



community development partnership

Promoting a vibrant and diverse community on Lower Cape Cod

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Eastham

Name of Event: Community Development Partnership Announces Launch of Winter Farmers' Market

Today's Date: July 30, 2014

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To Celebrate National and Massachusetts Farmers' Market Week, CDP Announces New Winter Farmers' Market in Orleans

Eastham, MA – The Community Development Partnership (CDP) announces the launch of the first ever Winter Farmers' Market on the Lower Cape, beginning December 6th 2014. The announcement comes during National and Massachusetts Farmers' Market Week, August 3rd-August 9th 2014. The Orleans Winter Farmers' Market will take place at the Nauset Regional Middle School on the first and third Saturdays of the month from 10:00 AM to 12 Noon, beginning on Saturday, December 6th and finishing on April 18th 2015. A project of the CDP, the Market is offered with support from the Orleans Winter Farmers Market Advisory Committee and made possible by financial support from the USDA Rural Development Program and the Cape Cod Economic Development Council.

This year marks the 15th annual National Farmers' Market Week, recognizing the important role that Farmers' Markets play in the agricultural and food economy. The U.S. Department of Agriculture began declaring National Farmers Market Week in 2000. In those years, the number of Farmers' Markets nationwide has almost tripled, from 2,863 markets in 2000 to 8,144 in 2013.¹ Massachusetts has seen similar growth, now counting over 250 markets across the Commonwealth. And Cape Cod has its greatest number of Markets ever, at seventeen this summer, more than double the number of markets from six years ago.

"Farmers' Markets have a long history of fueling economic development and adding vitality to the communities in which they are held," said Jay Coburn, Executive Director at the CDP. "We are incredibly excited to be working with local growers and food producers to help them grow their businesses and create opportunities for year-round sales. And we can't wait to show Lower Cape residents that it is possible to grow fresh and nutritious food on Cape Cod 12 months of the year."

¹ **National Count of Farmers Market Directory Listing Graph: 1994-2013:**

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/ams.fetchTemplateData.do?template=TemplateS&leftNav=WholesaleandFarmersMarkets&page=WFMFarmersMarketGrowth&description=Farmers%2520Market%2520Growth>

Wellfleet Farmers' Market Co-founder and member of the Orleans Winter Farmers' Market Advisory Committee, Tracy Plaut commented about the new Market, "Being able to supply fresh, locally raised food to the community keeps our friends and neighbors healthy, as well as building a strong and vital economy. It's a pleasure to support the ever growing number of farmers who make their living while facing the many challenges of growing on Cape Cod".

"Being a vendor at the Orleans Winter Farmers' Market will give me the opportunity to have more of a year round income," said Karen Moore of Bread Bon Vivant, one of this year's Winter Farmers' Market vendors. "And anytime that happens on Cape Cod...what a bonus!"

Applications are still being accepted for Vendors interested in participating in the Orleans Winter Farmers' Market. Business Workshops targeted to growers and producers, as well as individualized Technical Assistance are available to Market Vendors. More information is available at www.capecdp.org/content/orleans_winter_farmers_market/.

Market information for the Public is available at the CDP's website – www.capecdp.org. Information will be updated over the next few months, including participating vendors, featured musicians and special Market demonstrations.

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

The Community Development Partnership (CDP) nurtures a vibrant Lower Cape region – Brewster, Chatham, Eastham, Harwich, Orleans, Provincetown, Truro and Wellfleet - by promoting environmental and economic sustainability, expanding opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents, and preserving our unique cultural and historic character. Key objectives include:

- 1) Strengthening business sectors with competitive regional advantage, especially traditional and renewable natural resource based industries, like fishing and the arts.
- 2) Increasing the affordability and availability of safe, stable year round housing for local residents.
- 3) Increasing energy efficiency and local renewable energy generation.

The CDP is committed to sustaining our local community:

- Working with the Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance to support our fishing fleet
- Harnessing the power of the sun by installing PV panels on affordable housing units
- Partnering with the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce and the Cape & Islands Green Program to develop sustainable business practices and collectively market the region as a green destination
- Collaborating with the Harwich Ecumenical Council for Housing (HECH) to preserve existing housing stock and create new affordable rental units for year-round residents
- Offering small loans to start-up and growing businesses that are unable access traditional capital.

To find out more information about this organization, go to www.capecdp.org.

This institution is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

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