



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 5, 2019

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**TASTE THE GARDEN AT THE CONSERVATORY FARMERS' MARKETS**

Columbus, Ohio—The Franklin Park Conservatory Farmers' Markets are back, serving a colorful selection of fresh produce and artisanal goods from 3:30-6:30 p.m. every Wednesday from June 5 to Sept. 4, 2019. No admission is required to shop and parking is free.

A rotating selection of vendors and seasonal produce create a unique shopping experience every week, including the opportunity to shop the latest harvest from the Conservatory community gardens. These harvests are grown and sold by participants of the Franklin Park Conservatory Teen Corps, a paid work-education program designed to prepare Columbus teens for careers in the green industry. Other vendors sell such items as seasonal vegetables, berries, bakery items, honey and jams, specialty eggs and cheeses, juices, textiles, soaps and beauty products, flowers and more.

The Farmers' Markets, as part of the Conservatory's mission to elevate the quality of life in the community, were established to address the food desert in the area. Vendors enjoy a zero-cost registration fee, and those receiving public assistance can use Electronic Benefits Transfer cards at the markets and enjoy incentive dollars through the Produce Perks Columbus program (formerly known as Veggie SNAPs).

The markets also include free health and wellness programming, cooking demonstrations and samples, and kids' crafts and activities. The schedule of special activities is as follows (subject to change due to weather or produce availability):

- June 5: Kale chip demo; farmers' market shopping list kids' craft; free My Plate placemats
- June 12: Turnip, carrot and apple salad demo; butterfly rings kids' craft
- June 19: Kale salad demo; grass caterpillar kids' craft
- **June 26: Neighbor Appreciation Day: The first 50 Conservatory neighbors (living in the 43203 and 43205 zip codes) receive free reusable market bag with goodies;** hummus and veggies demo; bean necklace kids' craft
- July 3: Strawberries with balsamic vinaigrette demo; CD spinner kids' craft
- July 10: Herbed butter with bread demo; veggie greenhouse kids' craft
- July 17: Kale chips demo; butterfly puppets kids' craft
- **July 24: Member Appreciation Day: The first 100 Conservatory members receive a reusable market bag and commemorative Chihuly book;** grilled vegetable cooking demo; Veggie People collage kids' craft
- July 31: Grilled peaches with honey drizzle demo; paper plate flowers kids' craft
- Aug. 7: **National Farmer's Week: Family friendly health and wellness activities, free My Plate placemats, and Farmers' Market vouchers for Buckeye Health members;** fresh salsa demo; seed art kids' craft.



- **Aug. 14: Seniors Appreciation Day:** First 50 seniors receive a free reusable market bag with goodies inside; caprese salad skewers demo; market bingo kids' activity
- Aug. 21: Bruschetta with roasted garlic, tomato and pepper tapenade demo; apple for teacher kids' craft
- Aug. 28: Fruit kabobs demo; farmers' market coloring pages kids' craft; free My Plate placemats
- Sept. 4: Veggie stir fry demo; scavenger hunt kids' activity

Keep up to date on the latest happenings on via the [Farmers' Market Facebook page](#) at [bit.ly/2lkZ3OW](http://bit.ly/2lkZ3OW). For more Conservatory updates, follow @fpconservatory on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) or online at [fpconservatory.org](http://fpconservatory.org).

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*Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens offers world-class horticulture, art and nature-based exhibitions, and educational programs for all ages. Situated on 40 acres on the eastern side of Franklin Park, the Conservatory features the historic 1895 John F. Wolfe Palm House; 83,000 square feet of glasshouses; botanical gardens including the Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation Children's Garden; and meeting and event spaces. The Conservatory owns the largest collection of glass artwork by Dale Chihuly in a botanical garden and is home to internationally recognized light artist James Turrell's Light Raiment II, which illuminates the John F. Wolfe Palm House every evening from dusk until dawn.*