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From: David Powers
Communications Director
708.358.5781

Contact: Meredith Conn
Market Manager
708.358.5780

Farmers' Market to open May 24, two week earlier this year

The Oak Park Farmers' Market will open for its 33rd season on Sat., May 24, two weeks earlier than in the past, a test this season in response to residents who wanted to buy plants for their gardens.

During the first two early markets in May, hours will be 8 a.m. – noon. With the first full market on Sat., June 7, regular hours of 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. will go into effect until the market ends on the last Saturday in October.

The Oak Park Farmers' Market is held in the Pilgrim Church parking lot at Lake Street and Elmwood Avenue, one block west of Ridgeland Avenue.

In addition to a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, dried and cut flowers, bedding plants, honey and cheeses from Illinois and neighboring states, the market also offers warm donuts made on-site, juice and coffee, and live bluegrass music. Prepackaged frozen meat, poultry and fish are available as well.

Two new organic growers will offer their goods this season, including several heirloom products. Other new vendors include one specializing in mushrooms and another offering artisanal soap.

Unique items will be on sale at the welcome tent to help support Farmers' Market administration. These include long- and short sleeve-shirts, hooded sweatshirts, tote bags and aprons.

For more information call 358.5780, e-mail farmersmarket@oak-park.us or visit www.oak-park.us/farmersmarket.

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