

North Carolina Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program Coming to McDowell County in July!



The **NC Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)** provides eligible lower-income older adults with free vouchers to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables, honey, and fresh cut herbs at SFMNP certified farmers' markets. The program is designed to improve the nutrition of older adults and increase business for local farmers and farmers' markets. Participant eligibility requirements:

1. 60 years of age or older
2. McDowell County resident
3. Household maximum income of **\$2,461** or less per month for a one-person household; **\$3,337** or less per month for a two-person household (a couple that resides in the same household and meets the eligibility requirements may each get a voucher booklet)

Eligible persons will receive a \$50.00 booklet of ten \$5.00 vouchers that can be used at the Marion Tailgate Market located at 67 West Henderson Street, Marion, NC, 28752 and at other participating farmers markets in other counties. The Marion Tailgate Market operates every Saturday from 9:00am-1:00pm from May through October. You can redeem the vouchers at the Marion Tailgate Market through September 26. After that date, the vouchers will expire and cannot be used.

You may use as many of the vouchers as you would like when you purchase items from participating farmers and vendors when you visit the market. These sellers will have a poster for the North Carolina Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program on display at their booths. You are limited to only using the vouchers for fresh fruits and vegetables, honey and fresh cut herbs.

We ask that you make an appointment for one of the upcoming voucher sign-up dates using this information listed below. These appointments should take 15 minutes or less to complete the paperwork to receive your vouchers. You will need to bring a photo ID to verify your age and residency. The McDowell Senior Center will receive 100 voucher booklets and will first be distributed on four dates in July at these locations:

The McDowell Senior Center located at 100 Spaulding Road, Marion, NC on Tuesday, July 7, Thursday, July 9, and Friday, July 17 from 8:30AM-3:30PM

Call 828-659-0821 to schedule your appointment at this location or visit the reception desk at the McDowell Senior Center to sign up.

The A.C. Bud Hogan Community Center located at 909 East Main Street, Old Fort, NC on Wednesday July 8 from 8:30AM-3:30PM.

Call 828-668-4867 to schedule your appointment at this location or visit the reception desk at the A.C. Bud Hogan Community Center to sign up.

After these four appointment dates have passed, any remaining voucher booklets will be distributed to eligible individuals by a waiting list in the order they are received. If you are unable to come to one of the sign-up events, you can be added to the waiting list by calling the McDowell Senior Center at 828-659-0821.

This opportunity is made possible through the partnerships of the North Carolina Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, McDowell Local Food Advisory Council, and the McDowell Senior Center.