

# cancer fighting recipes

Our Community  
Cookbook



MASONIC CANCER CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA





# In this cookbook:

The Masonic Cancer Center and the YMCA Cora McCorvey Center proudly present the first edition of our community cookbook to help prevent cancer. All of the recipes are contributed by YMCA and Cancer Center members and provide delicious ways to help prevent cancer by using foods known to have cancer-fighting properties. Our greatest successes in fighting cancer come from prevention, and if you use these recipes regularly, you most likely will reduce your chances of getting cancer while having fun and eating well. We hope you enjoy your anti-cancer culinary travels!



**Kiara Ellis, MSW**  
Community Engagement  
and Education Manager



**Velma Harris, MEd**  
Healthy Living, Program  
Manager - YMCA Cora  
McCorvey



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# apple cranberry pecan salad

prep: 10 min | serves: 4

## things you need:

- 6 cups baby spinach
- 1 Granny Smith Apple, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup pecan halves
- 1/3 cup pomegranate arils
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries
- 1/3 cup crumbled goat cheese

## lemon vinaigrette:

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup apple cider vinegar
- 1 lemon
- 1 Tbsp. sugar
- 1 Tbsp. poppy seeds



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# fruits & veggies

## CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS: spinach & cranberries

### directions:

1. To make vinaigrette, whisk together all ingredients until combined, then set aside.
2. Place spinach in a large bowl. Top with remaining ingredients.
3. Pour the dressing on the salad to combine. Serve immediately.

From the kitchen of Dorothy Bugoloni



# mini fruit pizzas

prep: 20 min + 5 min to cool

serves: 8-10

## things you need:

1 cup strawberries,  
thinly sliced

4 kiwis, peeled & sliced

4 bananas, sliced

1 cup blueberries

1 package of cream  
cheese

1 box of graham  
crackers



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# fruits

**CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS:**  
strawberries, blueberries, & kiwis

## directions:

1. Spread 1 Tbsp. cream cheese on each graham cracker.
2. Arrange fruits on cream cheese as desired.

From the kitchen of Sylvette Lopez-Ruth



# black bean salsa

prep: 20 min | serves: 8-10

## things you need:

1 can of black beans,  
rinsed and drained

2 tomatoes, diced

1/2 bag of frozen  
corn, thawed

1 bunch of cilantro

1 red pepper, chopped

1/2 small red onion

3 cloves of garlic,  
minced

2 limes

1 avocado, diced

salt & pepper (optional  
to taste)

baked pita chips or corn  
torilla chips for serving



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# veggies

**CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS:**  
tomatoes & onions

## directions:

1. Mix all ingredients in a large bowl.
2. Add salt and pepper to taste.
3. Serve with pita baked or tortilla chips.

From the kitchen of Velma Harris



# crispy balsamic brussels sprouts

prep: 30 min | serves: 4

## things you need:

1 lb fresh brussels sprouts

1.5 tsp. olive oil

2.5 tsp. balsamic vinegar

2 cloves fresh garlic, minced

1/2 tsp. salt

1/4 tsp. black pepper



# veggies

## CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS: brussels sprouts

### directions:

1. Preheat oven to 450°F. Cover baking sheet with foil and set aside.
2. Rinse sprouts in cool water and chop off tough ends. Chop sprouts in half.
3. Whisk together oil, half balsamic vinegar, minced garlic, salt, and pepper.
4. Drizzle over chopped sprouts and toss. Spread the sprouts evenly over the baking sheet.
5. Roast for 20-25 min.
6. Drizzle remaining vinegar, and sprinkle with salt to taste.

From the kitchen of Kiara Ellis



# cauliflower lettuce salad

prep: 1 hr 15 min | serves: 12

## things you need:

1 head/bag of lettuce

2/3 head cauliflower,  
chopped finely

6 Tbsp. parmesan  
cheese



## dressing:

1/2 cup mayonnaise

1/2 cup miracle whip

1/4 cup sugar



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# veggies

**CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS:**  
cauliflower & lettuce

## directions:

1. Toss lettuce and cauliflower together.
2. Just before serving, mix with dressing. In small intervals, add small portions of the dressing. Stir in dressing to your taste.

