



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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For Immediate Release

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April 2, 2014
PSA-038

Fairfax County Farmers Markets Open

Let's play word association. If you hear "Farmers Market," you think "Fresh."

Once again, the first week of May brings "fresh" and Farmers Markets to Fairfax County. The kickoff for the season is May 1, 2014, at three sites. The markets in Annandale and Herndon open that day as does a newcomer to the program. There will be a market at the Fairfax County Government Center on Thursday afternoons from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. this year.

There are 11 markets across the county, and all of them will be open by May 7. During 2014, there will be a market open somewhere five days a week, Wednesdays through Sundays into late fall. The schedule for all the markets is on the Fairfax County Park Authority website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets.

Two grants are helping the Fairfax County Farmers Markets expand SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)-at-market acceptance so that the markets are more accessible to low-income families shopping for fresh food.

The fresh foods available when markets open will include asparagus, beets, radishes, salad greens, spring onions, strawberries and Swiss chard. There also will be potted plants, including herbs, as well as hanging baskets. Food items across the markets will include meats, eggs, salsa, breads, cheeses, jams and milk products.

All products sold at Fairfax County Farmers Markets are produced by vendors within 125 miles of Fairfax County. That's a guarantee of fresh, locally-grown produce.

For more information, including market locations, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets or contact the Community Horticulture Office at 703-642-0128.

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If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354.