



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DOWNTOWN BRIDGEPORT FARMERS MARKET OPENS THURSDAY, JULY 9 AT MCLEVY GREEN

BRIDGEPORT, CT – JULY 2, 2026 – 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 2026 season on Thursday, July 9, at McLevy Green and will be open every Thursday from 10:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. through October 29, 2026.

The 2026 season will kick off with a live cooking demonstration by Chef Raquel Rivera of A Pinch of Salt, live music from local talent, delicious and hand crafted offerings from our local vendors, and interactive arts activities courtesy of cARTie, the Art Museum Bus. The market will feature live music each week, periodic cooking demonstrations with Chef Raquel and Deja Smith of Khemi's Vegan Cuisine, 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 honored to connect community members with their favorite vendors, local farmers, talented Bridgeport musicians, and resource providers. The Downtown Farmers Market and the many other events taking place in Downtown Bridgeport add vibrancy to the neighborhood, showcase local entrepreneurs’ creativity, and welcome 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

Killam & Bassette Farmstead, South Glastonbury, CT

Betzy's Latin Cuisine, Bridgeport, CT

Khemi's Vegan Cuisine, Bridgeport, CT

Natural Juice, Bridgeport, CT

Artisan Crafts

Destinie Designs, Bridgeport, CT

Kiffy Naturals, Bridgeport, CT

Rico Suave Accessories, Bridgeport, CT

The She Shed, Bridgeport, CT

Information Providers

American Jobs Center, Bridgeport, CT

Bridgeport Public Library, Bridgeport, CT

Fairfield County Coalition Voter Registration

Greater Bridgeport Transit and Ctrides, Bridgeport, CT

Liberation Programs, Bridgeport, CT

Recovery Network of Programs, Bridgeport, CT

Special guests depending on the week will include CONNECT-US, Norma Pfriem Breast Center, UI/Avangrid, and Jehovah's Witness.

BRIDGEPORT BUCKS PROGRAM



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

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

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 funds spent at the market, the customer can purchase \$2 in fresh fruits and vegetables.



For more information about vendors, visit: colorfulbridgeport.com. 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@colorfulbridgeport.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 bridgeportfarmersmarkets@gmail.com and learn more at www.bridgeportfarmersmarkets.org.