

Washougal Main Street Market Launches New Season With Opening Day on Saturday, May 23

Washougal has a new name for its farmer's market, now in its sixth year. The Washougal Main Street Market officially begins on Saturday, May 23rd and runs continuously through the end of September. Market hours are 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. each Saturday. Along with the new name comes an improved location in Washougal's downtown revitalized "Reflection Plaza," at the corner of Main Street and Pendleton Way.

"We are confident this will be our most successful market year yet," says Mayor Stacey Sellers. "Our 2009 market vendors will be offering our community the largest and best selection of fresh, organic produce in the county. We understand the importance of supporting our local farmers and the significant role of farmers in our regional economy," said Mayor Sellers.

This is no ordinary farmer's market. For the first time ever, the Washougal Main Street Market is joining with some of Clark County's largest organic food growers including Gee Creek Farm and Northwest Organic Farm in Ridgefield to offer Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) shares. CSA farming allows East Clark County residents an alternative to foods sold in national brand supermarkets.

Here's how a CSA works. Members make a one time, pre-purchase subscription and receive a box of fresh produce each week. Families in Washougal and Camas are encouraged to sign up with participating farm vendors at the Washougal Main Street Market on opening day, May 23rd or soon thereafter. Then, members pick up their box of fresh, local produce each week at the Washougal Main Street Market. It's convenient and simple. There's no need to drive all over Clark County as the finest and freshest local produce will come to Washougal every Saturday! A typical CSA share will supply a family of four each week with all the vegetables they need. Full shares and half shares are available, with prices ranging from approximately \$325 for a half share and up to \$600 for a full share.

Live music will be performed by a variety of musicians each week at the Market. In addition to local produce including fresh fruit and vegetables, market vendors will be selling natural, free-range eggs and specialty meats including lamb, beef and bison. An artisan bakery and a chocolatier will join vendors selling vegetable starts, beautiful hanging baskets and flowering patio plants. Local artists and craftsmen offer their original creations at the market, including jewelry, soaps, lotions, and a variety of other hand-crafted items.

For more information, visit www.WashougalMainStreetMarket.com or contact Jordan Boldt at (360) 901-6818 or via email at MainStreetManager@gmail.com. The website offers a complete list of vendors and available products along with a schedule of special events throughout the season.