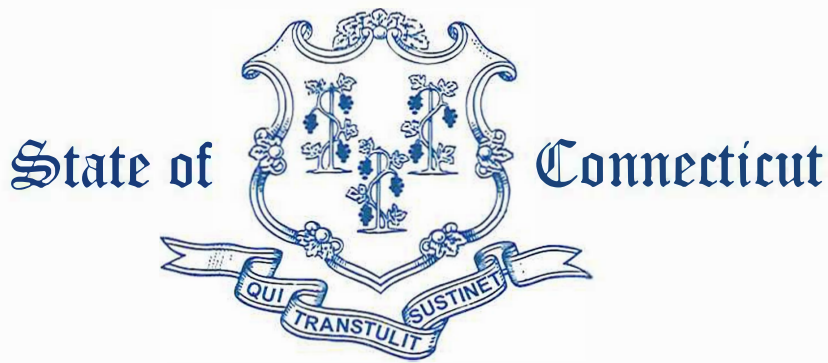




By His Excellency Ned Lamont, Governor: an
Official Statement

WHEREAS, Connecticut farmers provide citizens with access to healthful, locally, and regionally produced foods through farmers markets, which are expanding and evolving to accommodate the demand for a diverse array of agricultural products; and

WHEREAS, farmers' markets and other agricultural direct marketing outlets provide infrastructure to assist in the distribution of farm and value-added products, thereby being an important part of the Connecticut agricultural economy, contributing approximately \$4 billion each year to the Connecticut economy and supporting more than 30,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, farmers' markets serve as significant outlets by which small-to-medium, new and beginning, and veteran agricultural producers market agricultural products, generating revenue that supports the sustainability of family farms and the revitalization of rural communities nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut recognizes the importance of expanding agricultural marketing opportunities that assist and encourage the next generation of farmers, generate farm income to help stimulate business development and job creation, and build community connections through rural and urban linkages; and

WHEREAS, farmers' markets serve as vital community hubs across Connecticut, bringing neighbors together in town squares, parks, and Main Streets, fostering direct relationships between farmers and the families they feed, supporting local economies by keeping food dollars close to home, and creating welcoming gathering spaces that strengthen the social fabric of our cities and towns; and

WHEREAS, many Connecticut farmers' markets address nutrition security and equitable access to fresh local foods work to provide incentives, such as doubling the value of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Farmers Market Nutrition Program benefits for limited income shoppers, significantly increasing their purchasing of local, healthy foods; now

THEREFORE, I, Ned Lamont, Governor of the State of Connecticut – in celebration of the many farmers in our state, in recognition of the outstanding contributions made by farmers' markets to our shared community, and in conjunction with National Farmers' Market Week – do hereby officially proclaim the week of August 2nd to 8th, 2026, to be

CONNECTICUT FARMERS' MARKET WEEK

in the State of Connecticut.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ned Lamont".

GOVERNOR