From the kitchen of John Pikala  
& Christopher Tibbett



# portuguese sausage-kale soup

prep: 55 min | serves: 6-8

## things you need:

6 oz turkey kielbasa,  
sliced

1 large onion, chopped

1 large clove garlic,  
chopped

1 tsp. olive oil

1 lb fresh kale washed  
and chopped

2 cans reduced sodium  
chicken broth

4 cups water

2 carrots, sliced

1 tsp. dried leaf,  
marjoram

1/2 tsp. salt

1/8 tsp. pepper

cooked rice (optional)



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# veggies

## CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS: kale & onions

### directions:

1. Sauté kielbasa, onion, and garlic in oil in a large pot over medium heat for 10 minutes.
2. Coarsely chop kale.
3. Add to the pot: chicken broth, water, carrot, marjoram, salt, pepper, and fresh chopped kale.
4. Bring to boiling, then lower heat and cover.
5. Serve hot, over rice (optional).

From the kitchen of Beverly Lutz



# broccoli toss salad

## things you need:

Two Bundles of broccoli

1/2 Cup of sunflower  
seeds

1/2 Cup of raisins

1/2 Cup of shredded  
cheddar cheese

1/2 of bacon bits

Ranch dressing



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# veggies

## CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS: broccoli

### directions:

1. Ranch dressing to taste & toss



From the kitchen of Sonya Parzo



# crock pot vegetable lentil stew

prep: 4-10 hrs | serves: 8

## things you need:

2 Tbsp. olive oil

2 bay leaves

2 tsp. salt (optional)

1 large onion, sliced

3 cloves garlic, minced

1 cup carrot, chopped

2 cups kale, chopped

2 cups chard, chopped

2 cups dried lentils

8 cups vegetable broth  
(or stock)

16 oz. can chopped  
tomatoes

add in any other  
vegetables you want



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# veggies

**CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS:**  
onions, carrots, kale, & tomatoes

## directions:

1. Saute Onions and garlic with olive oil.
2. Combine saute mix with the rest of the ingredients in a crock pot
3. Cook on low for 8-10 hours or high for 4-6 hours
4. Spoon stew into bowls to serve and top with a dollop of fat-free or low-fat plain yogurt (plain)

From the kitchen of Beth Baker



# lots of veggies

prep: 25 min

## things you need:

12 oz. bag of frozen whole Okra (thawed)

1/4 tsp cayenne pepper

10 oz. bag of frozen leaf spinach (thawed)

salt (optional to taste)

1 fresh large tomato (chopped)

1 medium onion (chopped)

4 cloves of garlic (minced)

Olive Oil

1 tsp cumin powder



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# veggies

**CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS:**  
spinach, tomatoes, and onions

## directions:

1. Saute Onions and garlic in olive oil.
2. Add cumin and curry powder.
3. Next add whole Okra and saute for about 10 min.
4. Add Spinach, salt and cayenne pepper to taste.
5. Cover and continue to cook for another 10 min.
6. The last five minutes, add chopped tomatoes and continue to cook for about 5 min.
7. Serve over brown rice

From the kitchen of Velma Harris



# healthier apple crisp

prep: 20 min

## things you need:

4 apples (medium)

1/4 cup oatmeal (quick cooking)

1/4 cup flour (can replace wheat flour with oat, rice, or other flour for gluten free)

1/2 cup brown sugar (may use splenda, follow replacement directions on their package)

1 Tbsp. cinnamon

1/4 cup margarine



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# fruits

## CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS: apples

### directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F
2. Grease the bottom and sides of the 8 x 8 pan
3. Remove the cores from the apples. Slice the apples.
4. Spread the sliced apples on the bottom of pan
5. Cut the margarine into small pieces and put in a medium-sized bowl.
6. Add the oatmeal, flour, brown sugar, and cinnamon
7. Using two knives, cut the margarine into the mixture until it looks like small crumbs.
8. Sprinkle the mixture over the top of the apples.
9. Bake in the oven for about 20 minutes.

