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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Farm to School Challenge

(Fairbanks, AK) – The Division of Agriculture will promote Alaska Grown food in the state's schools and celebrate National Farm to School Month by launching a Farm to School Challenge on October 3.

Last year, Congress designated October as National Farm to School Month, recognizing the important role that Farm to School (FTS) programs play in promoting good nutrition and strong economies. The Division of Agriculture launched a state Farm to School program last year.

#### What does it involve?

- Eligible applicants (see below) will propose a farm-to-school project for the competition.
- Participation can result in great prizes, such as an indoor growing kit or a guest appearance from a local food celebrity and publicity for your school.
- State-wide and national recognition.
- For a complete list of prizes and ideas for projects, go to [http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/ag\\_challengeFTS.htm](http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/ag_challengeFTS.htm)

#### Who is eligible?

- Anyone who has engaged in or plans to engage in FTS activities during the 2011-2012 school year include school principals, teachers, students, school food service staff, community advocates, culinary experts, gardeners, distributors, processors, parents, and more!

#### Where to apply?

- Applying is quick and easy! Fill out the electronic or paper application at [http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/ag\\_challengeFTS.htm](http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/ag_challengeFTS.htm)

#### When can I apply?

- Survey will open online 8 a.m. on Monday, October 3 and end at 5 p.m. on Friday, November 4. Paper applications will be accepted during the same time frame.

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