

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, farmers markets are engines of economic opportunities and entrepreneurship with over \$82 million in annual sales in Washington; and

WHEREAS, farmers markets provide families with access to healthy foods and agricultural products directly from Washington farmers and small businesses; and

WHEREAS, Washington has some 165 farmers markets in nearly 100 cities and towns around the state that attract more than 4.3 million shoppers annually, and each create a place of beloved community connection; and

WHEREAS, small businesses and family farms benefit significantly from sales at farmers markets while learning vital skills, developing new products, growing a loyal shopper base, and gaining experience that leads to success and self-sufficiency; and

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

WHEREAS, farmers markets support artisans, prepared food businesses and other vendors and increase sales for neighboring businesses; and

WHEREAS, farmers markets are vital partners that make possible the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), SNAP Market Match, and nutrition education about the importance of healthy fruits 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 by creating a positive community experience and helping Washingtonians learn about their food and where it comes from;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Ferguson, governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim August 3-9, 2025, 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, 2025

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Ferguson".

Governor Bob Ferguson

