

# When in the Dell

Weekly Newsletter for the Town of Wendell Team



## *From the Desk of: Administration*

*Assistant to the Manager Stephanie Smith*

The Wendell Farmers Market kicked off its 2020 season on May 16 with 8 vendors in attendance. The weather was beautiful, and in the midst of a pandemic, crowds were consistent and socially distanced.

Another farmers market season brings to mind the role a market plays in a community like Wendell, and how important it is to support local vendors.

When food or goods are produced, processed, distributed and sold in the same area, more money stays in the local economy. Vendors at farmers markets can also create jobs and economic development in a community. Supporting local farms in particular provides income opportunities without the cost of shipping, inventory control and storage.

## EMPLOYEE NEWS

Each newsletter, we'll let you know what Town staff has been busy with in our employee news sidebar. The Town has 6 different departments: Administration, Finance, Planning, Police, Parks and Recreation, and Public Works.

- Police Captain John Slaughter participated in a Watch for Me NC webinar. The Wendell Police Department is a partner of the Watch for Me Program, which focuses on educating the public on pedestrian and bicyclist safety through education and enforcement.
- The Finance Department met with JRW & Associates to review employee benefits in upcoming open enrollment.



In addition to economic benefits, farmers markets provide additional shopping opportunities to areas where there may not be many options.

While social distancing is currently being practiced at the Wendell Farmers Market, shopping there on Saturday morning provides an opportunity to see friends and neighbors in the community, and provides an opportunity for a social interaction - from a distance.

Future plans for the market include themed events and activities to bring families together for fun, educational and healthy interaction. Pollinator Day, Dog Day of Summer and Bike Safety Day are just a few of the events that are in the works.

The Wendell Farmers Market in particular is a great opportunity for a newly started farm or business to sell their goods, as there is no fee to participate, and vendors can select which weeks they would like to attend.

Compared to other markets that require a fee, or commitment to attend the whole season, there is added flexibility in vendors who participate. Applications are always accepted and can be found at

<https://www.townofwendell.com/living/farmers-market>.

## EMPLOYEE NEWS

- Town staff participated in a Zoom meeting with The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) in an interview for the Northeast Area Study Update. The NEAS looks at land use and transportation needs. This update will produce recommendations across all transportation modes, as well as refresh policies and priorities that may have evolved since the original study.
- Parks and Recreation staff has been working on some fun new programs to get you and the kids out safely. More to come next week!
- Planning staff participated in training on how to use Public Input Community Engagement software.
- Planning Department staff conducted the Technical Review Committee meeting on Edgemont Landing Phase III.
- The Planning Department held a pre-construction meeting for Charhouse Storage to be located on Highway 64.
- Public Works is continuing to work with the City of Raleigh on water and sewer upgrades. More paving is set to begin next week.



Since farmers markets are exempt from the Governors Stay At Home Order, the Town of Wendell has been able to support market vendors and, in turn, downtown businesses by hosting the market to bring shoppers to the downtown area.

We encourage residents to visit the Wendell Farmers Market on Saturdays from 9 am – 1 pm at Campen Street and Main Street, and stop by a downtown business for a coffee, some breakfast/lunch, and refreshments to enjoy at home.

For more information about the Wendell Farmers Market, or a list of vendors, follow us on Facebook, or visit <https://www.townofwendell.com/living/farmers-market>.

We look forward to seeing you there!