From the kitchen of Velma Harris



# warm dilled potato salad

serves: 8

## things you need:

7 Tbsp. vinegar

3 Tbsp. olive oil

1 1/2 tsp. snipped fresh  
dill or 3/4 tsp. dried

1 lb. baked tofu

1/2 tsp. natural sugar

5 cups potatoes, cut into  
chunks

2 cups fresh brussel  
sprouts, halved if large

1/3 cup dried tomatoes  
(12 halves) soaked in 2/3  
cup hot water

2/3 cup sliced green  
onion

1 1/2 tsp. salt

1/2 tsp. pepper



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# veggies

**CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS:**  
brussels sprouts, tomatoes, & onions

## directions:

1. Mix the vinegar, oil, dill, salt, and pepper to make the dressing.
2. Marinade the tofu in 1/3 of the dressing for 1/2 hour. Meanwhile, steam the potatoes and brussels sprouts separately until tender.
3. Remove the potatoes to a serving bowl.
4. Quickly rinse the brussels sprouts under cold water to retain their bright color. Add them to the potatoes.
5. Drain tomatoes and cut into slivers. Add together with the onions to the potatoes.
6. Gently fold in the baked tofu and marinade.
7. Pour the remaining dressing onto the salad and toss gently to coat. Serve warm or cold.

From the kitchen of Marianna Padilla



# beet, orange, & olive salad

serves: 8

## things you need:

9-10 medium beets,  
trimmed & scrubbed (6  
cups)

3 blood oranges, halved  
(3/4 cups juice)

3/4 cup kalamata olives,  
pitted

1 Tbsp & 2 tsp. balsamic  
vinegar

3 Tbsp. olive oil

3 Tbsp. grated fresh  
ginger root

3 Tbsp. chopped fresh  
chives

1 tsp. salt



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# fruits & veggies

## CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS: beets

### directions:

1. Steam beets until tender. Run under cold water to remove skins and cool beets.
2. Cut into 1/4 inch cubes and places in a large bowl.
3. Squeeze the juice from the oranges over the beets.
4. Add the olives, vinegar, oil, ginger, and chives.
5. Toss to coat well and let sit for 5 minutes
6. Season with the salt.

From the kitchen of Marianna Padilla



# warm lentil & vegetable salad

serves: 8

## things you need:

1 1/2 cup French green lentils, sorted to remove stones, & rinsed

3 cups water

30 Brussels sprouts, trimmed, & halved

4 cups sweet potatoes, cut into 1/2" cubes

1 1/2 cup scallions, diagonally cut

1/2 cup brown rice vinegar

1/4 cup sherry vinegar

1/2 cup olive oil

3/4 cup walnuts, roasted & chopped

2 Tbsp. fresh dill (or 2 tsp. dried)

1 Tbsp. salt

1/2 tsp. pepper



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# veggies

## CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS: brussels sprouts

### directions:

1. Cook lentils in water until soft, but not mushy, about 1 hour. Drain if necessary.
2. Steam brussels sprouts and sweet potatoes separately until tender, yet firm.
3. Mix. lentils with vegetables in a large salad bowl.
4. Blend vinegars, oil, and garlic together until smooth in a blender. Toss into salad with walnuts and dill.
5. Season with salt and pepper, and mix gently.
6. Serve warm as a salad or in toasted pita breads

From the kitchen of Marianna Padilla



# quinoa salad

## things you need:

1 cup quinoa (cook as directed)

1/4 cup olive oil

2 limes, juiced

2 tsp. cumin

1 tsp. salt

1/2 tsp. pepper flakes

1 1/2 cups cherry tomatoes, 1/2" sliced

1 can black beans, drained

5 green onions, sliced

1/4 cup fresh cilantro

salt & pepper to taste



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# veggies

**CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS:**  
tomatoes & onions

## directions:

1. whisk olive oil, lime, cumin, salt, and red pepper flakes together.
2. Combine quinoa, beans, tomatoes, and onions and pour dressing over.

