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## breakfast, lunch this summer at 30+ sites

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### Key Points

Stark County school districts and community agencies are offering free breakfast and free lunch at more than 30 sites this summer.

The food is intended to bridge the three-month gap when families can no longer rely on their children receiving breakfast and lunch at school and may struggle to provide meals on their own.

Any child who is 18 years old or younger can get a free meal, regardless of their family's income level, at nearly all of the sites.

Children living in the Stark County area can eat for free at more than 30 locations this summer.

Several school districts and community organizations are offering the food as a way to bridge the three-month gap when families can no longer rely on their children receiving breakfast and lunch at school and may struggle to provide meals on their own.

Stephanie Sweany, executive director of the Stark County Hunger Task Force, said the nonprofit agency expanded the number of distribution sites and is now serving Massillon after seeing a significant uptick in the number of people seeking food help this school year.

“Hunger can have many negative effects on a child’s physical and mental development,” Sweany said. “Providing weekend meals throughout the summer months can help set up a child for success as they go into the next school year.”

Research has shown that lack of enough healthy food can impair a child’s ability to concentrate and perform well in school, increases the chance they will have higher levels of behavioral, emotional and academic problems and can lead to more colds and infections in children.

### Find a free meal for children

Below is a list of where you can find a free meal for your child (listed by school district).

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Children must eat the meals at the site, except where the meal is being provided through a backpack program or in a drive-up format. The child does not have to be a student in the school district where the food site is located. No registration is required.

Most sites will be closed on June 19 and July 4 for the holidays.

## **Other Stark County resources for food:** Stark Help Central

Some school districts and agencies are offering free food to only a specific group of children, such as children who are attending their summer learning programs. Those offerings are not included in this list. Other school sites that have traditionally offered free meals are no longer eligible under state or federal funding guidelines.

## **Alliance**

Alliance City Schools will offer free meals Mondays through Thursdays at the following sites and times:

Alliance Middle School, breakfast from 7:45 to 8:30 a.m. and lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. through July 29.

Alliance Elementary, breakfast from 7:45 to 8:30 a.m. and lunch from 11:30 a.m. to noon through June 30.

Alliance Early Learning School, breakfast from 8:45 to 9:15 a.m. and lunch from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. through Aug. 9.

## **Brown**

Brown Local Schools will serve breakfast from 8:30 to 9 a.m. and lunch from 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Mondays through Fridays until June 15 inside the Malvern school cafeteria. Meals also will be served at the same times between Aug. 1 and Aug. 18.

## **Canton City**

Through Aug. 4, the Stark County Hunger Task Force and the Stark Library are offering bags of food for children between the ages of 3 and 18 as part of their summer backpack program.

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Stark Library's Main Library from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesdays

Madge Youtz Branch from 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesdays

DeHoff Community Branch from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursdays

Food also will be distributed at six Canton bookmobile locations:

Schreiber Elementary: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mondays

Linwood: Noon to 1 p.m. Tuesdays

Creek's Crossing: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesdays

Jackson Sherrick: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursdays

Skyline Terrace: 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Thursdays

Mahoning Manor: 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Fridays

Through Aug. 11, the hunger task force also will offer free meals from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Mondays through Fridays at the Ken Weber Community Campus at Goodwill at 408 Ninth St. SW. A photo ID is required.

## **Canton Local**

The Canton Local School District will provide breakfast from 8:30 to 9 a.m. and lunch from 11 to 11:30 a.m. at Canton South Middle School on Mondays through Thursdays in June.

## **Carrollton**

Through Aug. 4, Carrollton Local Schools will serve breakfast from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Mondays through Thursdays and lunch from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mondays through Wednesdays in Carrollton High School/Middle School cafeteria. Meal package pickup will be available from 9:30 a.m. to noon Thursdays.

## **Fairless**

Through Aug. 12, the Massillon Public Library and Stark County Hunger Task Force will provide a free bag of food to children ages 3 to 18 at the library's Barry Askren Memorial branch and its Pam S. Belloni Memorial branch. Each bag will include two breakfasts, two

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## Lake

Through Aug. 14, Love Our Community is offering free lunches from noon to 2 p.m. Mondays and dinners from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursdays at Memorial Park's closed pavilion at 335 Park Lane Drive SW. Delivery may be available upon request by calling 330-961-1212. Meals are available to all ages.

## Marlington

Marlington Local Schools will serve breakfast from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. and lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays at Marlington Middle School through Aug. 10. No meals will be served on July 4, July 28, Aug. 1 or Aug. 4.

From July 12 to July 14, the district also will serve lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. daily at Maranatha Ministries at 14289 Edison St. NE.

From July 17 to July 21, the district also will serve breakfast from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. and lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. daily at Maranatha Ministries.

## Massillon

Through Aug. 4, Massillon City Schools will offer meals from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays at Washington High School.

The district's food truck also will be serving food from noon to 1 p.m. at the following locations and days:

Mondays: Walnut Hills, playground and pavilion area at Osage and Dixon Hilltop.

Wednesdays: Corner of Tremont and Eighth Street.

Fridays: Reservoir Park's large pavilion off Sippo Boulevard NE.

Through Aug. 11, the Massillon Public Library and Stark County Hunger Task Force will provide a free bag of food to children ages 3 to 18 as part of its Summer Food Backpack program. Each bag will include two breakfasts, two lunches and two snacks. Bags will be available during regular library hours while supplies last. Children do not need to be present to receive the bags.

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## Minerva

Minerva Local Schools is providing meals at the same time as its summer enrichment programs as follows:

From June 26 to June 30, breakfast will be served daily from 8 to 8:30 a.m. and lunch will be served from 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in Minerva Elementary's cafeteria.

In July, breakfast will be served from 8 to 8:30 a.m. and lunch will be served from 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays in Minerva Elementary's cafeteria.

## Perry

Through Aug. 4, Perry Local Schools will be serving breakfast from 7:30 to 10 a.m. and lunch from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays at Perry High School. Enter Door No. 1. Adults can purchase breakfast for \$1.75 and lunch for \$3.75.

## Plain

Through Aug. 11, Plain Local Schools will provide lunch from noon to 1 p.m. Mondays through Fridays in the Ellisdale Community Building at 3809 31st St. NE. Meals will not be served June 19, July 3 and July 4.

Through Aug. 4, the Stark County Hunger Task Force and the Stark Library are offering bags of food for children between the ages of 3 and 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fridays at the library's bookmobile stop at Ellisdale Homes. Children do not need to be present.

## Sandy Valley

Through Aug. 4, the Stark County Hunger Task Force and the Stark Library are offering bags of food for children between the ages of 3 and 18 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays at the library's Sandy Valley branch. Children do not need to be present.

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McKinley High School from 11 to 11:30 a.m. Mondays through Thursdays. At least one child in a group must be enrolled at Sebring Local Schools.

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