomed, happy, and supported. When creating messages, it is important to reflect values of positivity and inclusivity! Messaging should also be clear and to the point. Here are some captions that you may find useful:

- A healthy diet is crucial to a kid's performance in and outside of school. CT Summer Meals is a program that helps fight youth hunger through no-cost meals throughout the summer. Visit www.ctsummermeals.org to find the closest meal site!
- No child should be hungry this summer. The CT Summer Meals Program provides free nutritious meals to all children 18-and-younger. Share this post to help a family find a Summer Meals site near them! Find the USDA Summer Meals Site Finder Map at www.CTSummerMeals.org
- There's still time this summer to go to a CT Summer Meals site! There are over 400 meals sites throughout CT that provide FREE meals! Go to www.CTSummerMeals.org to find a meals site near you!
- Did you know that there are Summer Meal sites all over CT that offer FREE meals to children 18 and younger? Find the USDA Summer Meals Site Finder Map at www.CTSummerMeals.org
- Hungry children can't play; CT Summer Meals can help! Meal sites provide nutritious , no-cost meals all summer long. Find a CT Summer Meals site near you at www.CTSummerMeals.org

TONE OF VOICE

Hashtags are another important tool used in our messaging and outreach. Hashtags help people find your post. Below are some example hashtags for you to use. And just as important as that: don't forget to tag us & our partners!

Hashtags

- #VirtualBlitzWeek
- #VirtualBlitzCT
- #ctsummermeals
 - #endhungerct
 - #food4all
- #hungerfreect
- #nokidhungry
- #summermeals
 - #mealsites
- #connecticut

Agencies to Tag

- **End Hunger CT!**
(@endhungerct on all platforms)
- **CT Summer Meals**
(@ctsummermeals on all platforms)
- **CT State Department of Education**
(@Connecticut State Department of Education on FB, @EducateCT on X, & @educate.ct on Instagram)
- **USDA FNS**
(@U.S. Department of Agriculture on FB, @USDANutrition on X, & @USDAgov on Instagram)
- **Don't forget to tag your local outreach and summer meal site location sponsors/partners!**

THANK You FOR HELPING
US SPREAD THE WORD!

Questions? Email childnutrition@endhungerct.org.

Want even more resources? Visit ctsummermeals.org.