

WVDA TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL FARMERS' MARKET WEEK WITH FREE CORN ROAST

Charleston, W.Va. – It's time to fire up the grill and roast some sweet corn. Commissioner of Agriculture Walt Helmick invites state workers and visitors to enjoy a free ear of corn during National Farmers' Market Week.

The annual corn roast will take place Thursday, August 6 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the north side of the Capitol complex. The Commissioner, along with West Virginia Department of Agriculture employees, will serve up 50 dozen ears of corn. This is the seventh year for the event. Corn is ripe for the picking and Commissioner Helmick stresses the importance of buying local at farmers' markets across the state.

"Fresh, local produce is not only healthy, it's good for the economy. With 93 farmers' markets at 110 locations across the state, we're helping grow family farms as well as healthy West Virginians," says Helmick.

Along with the corn roast, Capitol Market will hold its final Capitol Market at the Capitol this summer. You can purchase fresh fruits and vegetables ripe from the vine. From tomatoes to potatoes, strawberries to blueberries, you'll find something to fill your dinner plate.

To locate a farmers' market near you, click:

<http://www.agriculture.wv.gov/divisions/marketinganddevelopment/Documents/2014-WEST-VIRGINIA-FARMERS-MARKETS.pdf>

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The West Virginia Department of Agriculture protects plant, animal and human health through a variety of scientific, regulatory and consumer protection programs, as mandated by state law. The Commissioner of Agriculture is one of six statewide elected officials in West Virginia. For more information, visit www.wvagriculture.org.