

Media Advisory
9-24-13

FREE SWEET CORN ROAST SET FOR WEDNESDAY

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) will host a free sweet corn roast on the Capitol Complex plaza Wednesday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

WVDA employees will roast approximately 25 dozen ears of sweet corn on an open grill as a token of appreciation to state employees at the Capitol and as a promotional event for sweet corn, available now at farmers' markets throughout the state.

This is the fifth year the WVDA has sponsored the corn roast, which always draws a large crowd.

Commissioner of Agriculture Walt Helmick said that buying local benefits all of West Virginia.

“West Virginians spend over \$7 billion a year on food, but we only produce about a half a billion here in our state,” Commissioner Helmick said. “I’m confident we could double that number if people would shop more at our farmers’ markets and consciously seek out West Virginia Grown produce. That would add \$500 million to the state’s economy without increasing the cost to consumers by even one dime.”