

EST. 1871

CITY OF NEW BRITAIN

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 1, 2016

Weekly Farmers Market Coming to New Britain's Central Park

NEW BRITAIN—Mayor Erin E. Stewart announced today that a weekly farmer's market will take place Wednesday afternoons in the city's recently renovated Central Park beginning in July and running through October.

The market will be the state's newest farmer's market and will be certified by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

"Our expanded Central Park is an ideal location for a farmer's market," said Mayor Stewart. "It's in the heart of our city and in close proximity to CTfastrak commuters and downtown employers and residents. This will be an opportunity to have area farmers and producers sell fresh fruits and vegetables, bakery products, crafts, and other unique items."

The market will operate from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Wednesday, beginning July 13^{th} and running through the end of October.

Farms that have committed to the market already include Urth Farms of New Britain; Berger Nursery of Kensington; and Dondero Orchards of Glastonbury. Other vendors will be added.

Vendors interested in participating in the market should contact Zeena Tawfik at 860-826-3366 (<u>ztawfik@newbritainct.gov</u>).

Farmers must be certified by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture. If you need assistance certifying your produce contact Connecticut Department of Agriculture Marketing representative Rick Macsuga at 860-713-2544 or by email at Richard.Macsuga@ct.gov.

Other vendors must have a valid health license from the City of New Britain or another municipality in the state of Connecticut and must show proof of insurance.

The market will participate in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children—popularly known as WIC. The WIC Program provides coupons to qualified individuals who can exchange them for fresh and nutritious locally grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs. The Department of Agriculture is also working directly with the city and New Britain Housing Authority to provide food assistance to qualified senior citizens, who will be able to purchase food at the market using vouchers.

Contact: David Huck (860)-826-3303 dhuck@newbritainct.gov

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