

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 31, 2015

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DES Celebrates National Farmers Market Week, August 2-8

In celebration of National Farmers Market Week to be held August 2-8, DES encourages Arizonans to shop at a farmers market for fresh fruits and vegetables. These markets are more than just an outlet for fresh produce and friendly farmers.

Farmers markets provide affordable, nutritious food to all Arizonans.

- From Flagstaff to Nogales, there are twenty-two <u>farmers markets in Arizona</u> that accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP) benefits.
- The <u>USDA reports</u> produce prices at farmers markets are lower, on average, than grocery stores.

Farmers markets help provide jobs to Arizonans.

- According to the <u>Farmers Market Coalition</u>, growers selling locally create 13 full-time farm operator jobs per \$1 million in revenue earned, while those that do not sell locally only create three.
- Agriculture and ranching are the state's second largest source of revenue and contribute \$10.3 billion to the state's economy, according to the <u>Arizona Farm Bureau</u>.

So chow down Arizona and you'll be doing something great for your health and our economy!

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