



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE**

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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MDAC to Host Farmers Market Manager Workshop Thursday, March 26

JACKSON, Miss. – The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce will host a workshop for farmers market managers, staff, volunteers and board members on Thursday, March 26, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. inside the Sparkman Building at the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum, located at 1150 Lakeland Drive in Jackson.

“There are over 70 farmers markets across our great state,” said Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson. “These markets are a great resource for communities to find fresh, locally sourced produce and goods. When consumers shop at their local farmers market, they’re not only making healthier choices – they’re supporting their local economy by purchasing directly from farmers and producers in their area. I encourage those involved in the management of their local farmers market to participate in our agency’s upcoming workshop to learn about the latest, practical tools for growing and improving their markets.”

The purpose of this workshop is to share strategies for managing a farmers market effectively and efficiently with attendees. Workshop organizers will cover essential topics such as understanding market infrastructure and operations, along with navigating regulatory, labeling and food safety requirements for selling at farmers markets. Attendees will learn effective strategies for recruiting farmers and vendors and hear firsthand insights from a panel of farmers. Guest speakers will also cover cottage foods regulations and provide an overview of sales tax considerations.

The registration fee to attend is \$20, which includes lunch, and the deadline to register is Thursday, March 19. The workshop will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude by 3:00 p.m.

Find more information and the registration form now at www.mdac.ms.gov/farmers-markets-managers-events. For questions, contact Purvie Green at purvie@mdac.ms.gov or Katie Sansing at katie@mdac.ms.gov.

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