



Bryan P. Hurlburt
Commissioner

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Commissioner



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CONNECTICUT FARMERS' MARKETS & FARM STANDS OPEN
Keeping Fresh, Local Foods Accessible

(HARTFORD, CT) - Connecticut residents seeking fresh, local foods are advised that farm stands and farmers' markets remain open for business. As the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture has worked with Governor Lamont's office to clarify that these entities are not currently affected by the Executive Order.

"Farm stores and farmers' markets offer consumers a retail option that is essential to keeping fresh, local food accessible," said Connecticut Department of Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt. "This is an unprecedented situation for all, however, our farmers and producers are working hard to produce nutritious foods, playing a vital role in our state's economy and food supply chain."

A number of farm stands and farmers' markets have already integrated online or order-ahead options with home delivery or curbside pickup. The agency is working with producers to compile an updated listing of farmers' markets and farm stands on www.ctgrown.gov, which will be modified as new information is available.

The agency reminds farm and retail staff to implement social distancing and limit customer interactions. Farm stores and farmers' market managers are encouraged to reinforce the importance of washing hands, sanitizing surfaces frequently, and not working when sick. Additional guidance for farmers to practice safe food production is available at www.ctgrown.gov.

Growers interested in assisting their local communities are encouraged to connect directly with FoodShare (www.foodshare.org) or Connecticut Food Bank (www.ctfoodbank.org).



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