



Two-Day Teacher Training

Audience: 50 Tri-state area high school teachers

Proposed Dates: August 2-3 (25 teachers) and August 16-17 (25 teachers)

Training Objectives:

- Train teachers in our food studies curriculum so they can inspire their students to eat fresh, seasonal foods and to become engaged food citizens—individuals who understand that their food choices have meaningful impact on personal, environmental and community health.
- Give teachers the tools they need to translate the concept of becoming an engaged food citizen into lessons for the classroom through both discussions and hands-on cooking labs (3 lessons and Food Labs).
- Explore the living classroom of Stone Barns Center's 80-acre farm, where the principles of the course are in full display.

Summary:

Using the farm at Stone Barns Center as a site of learning and inspiration, our professional development trainings dissect lesson plans, discuss assigned readings, spend active time on the farm, dive deep into topics pertinent to teaching about food, and include hands-on cooking and interactive work on implementing curriculum in the classroom.

Details:

Over the course of two days, we will review one lesson and Food Lab from each of the three units of the program: Food and Culture, Food and the Environment, and Food and Justice. Using the teachers' own backgrounds to add depth and meaning to the academic content, we will identify ways for teachers to make each lesson come alive for students.

The first day lays the groundwork for discussions of food, farming, and the environment that form the basis of the food studies curriculum. Day 1 also includes a working lunch with a discussion of taste and an exploration of our farm for inspiration about the power of food and farming in the classroom, whether in an urban, suburban or rural context.

The second day includes a Food Lab to train teachers on the ins and outs of cooking in the classroom. Teachers will use this framework to prepare their own lunch with ingredients from the farm. During lunch, teachers will meet with our farm team to ask about seeds, soil, food waste, pest control, and other issues that may have come up for them in school garden or compost programs.