



To: All Participants in the Senior Farmers Market Program
St. Joseph/Elkhart/Kosciusko/Marshall/LaPorte Counties.

From: The Farmers Market Department

Date: April 30, 2009

Re: Senior Farmers Market Program start date and rules.

Do not call this office before June 16, 2009.

Who qualifies for the Farmers Market Program?

Indiana Residents, 60 years of age or older, living in St. Joseph, Marshall, Elkhart, Kosciusko, and LaPorte counties whose household income is 185% of poverty or less. See chart below.

- 1. You must add up all sources of income before you come to collect vouchers and you will fill in an application with your information. The application will take a few minutes.**

Income Eligibility Limits

Household Size	Annual \$	Monthly \$
1	20,036	1,670
2	26,955	2,246
3	33,874	2,823
4	40,796	3,399
5	47,712	3,976
6	54,631	4,553
7	61,550	5,129

2. **You must complete a new application.**
3. **The eligible participant may send a proxy to pick up vouchers. If you do not call ahead and let us know who will be picking up the voucher for you we can not distribute the vouchers. You must also send a written note stating that the proxy may pick up your vouchers along with your identification.**
4. **If you are going to have a proxy utilize the vouchers at the market for you. That person must be the one who will pick up your vouchers. They will have to sign the envelope stating that they will utilize the vouchers. The vendors do not have to accept the vouchers from someone not listed on the envelope. Vouchers must remain in the envelope until utilized at the markets.**
5. **Please only apply for vouchers if you plan on utilizing them. Because of budget cuts we would like to make sure that we use 100% of all vouchers distributed. Last year only 82% of the vouchers were used. Over \$2,000.00 went unspent. If you would like to see this program continued you must use the vouchers.**
6. **At the end of the season (October 19th, 2009) you must return all unused vouchers.**

The Senior Farmers Market Program (SFMNP) begins **June 16, 2009**. **No vouchers will be distributed until then.** Vouchers will be distributed on a first come first serve basis. Please see schedule below.

Vouchers and applications will NOT be mailed to your home. You must come during the below stated times to receive vouchers.

What must I bring to pick up the vouchers?

- **You must bring valid picture identification.** Passport, Military ID, Indiana Drivers license or Indiana State ID card with current Indiana address is acceptable.
- **Expired or out of Indiana State Identification will not be accepted.**
- Amount of Income for the entire household and the number of persons in a household.

What if I did not get vouchers last year?

Any person qualifying as stated above may come and sign up for vouchers. You do not have to have been on the program in the past.

Vouchers are distributed one time each year to eligible participants. Lost vouchers **can not** be replaced.

Only locally grown unprocessed produce may be purchased with the vouchers. \$24.00 worth of vouchers will be distributed. **Vouchers must be used/redeemed before October 18, 2009.**

Check with the local Farmers Market in your area for hours of operation and if they are eligible to accept the vouchers. You may ask about eligible Markets and Farm stands while picking up vouchers.

Five portions of fruits and vegetables should be consumed each day. Remember a healthy well balanced diet and proper exercise will help speed recovery from illness, decrease stays in hospitals, and will give you more energy. Consult your doctor/physician for proper diet and exercise program instructions.

When can I pick up the vouchers? No appointments necessary.

Date	Location	Time
JUNE 16, 2009	REAL Services main office 1151 S. Michigan St. South Bend, IN.	<u>Tuesday's and Thursday's</u> 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. only
June 19, 2009	REAL Services Area 2 Agency on Aging office 401 W Center St. Warsaw, IN	1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
June 19	Warsaw SAC 800 N. Park Ave Warsaw, IN	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
June 22	REAL Services Area 2 Agency on Aging office <u>Concord Mall</u> 3701 S. Main St., Space #1005 Elkhart, IN	1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
June 22	Stratford Commons 2601 Oakland Ave Elkhart, IN	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
June 26	REAL Services Area 2 Agency on Aging office 121 E. LaPorte St. Plymouth, IN	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
June 26	Marshall County Council on Aging	1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
June 29	REAL Services Area 2 Agency on Aging office 800 E. Lincolnway LaPorte, IN	1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
June 29	Nappanee Senior Center 451 N. Main St Nappanee, IN	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
July 6	Bourbon 805 N. Harris St. Bourbon, IN	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
July 10	Smrt Center #2 301 Grant Ave Michigan City, IN	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
July 13	LaPorte Salvation Army 3240 Monroe St. LaPorte, IN	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
July 17	100 Center 100 Center Apartments Mishawaka, IN	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
July 20	LaSalle/Charles Black Cntr 3419 W. Washington St. South Bend, IN	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Authorized Area Markets

Following information may be different. Call the market before going to the markets listed below.

Market	City	Address	Hours
Elkhart Farmers Market	Elkhart	Bicentennial Park, Elkhart Ave.	Tues: 4pm - 7pm Sat: 7am – 1pm
Mill Race Farmers Market	Goshen	212 W. Washington Ave.	Tues: 4:30pm - 7pm Sat: 8am – 1pm
Warsaw Farmers Market	Warsaw	Smith St/Fair Grounds	Mon & Wed: 2:30pm-5pm Sat: 8am-12pm
La Porte Urban Ent. Assoc. Farmers Market	La Porte	State St. Circle & Michigan Ave.	Sat: 7am-12pm
Plymouth Farmers Market	Plymouth	G&G Parking Lot	Sat: 7:30am -11:30am
South Bend Farmers Market	South Bend	1105 Northside blvd	Tue/Thur/Fri 7a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sat: 7am – 3pm

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