FEATED FARM OF THE MONTH: MV SHELLFISH GROUP

The Martha’s Vineyard Shellfish Group produces quahog, oyster, and bay scallop seed at their hatchery on Lagoon Pond. They spawn the adults and grow the juveniles until they’re big enough to be handed over to the Shellfish Constables in each town. All the shellfish seeds they produce go into Vineyard waters, helping support island fishing families. Ask for local shellfish at any island fish market and at many local restaurants.

HEALTHY SERVING IDEAS

Steam fresh mussels or clams in a large pot on the stovetop in a little bit of water or wine until they open, about 5 minutes.

Dip a sturdy white fish filet first in egg, then in whole wheat bread crumbs and bake until done. This healthy alternative to fried fish is crispy and delicious on salad, in tacos or on its own.

Combine a local smoked bluefish in a food processor with crème fraiche and herbs for a delicious spread.

Add finely diced anchovies to your favorite salad dressing for a flavor boost.

HEALTH BENEFITS

VITAMIN A
VITAMIN D
VITAMIN B12
VITAMIN B6
NIACIN
MINERAL RICH

SHOPPER’S TIPS

When buying fish from a market, let freshness be your guide. Call on the experienced staff at the fish markets to help you make your purchasing choices, and look for fish caught as close to home as possible.

Due to harmful fishing practices and environmental pollution, many species of marine life are threatened or endangered, and some have become potentially hazardous to eat. Monterey Bay Aquarium’s Seafood Watch is a great resource for learning which species are considered safe and sustainable: seafoodwatch.org

HARVEST OF THE MONTH HIGHLIGHTS A LOCALLY AVAILABLE CROP EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR IN SCHOOL CAFETERIAS, RESTAURANTS AND GROCERY STORES. THE PROGRAM HELPS CHILDREN, THEIR CAREGIVERS, AND THE BROADER COMMUNITY LEARN MORE ABOUT HEALTHY, SEASONAL, WHOLE-FOODS EATING, WHILE SUPPORTING LOCAL FARMS.

For more information visit ISLANDGROWSCHOOLS.ORG/HARVESTOFTHEMONTH

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