



Program Profile

Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

What is the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program?

- The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) provides eligible older adults with ten \$5 (\$50 total) coupons to purchase locally grown produce from participating farmers during Ohio's growing season.
- SFMNP helps seniors access fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, honey and herbs from farmers' markets, roadside stands and community supported agriculture networks.
- The program also develops or aids in the development of new farmers' markets, roadside stands and agriculture networks.

Who is eligible for the SFMNP?

- Ohio residents are eligible for the SFMNP if they are age 60 or older, live in a service area that participates in the program and have an annual household income of 185 percent of the federal poverty level or less. Your local program contact can help you determine your eligibility. Program applications are available each spring.

Why is the SFMNP important?

- According to the 2015 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 35.3 percent of Ohio residents age 65 and older consume less than one fruit per day, and 23.2 percent consume less than one vegetable per day. Insufficient fruit and vegetable consumption is significantly higher among adults with annual household incomes less than \$50,000, compared to adults with an annual household income of \$75,000 or more.

How is the SFMNP funded?

- The majority of funding for the SFMNP comes from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to the Ohio Department of Aging, which distributes the funds to participating Area agencies on aging. Area agencies may use additional local funds to support the program.
- Ohio is the third-largest recipient of USDA funds to support the SFMNP.

Where can I learn more about SFMNP?

- Visit the following Ohio Department of Aging Web page for more information about PACE.
aging.ohio.gov/nutrition

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