



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

NATIONAL FARMERS MARKET WEEK
August 2–8, 2015

By the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States of America

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS farmers markets are important outlets for agricultural producers nationwide, providing them with increased opportunities to meet consumer demand for a variety of fresh, affordable, convenient, and healthful products sold directly from the farm; and

WHEREAS farmers markets play a key role in developing local and regional food systems that support the sustainability of family farms, revitalize rural communities, and provide opportunities for farmers and consumers to interact; and

WHEREAS farmers markets increasingly offer electronic benefits transfer technology for use by Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients in redeeming their benefits and also offer opportunities for low-income women, infants, and children and seniors participating in the WIC and Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Programs, respectively, to redeem their benefits; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Department of Agriculture recognizes the myriad benefits of farmers markets for producers and consumers and is fully committed to supporting farmers markets' continued success through grants, technical assistance, directories, and more;

NOW, THEREFORE, to further awareness of farmers markets' contributions to American life, I, Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, do hereby proclaim the week of August 2–8, 2015, as National Farmers Market Week. I encourage the American people to celebrate farmers markets with appropriate observances and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of June 2015, the two-hundred thirty-ninth year of the Independence of the United States of America.


THOMAS J. VILSACK
Secretary