From the kitchen of Velma Harris



# grandma nan's cabbage goulash

## things you need:

1 1/2 lbs. ground beef

2 medium cabbages (or  
large)

1 to 2 cans stewed  
tomatoes, season salt,  
black pepper, salt

1 cup water



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# veggies

## CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS: tomatoes

### directions:

1. Brown ground beef with season salt, black pepper
2. In a large pan fill with cup of water
3. Cut up cabbage, place ground beef on top of cabbage, cans of stewed tomatoes (cut up), more season salt, black pepper, salt to taste.
4. Mix together until cabbage is cooked.
5. Serve with corn bread.

From the kitchen of Sharon Smith



# good earth casserole

serves: 4 to 6

## things you need:

### brown rice pilaf

2 Tbsp. oil

3/4 cup brown rice,  
uncooked

1 small onion, chopped

1/2 tsp. salt

1/4 tsp. ground ginger

1/4 tsp. oregano

1 1/2 cups chicken or vege-  
table broth

### vegetable mixture

1 cup coarsely chopped  
walnuts

3 Tbsp. vegetable oil

2 medium onions, quar-  
tered and sliced

1/2 lb. mushrooms, sliced

3 cups thinly sliced  
broccoli stems and bite-  
sized flowerets

1/2 cup slivered water  
chestnuts

1 clove garlic, minced

1 Tbsp. soy sauce

1/2 cup dairy sour cream

1/4 lb. monterey jack  
cheese, shredded

1/4 lb. cheddar cheese

orange slices for garnish



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# veggies

## CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS: onions & broccoli

### directions:

1. Cook lentils in water until soft, but not mushy, about 1 hour. Drain if necessary.
2. Steam brussels sprouts and sweet potatoes separately until tender, yet firm.
3. Mix. lentils with vegetables in a large salad bowl.
4. Blend vinegars, oil, and garlic together until smooth in a blender. Toss into salad with walnuts and dill.
5. Season with salt and pepper, and mix gently.
6. Serve warm as a salad or in toasted pita breads

From the kitchen of Marianna Padilla



# celery, apple, onion butternut squash stuffing

serves: 8

## things you need:

6 C. croutons

1-2 tbsp. poultry seasoning

One butter squash (around  
1 lb.)

(Chopped the same size as  
bread crumbs)

2 tbsp. extra virgin olive oil

1/2 tsp all spice

1/2 tsp nutmeg

Salt & pepper

One stick of butter divide

5-6 ribs of celery hearts  
chopped about two cuts

One large onion chopped

Two large crisps apples  
such as honey crisps, Brae-  
burn, left unpeeled and  
diced

Two large bay leaves

1/2 Cup of loosen packed  
herbs such as fresh pars-  
ley, sage, and thyme finely  
chopped

1 quart of chicken or turkey  
stock

3 Tbsp. chopped fresh  
chives

1 tsp. salt



# fruits & veggies

## CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS: onions & apples

### directions:

1. Preheat the oven 375 degrees
2. If making your own breadcrumbs dice half the bread in 1/2 inches dice. Place the other half bread into a food processor and process into large crumbs spread the bread over 2 large shallow baking pans and sprinkle with around poultry seasoning and bake in upper and lower third of oven.
3. Stirring occasionally and switching positions of pan half way through baking until completely dry.
4. About 25 minutes transfer bread to a large bowl on a sheet tray, mix butternut squash with olive oil, all spices, nutmeg, salt & pepper.
5. Roast until nice and crisp, around 10-15 min.

