



NEWS

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Farmers' Markets Popular with Residents Seeking Locally Produced Goods in Montco

Norristown, PA (June 2, 2015) – The 11 farmers' markets in Montgomery County are in full swing, providing county residents with the freshest produce and other locally made goods. These markets give farmers and local food producers an outlet for their goods while offering local residents a place to conveniently shop for locally grown and locally made products.

The county is home to more than 500 farms—many of which have been permanently preserved by the county, land trusts, and local municipalities. Farms in Montgomery County grow a huge range of produce, raise chickens and sell eggs, produce honey, raise cattle and pigs, make wine, and produce a full range of dairy products from milk to ice cream. Residents can support farming in Montgomery County by shopping at farmers' markets, farm stands, and other retailers who sell locally produced goods.

“Our farmers' markets help support local farmers, foster farmland preservation, and provide access to healthy foods that promote wellness,” said Dr. Val Arkoosh, Vice Chair of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners.

In addition to providing some of the freshest produce available and a variety of quality goods, farmers' markets can be good for local neighborhoods and the economy. In a survey done by the Project for Public Spaces, it was found that 60 percent of farmers' market shoppers visited additional nearby stores on the same day, and 60 percent of these respondents said they only visited those additional stores on the day they went to the farmers' market.

Farmers' markets in Montgomery County started in the late 1990s with the Norristown Farmers' Market, which was established to not only provide fresh produce and other goods to local residents,

but also as a way to boost economic development in Norristown. The newest farmers' market in the county is Ardmore Farm Fresh Market in Lower Merion Township, which opened May 30th.

Visit www.montcopa.org/FarmlandProgram for a list of farmers' markets in the county and to learn about the county's farmland preservation program. For more information, please contact Anne Leavitt-Gruberger at 610-278-3727 or via email at aleavitt@montcopa.org.