For Immediate Release



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East Hartford Farmers Market Begins July 12

East Hartford, CT—The East Hartford Farmers' Market is coming back for another successful year, offering freshest local fruits and vegetables.

Area farmers will be offering Connecticut-grown fresh produce this summer as the East Hartford Farmer's Market begins its 29th year of operation. Beginning July 12th, the market will be open <u>Fridays</u>, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Raymond Memorial Library at 840 Main St. <u>through October 25th</u>.

"The farmers' market is a great asset to our community and it is a great way to get locally-grown produce and support Connecticut farms and agriculture," said Mayor Marcia Leclerc.

"Good health through good nutrition" has become a slogan that best describes our local market. Under Connecticut farm fresh regulations, the East Hartford Farmer's Market is only allowed to sell Connecticut-grown fresh fruits and vegetables. This produce is often sold the same day it is harvested.

The functions and objectives of the market are commercial, social, community service and public health-oriented. The primary public health mission of the market is to permanently alter the food purchasing, preparation and consumption behavior of the public-at-large toward a healthier lifestyle.

All Connecticut farmers' markets are affiliated with the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Farmer's Market Coupon Program. They are authorized to accept their produce and vegetable vouchers.

The Farmer's Market is sponsored by East Hartford Health Department. The health department, in cooperation with other agencies plans to conduct health, education and outreach activities at the market throughout its duration. Representatives from the Health Department's Community Nursing Services Division, the WIC Program, the VFW, and InterCommunity Community Health Center will be there as well. Showcased events will be announced as the season progresses.

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