Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Vouchers
Now Available

Charleston W.Va. -- Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Vouchers are now available in all 55 counties in West Virginia. Vouchers are distributed by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)’s Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP). Vouchers can be exchanged for fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, honey and herbs from participating farmers markets, roadside stands and community supported agriculture programs.

“As healthcare costs continue to rise in West Virginia, programs like the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program become even more important. This program ensures West Virginia seniors, on a fixed-income, have access to fresh, healthy produce while expanding market opportunities for our farmers. A lot of the food being purchased with vouchers are items our seniors might not be able afford otherwise.” said Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt.

Eligible seniors over the age of 60 can sign up at their local senior centers. Vouchers are distributed to seniors who meet certain requirements.

“The Department works with a lot of great partners around the state to distribute these vouchers. If someone has a question or wants to check their eligibility, don’t hesitate to reach out to a local senior center or the department,” Leonhardt said. “The SFMNP is good health for our seniors and the West Virginia economy.”

In 2018, the WVDA and its partners distributed a total of 16,341 vouchers to seniors in West Virginia. A total of 325 farmers participated in the program by
accepting the vouchers. West Virginia has one of the highest redemption rates in the country at 84.5 percent. The national redemption rate is 80 percent. For the list of farmers markets accepting vouchers, please click here. For list of participating senior citizen centers, please click here.

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture protects plant, animal and human health through a variety of scientific, regulatory and consumer protection programs. The Commissioner of Agriculture is one of six statewide elected officials who sits on the Board of Public Works.

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