



AN INVITATION
2012 Senior Farmer Market Nutrition Program

By sending in your WIC Farmers Market application and agreement, you may enroll in the Senior Farmer Market Nutrition Program.

This USDA program is wonderful for the community as it supports local agriculture and good nutrition for elderly Alaskans. Senior Alaskans are eligible if they are age 60 and older and meet income guidelines (185% of federal poverty guidelines.)

The program begins June 1, 2012 and ends October 31, 2012. Senior Farmers' Market Coupons are used for locally grown, fresh, unprocessed produce. *They cannot be used for any prepared food, honey, maple or birch syrup, cider, nuts/seeds, eggs, meat, cheese or seafood.*

Seniors receive coupons (not warrants) along with information about farm stands and markets at their local senior center or other agency. Farmers accept the coupons in return for the market value of the produce. There is no cash value for the coupons. Please do not give any cash or change for the coupons.

Farmers receive reimbursement for coupons through a regional agency. Farmers and market managers in the Kenai Peninsula, Anchorage, or Mat-Su regions currently redeem coupons at United Way of Mat-Su in Wasilla, and farmers in the Fairbanks, North Pole, Nenana, Copper Center, Bethel, Dillingham and Delta Junction area will redeem coupons at the North Star Council of Aging.

You can redeem coupons on the 10th and 25th of each month to receive reimbursement by the 15th and 30th of each month. **Be sure to make a copy of your reimbursement form before turning it into the reimbursing agency.**

- *Please do not wait until the end of season to redeem coupons.*
- *Do not take SFMNP coupons to the bank!*

Farmers must turn in all redeemed coupons to the reimbursing agency before November 30, 2012 for the final payment date of December 31, 2012. Coupons submitted after that date will not be paid. You will need to stamp your farmer number onto all redeemed coupons! Only farmers who are contracted to participate with the State of Alaska Family Nutrition Program's Farmers Market Nutrition Program may accept Senior Farmers' Market Coupons and expect to be reimbursed.

Please see the attached information and forms for reimbursement for the coupons. *You may make copies as needed of the reimbursement forms.* If you need additional copies, please contact me, elaine.nisonger@alaska.gov or call me at 907-269-8446, or contact Sandy Harbanuk sandra.harbanuk@alaska.gov or call her at (907) 465-4704.

Thanks again for your participation! Have a great summer!

Elaine Nisonger

WIC/Community Nutritionist
SFMNP Coordinator