



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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For More Information:

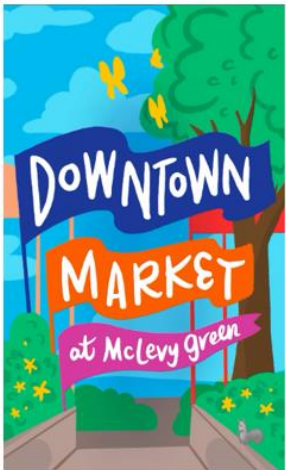
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DOWNTOWN BRIDGEPORT FARMERS MARKET OPENS THURSDAY, JULY 11 AT MCLEVY GREEN

BRIDGEPORT, CT – JULY 2, 2024 – The Bridgeport Downtown Special Services District (DSSD) is excited to announce the return of the Downtown Bridgeport Farmers Market. The Downtown Market will begin its 2024 season on Thursday, July 11, at McLevy Green and will be open every Thursday from 10:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. through October 31, 2024.

The Bridgeport DSSD will kick off the 2024 Downtown Farmers Market season in McLevy Green with a live cooking demonstration by Chef Raquel Rivera of A Pinch of Salt, live music from local talent, and delicious and hand crafted offerings from our local vendors. The market will feature live music each week and periodic cooking demonstrations, in addition to a range of fresh veggies and delectable lunch options.



Bridgeport DSSD President + CEO Lauren Coakley Vincent said that, “The Bridgeport DSSD is thrilled to again host the Downtown Bridgeport Farmers Market at McLevy Green. We are looking forward to bringing back all of our favorite vendors, local farmers, talented Bridgeport musicians, and resource providers. It’s events like the Downtown Farmers Market that add vibrancy to the neighborhood by creating moments for community members to

connect. We are proud to support opportunities for local entrepreneurs to showcase their creativity, while welcoming visitors from throughout Bridgeport.”

VENDORS

Shoppers can expect to find the following vendors every week, along with special appearances by others who will drop in on occasion.

Farmers + Food

Blissful Awakening’s Urban Regenerative Farm, Bridgeport, CT
Killam & Bassette Farmstead, South Glastonbury, CT
Smith’s Acres Farm, Niantic, CT
Betzy’s Latin Cuisine, Bridgeport, CT
Natural Juices, Bridgeport, CT

Artisan Crafts

Love Is Beauty, Bridgeport, CT
Parker’s Pampering, Bridgeport, CT
Rico Suave Accessories, Bridgeport, CT
Skeletons In My Closet Vintage, Bridgeport, CT

Information Providers

American Jobs Center, Bridgeport, CT
Bridgeport Public Library, Bridgeport, CT
CTRides and Greater Bridgeport Transit
Liberation Programs, Bridgeport, CT
Travelers on a Mission, Bridgeport, CT
WEBE 108 FM, Milford, CT

Special guests depending on the week will include Access Independence, Boys and Girls Village, cARTie, Food Rescue US, Preserve Remington Woods, and Recovery Network of Programs.

BRIDGEPORT BUCKS PROGRAM



In an effort to make healthy food more accessible to Bridgeport residents, the DSSD has partnered with the Bridgeport Farmers Market Collaborative to offer the Bridgeport Bucks Program. Bridgeport Bucks is a coupon that can be used to purchase fruit and vegetables at any one of the Bridgeport farmers markets. Businesses, community-based organizations, and nonprofit organizations purchase Bridgeport Bucks as incentives or rewards to provide to clients, employees, or

community groups. For more information, visit the Bridgeport Farmers Market Collaborative website: <https://bridgeportfarmersmarkets.org/>.

SNAP MATCHING PROGRAM

The Bridgeport DSSD has also partnered with the Bridgeport Farmers Market Collaborative to accept SNAP/EBT, WIC, Farmers Market Nutrition Program checks (for WIC and Senior recipients), and Bridgeport Bucks along with cash, credit, and debit at the Downtown Bridgeport Farmers Market. The market operates an incentive matching program so that for every \$1 in SNAP, WIC, or Senior FMNP funds spent at the market, the customer can purchase \$2 in fresh fruits and vegetables.



For more information about vendors, visit: colorfulbridgeport.com/downtown-market. Follow the market on Instagram and Facebook at [@colorfulbridgeport](https://www.instagram.com/colorfulbridgeport).

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Bridgeport
Downtown Special
Services District

DSSD

About Bridgeport Downtown Special Services District

The Bridgeport Downtown Special Services District (DSSD) serves the vibrant and diverse businesses within the 30 blocks in of our heart-shaped neighborhood. Our role at the Bridgeport DSSD is to support the needs of growing businesses in the district, from keeping the Downtown clean and friendly, connecting them to city resources to offering free marketing and advertising, and everything in between. Throughout the year we deliver sanitation services, our friendly team of Ambassadors keep the district clean and safe, we promote the district through the dynamic Colorful Bridgeport campaign, and produce community events including the Downtown Farmers Market. **Contact Lauren Coakley Vincent at lauren.dssd@infobridgeport.com or (203) 908-3622 and learn more at www.colorfulbridgeport.com.**



About the Bridgeport Farmers Market Collaborative

The Bridgeport Farmers Market Collaborative is a network of farmers markets that improves access to locally-grown produce and makes it more affordable, while supporting the local economy and building community across the city. **Contact Takina Pollock Shafer at bridgeportfarmersmarkets@gmail.com and learn more at www.bridgeportfarmersmarkets.org.**