

# West Virginia Department of Agriculture

Walt Helmick, Commissioner



304-558-3708

[www.agriculture.wv.gov](http://www.agriculture.wv.gov)



Facebook: West Virginia Department of Agriculture



Twitter: @WVDeptofAg

**NEWS RELEASE**  
February 22, 2016

**Contact: Buddy Davidson**  
Communications Officer  
304/558-3708; 304/541-5932 (cell)  
[bdavidson@wvda.us](mailto:bdavidson@wvda.us)

## **WINTER BLUES FARMERS' MARKET BRINGS WV FARMERS AND PRODUCERS TOGETHER AT SMALL FARM CONFERENCE IN CHARLESTON**

*Market is free to public and will feature fresh produce, meats, baked goods and more*

**Charleston, W.Va.** – The Winter Blues Farmers' Market is back. The annual event is part of the Small Farm Conference taking place at the Charleston Civic Center February 25, from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Forty farmers and producers from across the state will take part in the market. From fresh Bibb lettuce to maple cotton candy, baked goods to just-cut meats, the market has something for every taste bud. Bring a shopping bag to fill up and take home your favorites. The event is free to the public.

"We want our farmers to show off what they're doing and make contacts. A lot of people that go to the Winter Blues Farmers' Market are looking for suppliers," according to Tom McConnell, program Leader for the WVU Extension Service Small Farm Center. "We want the public to come because you can't beat it. We come to the Capitol City offering fresh produce, meats and cheeses."

Vendors such as Paul Mock, owner of Mock's Greenhouse in Berkeley County, say the event is a great way to spread the word about their business. "The Winter Blues Farmers' Market has turned out to be a great way to show my produce in another part of the state that normally I wouldn't see. New people have access to my food!"

For more information about the Winter Blues Farmers' Market and the Small Farm Conference, log on to: <http://www.agriculture.wv.gov/SiteCollectionDocuments/1-16-MB-WEB.pdf>.

###