## N.C. Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services



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## **State Farmers Market hosts Harvest Festival Sept. 26**

RALEIGH – Mark your calendars for Thursday, Sept. 26, 2024, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. for the State Farmers Market's fall Harvest Festival. North Carolina agriculture's fall bounty will be on full display at the market. From pumpkins to apples and sweet potatoes to peanuts, the garden center area located just behind the State Farmers Market Restaurant will be a hive of activity.

Come out, taste some delicious sweet potato treats, sip on apple cider, try your hand at pumpkin chunking, grab some recipe cards for later and learn about crops and products grown, raised, caught and made right here in North Carolina.

Are you interested in exactly what grasses will grow best in this area? There will be information on that! Experts will also be teaching you about how cotton is grown and will have the most up-to-date information for your next farm visit. It's the season of hayrides, s'mores and apple and pumpkin picking on the farm. The agritourism team has the inside scoop on all the best spots to visit. Best of all, the Harvest Festival is free to the public and will incorporate games, information and fun for both the young and the young at heart.

While you are at the market, enjoy lunch The State Farmers Market Restaurant, The N.C. Seafood Restaurant or The Market Grill, and take a stroll around the market to see what you can find! The market is full of fresh produce, muscadine grapes, pumpkins, mums, gourds, bales of straw, local cheeses and meats, seafood, crafts, baked goods and more.

The State Farmers Market is open year-round, offering shoppers locally grown fruits, vegetables, meats, cheeses, wines and specialty foods, plus seasonal products from N.C. nurseries, greenhouses, Christmas tree farms, turfgrass and sod. For the best selection shop 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. The market has free parking, is free to browse and is located off Exit 297 on Interstate 40 in Raleigh. For more information on the State Farmers Market events, activities and seasonal charts, visit the website at <u>www.statefarmersmarket.org</u> or follow along on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/StateFarmersMarket</u>.