From the kitchen of Marianna Padilla



# No GMO cookies & ice “cream” shakes

## things you need:

2-3 fresh bananas

Fresh or frozen berry mix

Fresh or frozen Tropical fruit mix

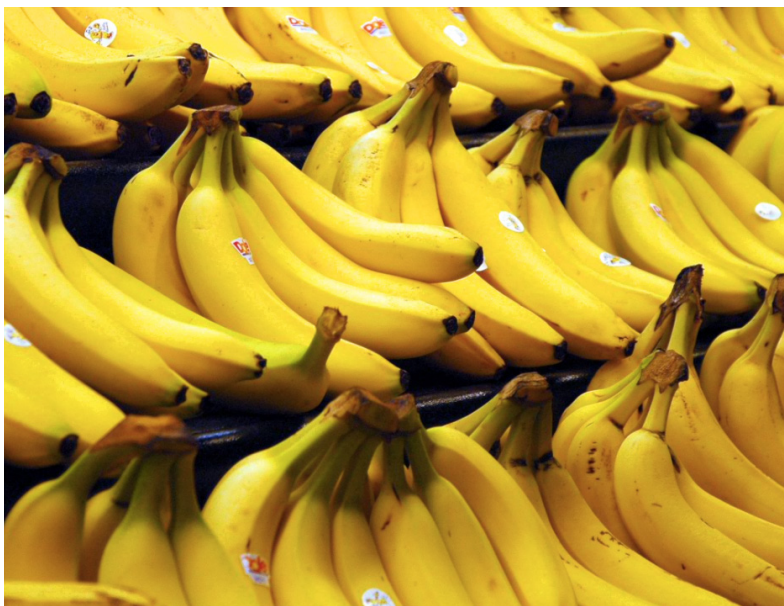
Use half a cup of warm water, not milk



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# fruits

**CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS:**  
berries



From the kitchen of Darrell Simms



# sprouts & cheese

## things you need:

10-12 baby Brussel  
Sprouts

Seasoning (no salt)

Cheese



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# veggies

## CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS: brussels sprouts

### directions:

1. Boil brussel sprouts
2. Season lightly
3. Place in bowl and sprinkle as much cheese as you'd like. The more cheese, the better.

From the kitchen of Darrell Simms



# mixed veggie stir fry

## things you need:

Raw green and yellow peppers (optional)

One yellow squash

One zucchini

One carrot

1/2 - 1 lb. green string beans

Fresh or frozen corn

Garlic

Onions

Butter or olive oil



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# veggies

**CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS:**  
peppers, carrots, & onions

## directions:

1. Slice veggies, except green beans and corn.
2. Melt butter or oil in pan over medium heat.
3. Stir-fry until vegetables are soft.

From the kitchen of Ursa Simms-Asiedu



# green beans & potatoes

## things you need:

Six bunch of fresh green beans

2 slices of bacon (fried or baked) and crumbled

4 white potatoes (diced or quartered)

1/4 clove garlic (smashed or chopped)

One box chicken broth

1 tsp butter

1/4 cup minced onion



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# veggies

## CANCER FIGHTING INGREDIENTS: onions

### directions:

1. Clean and trim green beans.
2. Fry or bake the bacon and drain grease.
3. Wash potatoes and quarter or dice.
4. Put chicken broth in pot, toss in garlic, and bring to a boil.
5. Add green beans and crumbled bacon.
6. Toss in garlic, bring to a boil, and reduce heat and cover.
5. Cook until desired texture. Toss in potatoes on top of the green beans, add teaspoon of butter and nature's season and black pepper.
6. Reduce heat and cover until potatoes are tender. Add minced onion and serve.

From the kitchen of Kimberly Lovett



# At the Masonic Cancer C

## study how we can use f

### CANCER FIGHTERS

## Fruits and vegetables that may help you live h

of fruits and vegetables. Be sure to choose fruits and vegetables of a variety of co

#### Category: Blue/purple



#### Examples

**Fruits:** Blueberries, black berries, purple

**Vegetables:** Purple asparagus, purple c  
and purple Belgian endive

#### Category: Green



#### Examples

**Fruits:** Green apples, green grapes, hon  
and green pears

**Vegetables:** Artichokes, arugula, aspara  
green beans, green cabbage, celery, cu  
lettuce, peas, spinach, watercress, and

#### Category: White



#### Examples

**Fruits:** Bananas, white nectarines, and

**Vegetables:** Cauliflower, garlic, kohlrab  
potatoes (white fleshed), and turnips

#### Category: Yellow/Orange



#### Examples

**Fruits:** Yellow apples, apricots, cantalo  
nectarines, oranges, peaches, pineapple

**Vegetables:** Butternut squash, carrots,  
pumpkin, yellow summer and winter sq  
sweet corn, and yellow tomatoes

#### Category: Red



#### Examples

**Fruits:** Red apples, cherries, cranberrie  
raspberries, strawberries, and waterme

**Vegetables:** Beets, red peppers, radish  
rhubarb, and tomatoes

# er Center, our researchers e food to fight cancer.

**live healthier** Use this chart as a guide for selecting your five-a-day servings  
variety of colors to get the most preventive and risk reduction benefit.

