

FUN SAFE PHILLY SUMMER



Newsletter | June 2015

Photo Credit: (Left) © 2014 Kait Privitera for City of Philadelphia. (Right) © 2014 Mitchell Leff for City of Philadelphia.

Letter from Mayor Michael A. Nutter



© Connor Boyle 2015

Summer 2015 has officially begun. School is out, the days are long, and youth all across the City are trying to find ways to stay cool and have fun.

Fun Safe Philly Summer is my initiative to help children and teens in Philadelphia connect to meaningful summer opportunities. There are thousands of ways for young people to get involved, stay active, and keep learning this summer, and we are here to make sure you have all the information you need.

Visit our [website](#) and explore our database of free and low-cost camps, clubs, and classes for youth of all

ages. You can also download a copy of our [101 Free Things to Do in the Summer](#) guide, which is full of suggestions for free events and do-it-yourself activities. Finally, follow us on Twitter [@PhillySummer](#) for daily updates on what is happening around Philadelphia.

There is no excuse to be bored this summer. We live in a city with a rich history, abundant green space, and lots of opportunities for community engagement. [Volunteer](#), visit your local [library](#), take a walk in Fairmount park, cool down at a nearby [pool](#), or visit your local [KEYSPOT](#) computer lab.

No matter what you do, have a Fun Safe Philly Summer!

Michael A. Nutter
Mayor

Visit our [WEBSITE](#)

Like us on [FACEBOOK](#)

Follow us on [TWITTER](#)

Free Summer Meals!

FREE SUMMER MEALS FOR KIDS AND TEENS HERE!

Summer can be a time of hunger for young people who rely on free and reduced-price breakfast and lunch provided during the school year. Fun Safe Philly Summer is here to tell you that **all youth 18 and under, as well as individuals with disabilities 19 and older who are enrolled in a school program, are eligible to receive free USDA-funded summer meals** at hundreds of meal sites across Philadelphia. Last summer, over 4 million meals were served to youth at nearly 1300 meal sites around the city. Still, many youth who receive free meals during the school year fail to access them during the summer.

Mayor Nutter and the Fun Safe Philly Summer team recognize the critical importance of spreading awareness about the free summer meals program to children and families throughout the city. Every summer, Fun Safe Philly Summer staff and volunteers hit the streets to spread the word about summer meals in neighborhoods of Philadelphia. Door hangers and posters are being put up throughout the City to let people know the location of their nearby meal sites, which could be as close as the neighborhood recreation center, a community church, or a neighbor's front yard. **As of Monday, June 22, summer meal sites are open and distributing meals in neighborhoods throughout Philadelphia.** Meal service will continue through Labor Day.

For more information and to find your nearest meal site location:

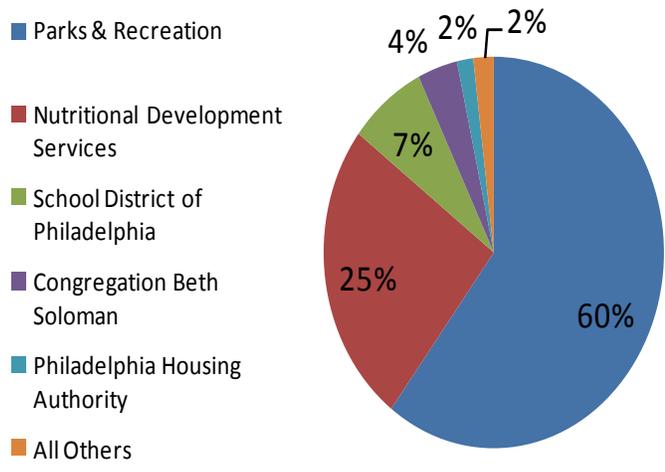
- Call the toll-free summer meals hotline at 1-855-252-6325
- Text "FOOD" or "COMIDA" to 877-877
- www.phillysummermeals.org

Summer meals by the numbers...

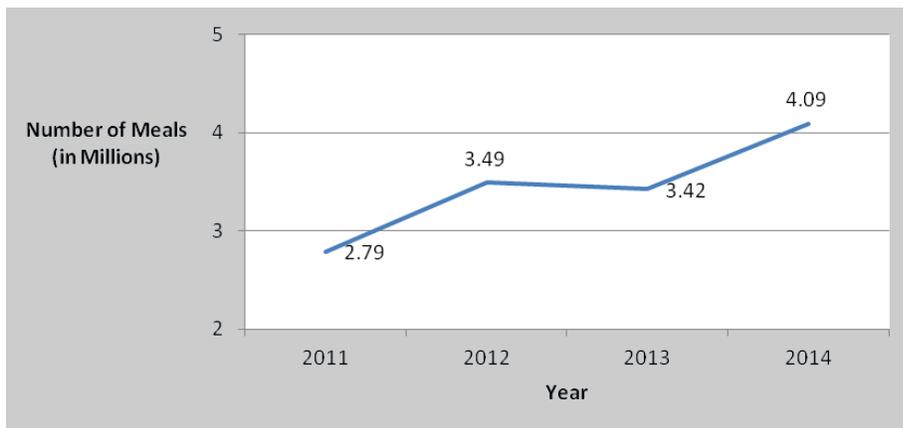
Fun Safe Philly Summer was created in 2012 as an initiative of the Office of Mayor Michael A. Nutter in order to help connect youth of all ages to free summer meals and free and low-cost summer programs. Since the inaugural summer of 2012, Fun Safe Philly Summer has seen a significant increase in the number of youth in the City accessing free USDA-funded summer meals.

