

Farmers' Market Management Network Newsletter

October 11, 2009, Issue 2

Opportunity for Ohio Produce Growers to Learn About Food Safety Issues

Ohio producers of fresh fruits and vegetables have an opportunity to attend a Listening Session to hear about the various groups who are working to address the proposed changes to how local food is produced in Ohio. This listening session provides the opportunity for growers to hear from experts in the food safety arena.

Speakers will include:

- Researchers for Ohio Agriculture Research and Development Center (OARDC)
- The Ohio Produce Growers and Marketers Association (OPGMA)
- Dr. Karl Kolb, Chief Science Officer, The High Sierra Group.

Participants will hear from these experts information about current regulations and the proposed changes to these regulations. Information will also be shared about what Ohio is doing to ensure the sustainability of Ohio's produce growers.

The Listening Session will be held on Oct. 19, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Ohio Department of Agriculture in Reynoldsburg.

For more information please contact Christie Welch, Farmers' Market Specialist with the Ohio State University South Centers via e-mail welch.183@osu.edu or via telephone to 740-289-2071 ext. 234.

Presenter Wanted to Speak About Farmers' Markets

OEFFA (The Ohio Ecological Food & Farm Association) is looking for a person to speak about "starting and running a farmers' market in a small community" at their annual conference. The presentation can be either 1 or 2 hours.

The conference will held on Feb. 13 & 14, 2010 in Granville, OH. Keynote speakers will include Joel Salatin and Anne Cooper.

More info at www.oeffa.org. If you are interested please contact Karen Feltham at 937-468-2874.

Online Resources for Vendors and Managers

We have added many new online resources to the FMMN web site including publications and pre-recorded webinars on marketing your farmers' market, recruiting vendors, good agricultural practices, food safety issues for farmers markets, EBT and nutrition, starting a farmers market and more at your FMMN web site at <http://fmmn.org/resources/>

Ohio Farmland Preservation Summit

The 10th annual Ohio Farmland Preservation Summit will take place from 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 15 at the Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center on the Ohio State University campus.

"Planting the Seeds of Future Prosperity" is the theme of the 2009 summit. It will feature panels on a variety of topics, including food policy, climate change and land-access barriers.

An added feature to this year's event is an Ohio Proud Farmers' Market, highlighting products made or grown in Ohio.

Registration forms and a \$40 fee, which includes lunch, are due Oct. 22. Forms are available at www.agri.ohio.gov/divs/FarmLand/FarmLand.aspx or by calling (614) 728-6210.

This newsletter is published by the Farmers' Market Management Network of Ohio Visit us at www.fmmn.org