



# BERRIEN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

better health. stronger communities.

## News Release

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For Immediate Release

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### **Benton Harbor Farmers Market Set to Open on Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>**

(Benton Harbor, MI) – The Berrien County Health Department is pleased to announce that the Benton Harbor Farmers Market will open for another season on Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. The market will run from 10am to 3pm every Wednesday in the Dwight P. Mitchell City Center Park in downtown Benton Harbor.

Each week from opening day through September 15<sup>th</sup>, the Benton Harbor Farmers Market will offer a wide variety of locally-grown and affordable fresh fruits and vegetables. While COVID-19 cases remain low in Berrien County, face masks and social distancing will not be required, but there will be a hand washing station available at the market.

The market will continue to welcome the use of Bridge Cards (EBT), Senior Project FRESH, and WIC Project FRESH coupons that can be used to purchase qualifying items in addition to accepting cash. Again this year, the market provide Bridge Card holders an opportunity to double their spending power with the [Double Up Food Bucks](#) program. Vendors at the market will provide fresh fruits and vegetables, homemade baked goods, farm products, and artisan crafts. There will be special events and programming for people of all ages, including exercise classes and story time for kids. Follow the Benton Harbor Farmers Market on Facebook to stay up-to-date on weekly events and for a preview of the products that will be available throughout the market season.

“The Benton Harbor Farmers Market has been an important part of our community for many years and provides a direct link between the agricultural community and people who value fresh, local produce,” said Nicki Britten, health officer for the Berrien County Health Department. “With family friendly events, new partnerships with area organizations, and even more vendors, this year’s market is going to be bigger and better than ever.”

The Benton Harbor Farmers Market is operated by the Berrien County Health Department and supported by grant funding from Be Healthy Berrien through the United Way of Southwest Michigan. New vendors are welcome and encouraged to contact the Berrien County Health Department for more information. Find additional information about the market and how to become a vendor at [www.bchdmi.org](http://www.bchdmi.org).

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*Photo Opportunity: On Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00AM at the Dwight P. Mitchell City Center Park, members of the Be Healthy Berrien Steering Committee will be present as a group at the market.*