

What is the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (S/FMNP)?

In Virginia we call it *Farm Market Fresh!*

Virginia's *Farm Market Fresh* program helps eligible seniors get fresh, tasty, and nutritious locally-grown fruit, vegetables, and cut herbs. The program also supports local farmers and farmers' markets in Virginia.

The Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services-Office for Aging Services (DARS-OAS) partners with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS), ten local Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), and one city government to operate the program which is funded by the US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.



Who is eligible?

If all of the statements shown below are true, then you may be eligible to participate.

- You are 60 years of age or older.
- You are a resident of a locality that participates in the program.
- You do not live in the same household and you are not an immediate family member of the farmer who grows the produce.
- You meet the program's income requirements. You must certify your household income.

How does it work?

- You must complete an application each year through your local Area Agency on Aging to determine if you are eligible to participate in the program.
- Participation is limited and applications are accepted on a first come-first served basis.
- Not all localities within the area served by your local Area Agency on Aging may be eligible to participate in the program.

What is provided?

- If your application is approved, you will receive \$45.00 worth of checks per eligible senior for that growing season.
- Each check is worth \$5.00 and may be used to purchase fresh, locally-grown fruit, vegetables, and cut herbs from participating certified retail farmers market vendors.
- Certified retail farmers market vendors will accept checks for fresh, locally grown fruit and vegetables in-season, depending on the produce items available.

Where does S/FMNP Operate?

For Southwest Virginia, call:

Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens, Inc. 1-800-656-2272 or 276-964-4915

216 College Ridge Rd., Wardell Ind. Park

Cedar Bluff, VA 24609-0765

If you live in Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell or Tazewell counties.

District Three Senior Services

4453 Lee Highway,
Marion, VA 24354-4269

If you live in Bland, Carroll, Grayson, Smyth, Washington, or Wythe counties, or the cities of Bristol or Galax.

1-800-541-0933 or 276-783-8157
Dedicated line applications: 1-866-820-2646

Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc.

1501 3rd Avenue East
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-0888

If you live in Wise County or the City of Norton

1-800-252-6362 or 276-523-4202

For Arlington County, call:

Arlington Agency on Aging
3033 Wilson Blvd., Suite 700-B
Arlington, VA 22201

703-228-1700

For Southeastern Virginia, call:

Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia
6350 Center Drive, Bldg. 5, Suite 101
Norfolk, VA 23502-410

If you live in Isle of Wight or Southampton counties, or the cities of Chesapeake, Franklin, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, or Virginia Beach.

757-461-9481
Dedicated line information: 757-963-9231

City of Emporia

201 South Main Street
Emporia, Virginia 23847

If you live in Emporia or Greensville County

434- 634-3332

For Eastern Shore of Virginia, call:

**Eastern Shore Area Agency on Aging
Community Action Agency, Inc.**

5432-A Bayside Road
Exmore, VA 23350

757-442-9652 or 1-800-452-5977

For Shenandoah Valley, call:

Valley Program for Aging Services, Inc.

325 Pine Avenue
Waynesboro, VA 22980-0603

If you live in Augusta County

1-800-868-8727 or 540-949-7141

For Southside Virginia, call:

Southern Area Agency on Aging, Inc.

204 Cleveland Avenue
Martinsville, VA 24112-3715

If you live in Patrick, Henry, Franklin, or Pittsylvania Counties or the cities of Danville or Martinsville

1-800-468-4571 or 276-632-6442

Lake Country Area Agency on Aging

1-800-252-4464 or 434-447-7661

1105 West Danville Street

South Hill, VA 23970-3501

If you live in South Boston or Halifax County

Piedmont Senior Resources Area Agency on Aging

1-800-995-6918 or 434-767-5588

5539 Colonial Trail Highway

Burkeville, VA 23922

If you live in Farmville, Blackstone or Prince Edward County

What’s in season?

Farm Market Fresh checks are issued for the summer growing season and usually must be spent during the months of July through November, depending on availability of produce.

Checks are used only for typical fruit and vegetables that grow in Virginia and may be found at Virginia’s retail farmer’s markets in a normal season, such as those listed below. The varieties, volume, and quality of available produce may vary depending on the weather and other factors.

VEGETABLES

- Broccoli
- Cabbage
- Cucumbers
- Eggplant
- Greens
- Green beans
- Green peppers
- Lima beans
- Mushrooms

- Pumpkins
- Potatoes
- Spinach
- Squash
- Sweet corn
- Sweet potatoes

FRUIT

- Apples
- Blackberries

- Cantaloupe
- Nectarines
- Peaches
- Pears
- Strawberries
- Tomatoes
- Watermelons

OTHER PRODUCE

- Fresh cut herbs

ITEMS NOT ELIGIBLE

Items that you may NOT purchase with the SFMNP checks include:

- produce that is not locally grown such as oranges, bananas, and pineapples
- processed foods such as honey, maple syrup, cider, nuts, meat, bread, and cheese
- non-food items such as flowers and plants are NOT eligible
- dried herbs and teas



For More Information, Contact:

Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitation Services – Office of Aging Services

1610 Forest Avenue, Suite 100

Richmond, VA 23229

Toll-free: 1-800-552-3402 or Richmond: 804-662-9319

E-mail: aging@vda.virginia.gov Web Site: www.vda.virginia.gov

Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Sales and Market Development

102 Governor Street

Richmond, VA 23219

Richmond: 804-786-2373

Web Site: www.vdacs.virginia.gov

Information on locally grown Virginia produce

Web Site: www.virginiagrown.com

United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Services

Headquarters: 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22302

Mid-Atlantic Regional Office (MARO)

300 Corporate Blvd.

Robbinsville, NJ 08691-1518

Phone: 609-259-5025 Fax: 609-259-5185

Web Site: www.fns.usda.gov/wic/SeniorFMNP/SFMNPmenu.htm

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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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