berries, purple grapes, plums, and raisins  
us, purple cabbage, eggplant,

#### **Some beneficial natural ingredients**

Phenolic acids, fiber, indoles,  
coumarins, and anthocyanins

grapes, honeydew melon, kiwi fruit, limes,  
ula, asparagus, broccoli, brussel sprouts,  
celery, cucumbers, endive, leafy greens,  
cress, and zucchini

#### **Some beneficial natural ingredients**

Flavonoids, phenolic acids,  
Vitamin C, glucarates, indoles,  
and isothiocyanates

oranges, and white peaches  
alic, kohlrabi, mushrooms, onions,  
turnips

#### **Some beneficial natural ingredients**

Fiber, flavonoids, phenolic acids,  
indoles, selenium, allicin,  
and isothiocyanates

ts, cantaloupe, grapefruit, lemon, mangoes,  
s, pineapple, and tangerines  
h, carrots, yellow peppers, yellow potatoes,  
d winter squash, sweet potatoes,  
atoes

#### **Some beneficial natural ingredients**

Flavonoids, phenolic compounds,  
carotenoids, Vitamin C, and fiber

cranberries, red grapes, pink grapefruit,  
d watermelon  
ers, radishes, red onions, red potatoes,

#### **Some beneficial natural ingredients**

Flavonols, fiber, phenolic compounds,  
carotenoids, and anthocyanins

## CANCER FIGHTERS

**The 5 A Day Program and how it works** • The 5 A Day for Better Health Program aims to encourage people to increase their consumption of fruits and vegetables to 5 to 9 servings a day. Eating five servings or more of a variety of colorful fruits and vegetables every day may help you reduce your risk for some types of cancer and other diseases, according to the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the Produce for Better Health Foundation.

Fruits and vegetables have nutrients called phytochemicals. Research findings show that phytochemicals may:

- Act as antioxidants
- Stimulate detoxification enzymes
- Positively affect hormones
- Act as antibacteria; or antiviral agents
- Stimulate the immune system

### What is a serving size?

Any of these items qualify as one serving size:

- Medium-sized piece of fruit
- 3/4 cup (6 oz) of 100% fruit or vegetable juice
- 1/2 cup cooked or canned vegetables or fruit
- One cup of raw, leafy vegetables
- 1/2 cup cooked dry peas or beans
- 1/4 cup dried fruit

### Diets rich in fruits and vegetables

may lower the risk for cancers of the lung, mouth, pharynx, esophagus, stomach, colon and rectum, breast, pancreas, ovaries, larynx, and bladder. *Food, Nutrition and the Prevention of Cancer: A Global Perspective* reviewed thousands of studies done by researchers around the world and found cancer rates could be reduced by more than 20 percent if people increased their intake of fruits and vegetables to at least five servings a day. While eating fruits and vegetables may make a difference, please note:

- No single fruit or vegetable reduces cancer risk. Rather, eating five servings or more of a variety of fruits and vegetables helps lessen risk.
- Only fruits and vegetables,

not pills and supplements, provide the beneficial phytochemicals.

- Healthy eating coupled with healthy living leads to better health. In addition to consuming lots of fruits and vegetables, do not smoke, watch your weight, exercise, know your risk factors, and follow the screening guidelines for cancer plus other recommendations from your health care provider.



my notes

my notes



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[cancer.umn.edu](http://cancer.umn.edu)  
Cancer info line: 612-624-2620

Cancer Fighting Recipes: Our Community Cookbook



# green beans & potatoes

## things you need:

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2 slices of bacon (fried or baked) and crumbled

4 white potatoes (diced or quartered)

1/4 clove garlic (smashed or chopped)

One box chicken broth

1 tsp butter

1/4 cup minced onion



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