In Summer 2014, meals were served at **1,292 sites** across the City. Sites may be located at churches, schools, parks, recreation centers, camps, housing complexes, and community organizations. Parks and Recreation, the largest sponsoring organization of Philadelphia meal sites, also oversees several hundred **Playstreets**, where meals are served on one-way streets that are shut down to traffic for part of the day so that children can play.

2014 Philadelphia Free Summer Meal Sites by Sponsor



Total Free Summer Meals Served in Philadelphia



Since 2011, the City of Philadelphia has seen a **47% growth in meals served to children through the free summer meals program**. In Summer 2014, the total meals served came in at **just over 4 million**.

2015 Fun Safe Philly Summer Kick-Off!



The Philly Phanatic getting ready to show off his double dutch skills!

On Thursday, June 11th, Mayor Nutter kicked off the fourth annual Fun Safe Philly Summer. It was a beautiful sunny day at the Martin Luther King Recreation Center and the event was a huge success with about 150 community members attending to enjoy the food, music, and games. Families and children munched on healthy and delicious quesadillas provided by the [Garces Foundation](#), played ultimate frisbee, kickball, and basketball, and snapped pictures with friends in the photo booth. There was also a live DJ, art projects, chalk drawings, and sprinkler games for the children to enjoy. Since starting the initiative

In Summer 2014, more than **36,000** opportunities were offered via the Fun Safe Philly Summer website. Summer 2015's offerings currently number over **40,000**, with new events and programs being added every day.

2015 Fun Safe Philly Summer Kick-Off!

in 2012, Mayor Nutter has increased awareness of the many summer opportunities that the City offers for youth. The Mayor, along with Susan Slawson, First Deputy Commissioner for Recreation and Programs, Jim Harmon, Regional Director of Special Nutrition Programs for the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, and David Maser, Board Member of the Garces Foundation addressed the crowd about the importance of summer programming and free summer meals for the children of Philadelphia. Mayor Nutter encouraged all children and teens to stay active this summer by getting involved and giving back to their communities.

Various community organizations came out to volunteer at the event, including [Continental Societies](#), [Serve Philadelphia](#), [AmeriCorps VISTAs](#), [Mayor's Youth Violence Prevention Collaborative](#), [MVP360](#), Philadelphia Jumping Jems, [Philadelphia Area Disc Alliance](#), and [Playworks](#). Healthy snacks and water were generously provided by [Cousin's Supermarkets](#) and [Trader Joe's](#), with free USDA-funded snacks also being provided by the Department of Parks and Recreation. We are very thankful to all our volunteers and community partners for their service on behalf of Philadelphia's youth.

© Connor Boyle 2015



IN THE NEWS

Mayor Michael Nutter and Fun Safe Philly Summer were [recently honored](#) by the U.S. Conference of Mayors with an honorable mention for the 2015 City Livability Outstanding Achievement Award.

FUN
SAFE
PHILLY
SUMMER

Pop-Ups!

Join the **Mayor's Office** on Wednesday evenings throughout the summer for free, fun events! All pop-ups include free snacks for



The U on Tour Come join the Philadelphia Union for a soccer extravaganza!

July 8 , 5-8pm, Vare Recreation Center (Morris & 26th)

Pool Party Grab your shades and a towel and come take a dip!

July 15, 5-8pm, Mander Recreation Center (33rd & Diamond)

Skateboard Skills & Tricks No experience necessary! Let's shred.

July 29, 5-8pm, Grays Ferry Crescent Skatepark (3600 Grays Ferry Ave)

Ice Skating Beat the heat and enjoy a night at the ice rink!

August 5, 5-8pm, Scanlon Ice Rink (1099 E Venango St)

Pump & Jump Bring your friends and race around the bicycle Pumptrack!

August 12, 5-8pm, Philly Pumptrack (Parkside Avenue near 53rd St)

Dance Party Join the STAMP Program for a museum dance party in Old City.

August 14. Visit www.phillystampass.org closer to the date for more details.



Get more information on summer programs for youth at www.funsafephillysummer.com or on Twitter @PhillySummer.

More upcoming events...

Pools began opening on June 19!

Find your [nearest location](#), grab a towel, and come take a dip!

Summer reading is in full swing

over at the Free Library! Check out the [Summer of Wonder](#) and visit your neighborhood branch to find out about free drop-in activities.

Fourth of July is coming up, so make sure to mark your calendar for Wawa Welcome America and these exciting events!

[@July4thPhilly](#)

- 10am-11am: Celebration of Freedom Ceremony at Steps of Independence Hall
- 11am-1pm: Independence Day Parade throughout Historic Philadelphia
- 12pm-7pm: Party on the Parkway at Benjamin Franklin Parkway, 20th Street to Eakins Oval
- 1pm: America's Birthday Party with Betsy Ross and Termini Bros. Bakery at Independence

Visitor center

- 1pm-2pm: Let Freedom Ring at Independence National Historical Park
- 7:30pm-11pm: Philly 4th of July Jam & Grand Finale Fireworks at Eakins Oval

Eakin's Oval, out front of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, is the place to be for fun events, July 15-August 23! [@TheOvalPHL](#)

- Wednesday: Wellness 11a-10p
- Thurs: Arts & Culture 11a-10p
- Friday: Food & Flicks 11a-10p
- Saturday: Game Days 12p-7p
- Sunday: Family Fun 12p-7p



Wishing everyone a

FUN

SAFE

PHILLY

SUMMER

Stay in touch!

Office of the Mayor
City Hall, Room 215
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Visit our **WEBSITE**

Like us on **FACEBOOK**

Follow us on **TWITTER**