



"THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK"
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FARMERS MARKET CHECKBOOKS NOW AVAILABLE TO QUALIFYING WHITE PLAINS SENIORS

WHITE PLAINS, NY – August 25, 2020. Seniors looking to increase their consumption of fruits and vegetables and stretch their food budgets this summer and fall may be entitled to a farmers market checkbook. To be eligible, individuals must be 60 years or older **AND** have a monthly income at or below \$1,968/month for a one-person household or \$2,658 for a two-person household.

The Farmers Market Senior Nutrition Program is funded through the Food and Nutrition Service division of the United States Department of Agriculture and Markets in cooperation with the NY State Office for the Aging, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets and the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services.

The Senior Farmers Market Program is for eligible older adults on a **FIRST COME FIRST SERVED** basis. Eligible seniors should participate only if they are planning to use the checkbooks at the participating markets. Each checkbook has a value of \$20 and individual Farmers Market checks are worth \$4.00 each. Farmers will not give change. If a purchase is less than \$4.00, farmers will add additional items of the recipient's choice to make up the difference.

(More)



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The purpose of the Senior Farmers Market Program is to provide resources in the form of fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs from farmers markets and community supported agriculture programs to low-income seniors; to increase the consumption of locally grown food by expanding farmers markets and community supported agriculture programs. The program also serves a purpose in the development of new and additional farmers markets and community supported agriculture programs.

The White Plains Community Center will distribute the checkbooks only to eligible seniors who are White Plains residents, from August 31st to September 3rd, 2020, **9:00 am – 12:00 pm**, at the following locations while supplies last:

Monday, 8/31 & Tuesday, 9/1 at Gardella Park, 175 Ferris Avenue
Wednesday, 9/2 & Thursday, 9/3 at Turnure Park 26 Lake Street

Proof of age and residency are required. Applicants must come in person to sign the statement of eligibility. We encourage everyone to bring his or her own pen. Everyone must wear a mask and maintain social distancing while picking up the checkbooks. Each older adult in a household is eligible to receive a checkbook if they meet the age and income requirements.

The checkbooks are valid at any Participating New York State Farmers Markets and locally they can be used at the White Plains Farmers Market, which is held on Wednesdays, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. The White Plains Farmers Market is located on Court Street (between Martine Ave. and Main St.)

For more information on the farmers market checkbooks, contact the White Plains Community Center at 914-422-1331.

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