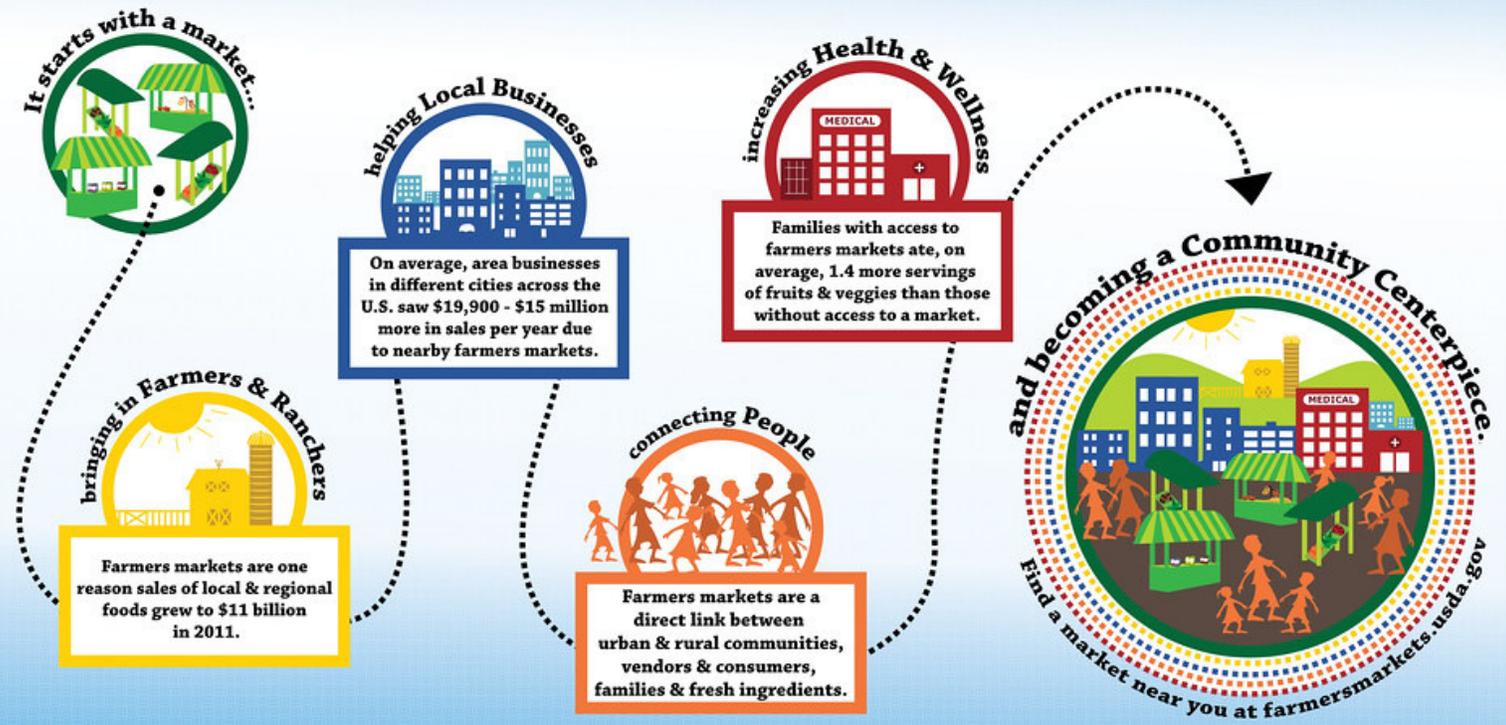
Yours in Service,  
Stephanie Smith, Assistant to the Town Manager

## EMPLOYEE NEWS

- Public Works has begun tree trimming along Town thoroughfares and will continue throughout May and June.
- Town Clerk Howard virtually completed the second semester of Clerk Certification Institute training at UNC's School of Government.
- The Wendell Farmer's Market held it's Opening Day on May 16 and had a great turnout while maintaining proper social distancing procedures.
- Town staff reviewed outreach options for the Waste Industries LLC dba GFL Environmental amendment set to go into effect in July.
- Construction on the downtown parking and event space to start in the next two weeks!
- Check out the proposed budget for FY 2020-2021 on the **Town's website!**
- Please join us in a final recognition of National Public Works Week! Thank you for all the hard work to maintain our streets, sidewalks, and provide solid waste and stormwater services!

# The Food Chain Reaction from a Farmers Market

Farmers markets have become a critical ingredient in local economies, food systems, & communities. Not only are they an economic boost to local farms & businesses, they can also strengthen community ties & promote healthy eating.



USDA

**SOURCES:**

*The Economic Impact of Farmers Markets: A Study of 9 Markets in 3 Major U.S. Cities* ([www.marketumbrella.org](http://www.marketumbrella.org))

# Wendell FARMER'S MARKET

Every Saturday

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Campan & Main