

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, farmers markets are engines of economic recovery and rebuilding, providing families with access to healthy foods and agricultural products directly from Washington farmers and small businesses; and

WHEREAS, Washington has some 160 farmers markets in over 90 cities and towns around the state, that attract over 4 million shoppers annually, and each create a place of beloved community connection; and

WHEREAS, farmers markets serve as significant outlets for new businesses and family farms with lean budgets to hone their skills, develop their products, grow a loyal shopper base, and build experience in order to be successful; and

WHEREAS, farmers markets support the sustainability of family farms and the revitalization of rural communities and preserve farmland and open space adding to our quality of life; and

WHEREAS, farmers markets also support artisans, prepared food businesses, and other vendors, as well as increasing sales of neighboring businesses; and

WHEREAS, farmers markets are a key source of fresh, nutritious food for everyone, including families benefiting from the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); Pandemic EBT; and SNAP Market Match to incentivize buying more fruit and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, farmers markets are managed by dedicated community leaders, who are driven by shared values to support local farmers, feed their neighbors, and create a healthy Washington; and

WHEREAS, farmers markets contribute to the economic and social fabric of their communities, creating a positive community experience and providing educating and connection to citizens about their food and where it comes from;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim August 1-7, 2021, as

Farmers Market Week

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 29th day of July, 2021

Handwritten signature of Jay Inslee in blue ink.
Governor Jay Inslee