

Local Farmers Markets

More and more people are turning to local farmers along highways and byways and local public markets for their produce needs. This growing trend is evident in the Vancouver area where there are three local Farmers Markets.

The Esther Short Park provides a backdrop of stunning floral displays that the Vancouver Farmers Market uses to great advantage. Various community programs, activities and musical events provide further encouragement for outings to the Farmers Market.

Vancouver's Farmers Market is one of the largest outdoor markets and the only one with an indoor market. This is the 17th season for the Farmers Market and there will be up to 260 booths by mid-summer. The Market specializes in locally produced gourmet ingredients, naturally grown fruits, vegetables, herbs, local seafood, natural meats and limited dairy products.

The market is not only known for its fresh produce but also for its wide array of arts and crafts. Local artists provide great gifts and souvenirs for the home and garden. The Artist's Co-op is run by the artists and is open seven days a week.

What: Vancouver Farmers Market

When: Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., through October 27th

Where: West Eighth and Esther Streets, beside Esther Short Park

Information: 360-737-8298 or <http://www.vancouverfarmersmarket.com>

The Gateway to the Gorge Farmers' Market supports Washougal's farmers/producers and craftspeople. The Washougal Farmers' Market is located in the parking lot of the Pendleton Woolen Mills. In its fourth season of providing locally raised fruits, vegetables, pork, as well as jewelry, crafts and yard/garden art.

What: Gateway to the Gorge Farmers' Market

When: Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. from July 21st, through August 25th

Where: Pendleton Woolen Mills parking lot, 2 17th Street, Washougal

Information: 360-606-4849 or <http://www.washougalfarmersmarket.com>

The Battle Ground Saturday Market opened on April 14th and will run through October 20, 2007. This is the third year that the Market has provided community based products as well as plant advice, growing tips and detailed information on how and where the products are grown. Arts, crafts and musical programs are provided to encourage community support of locally based food initiatives.

What: Old Town Battle Ground Saturday Market

When: Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. from April 14th through October 20th

Where: 210 E. Main Street, Battle Ground

Information: 360-576-9767 or <http://www.otbgsm.com>

Visit the web sites for schedules of events, product listings, and vendor information.