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SUBJ/2026 DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY SUMMER FOOD DRIVE IN SUPPORT OF FREEDOM
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RMKS/1. In support of our Nation's 250th Anniversary, the Department of the Navy (DON) has kicked off the Summer Food Drive and will continue the campaign through 30 September 2026. DON federal employees are encouraged on a voluntary basis to bring non-perishable food items to their offices for collection and distribution to local food banks and pantries to alleviate food insecurity in our communities.

2. In 2025, the Department of War (DoW) contributed over 6.4 million pounds of non-perishable food, with the Navy and Marine Corps team contributing over 379,165 pounds. This year's DON Summer Food Drive seeks to encourage, support, and promote volunteerism during the 250th anniversary celebration of our great Nation, highlighting the DoW "Summer of Service."

3. DON employees are free to participate in and support the Summer Food Drive. Participation is purely voluntary, and opportunities include giving personal time outside of the office to participate in activities such as harvesting or gleaning on farms or gardens, volunteering at food banks, or serving meals at a community kitchen. To learn more on how to organize food drives, gleaning and other useful resources, federal employees can go to the United States Department of Agriculture website:
<https://fedsfeedfamilies.ocio.usda.gov/>.

4. Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) and the Commander, Marine Corps Installations Command (MCICOM) will serve as the communication liaisons in this year's Summer Food Drive. The Deputy Under Secretary of the Navy (Management), Programs and Integration Division, will serve as the communication liaison within the Office of the Secretary of the Navy.

5. Questions concerning the DON summer food drive can be directed to Ms. Lisa Brookes, the DON Charitable Campaign Champion, who can be reached via e-mail at lisa.f.brookes.civ@us.navy.mil or by phone at (703) 695-0541. The CNIC point of contact is RPC Alexandria Arriaga, who can be reached via e-mail at alexandria.j.arriaga.mil@us.navy.mil, or by phone at (202) 685-0478 and the MCICOM point of contact is RPCS Suchan Yi, who can be reached via e-mail at suchan.yi.mil@usmc.mil or by phone at (703) 695-9102.

6. Participating commands that do not have access to an installation chaplain can contact their respective point of contact for weekly reporting procedures.

7. Released by the Honorable Hung Cao, Acting Secretary of the Navy.//

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