



Township of Belleville
New Jersey

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Belleville's Farmers Market Grows and Grows

BELLEVILLE, NJ – JULY 13, 2022 – Just like a Jersey tomato in July, the monthly Farmers Market is continuing to grow in Belleville.

After the success of last month's inaugural event, the township is expecting the second installment to be even bigger and better.

More vendors selling a wider variety of fresh produce and more small-business owners selling home-made crafts and other items will be on hand Saturday, July 16 at Belleville High School.

The free event will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Supported by the township's Green Team, the creation of the Farmers Market is an extension of other recent township initiatives, such as the launch of the popular community garden and last summer's well-attended Green Fair.

The idea grew out of the township's desire to create a Farmers Market like the ones held each summer and fall in neighboring towns, explained Gabrielle Bennett-Meany, a member of Belleville's Green Team as well as vice president of the Board of Education.

However, the vision was also for the market to have a social component and act as a catalyst for community pride on the third Saturday of every month.

"We wanted the market to be an event and not just a place to shop for fresh produce," Bennett-Meany said. "We wanted it to be a moment for residents to set aside some time and come out for a little while and say hello and meet the community."

In the near future, some of the produce that will be sold at the Farmers Market will come from the Belleville Community Garden. Bennett-Meany said that some of the local gardeners using the plot are eager to harvest vegetables and share them at the next couple of Farmers Market events.

"It sounds like I'm making a pun when I say this, but the Farmers Market is really taking root in Belleville," said Vinnie Cozzarelli, Belleville Councilman and Greet Team member. "I've heard from so many residents who enjoyed the first one in June and are eager to attend Saturday's event. It promotes healthy eating, healthy living and even more community spirit in Belleville."

For more information, call 973-450-3345.

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