



## **News for Immediate Release**

**March 20, 2013**

### **Agriculture Department Seeking Producers to Market Local Products to Turnpike Travelers**

**Harrisburg** – Farmers who are interested in selling locally-grown products at farmers markets along the state’s busiest highway can apply to be part of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Plaza Farmers Market program.

The program is a joint effort between the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission. There are markets at the Allentown Service Plaza in Lehigh County, Sideling Hill Service Plaza in Fulton County and New Stanton Service Plaza in Westmoreland County from April 1 through Nov. 30.

“Pennsylvania’s producers farm near many consumers who want to purchase fresh, local foods,” said Agriculture Secretary George Greig. “The service plaza markets support Pennsylvania farmers, promote their products, and give the 520,000 daily turnpike drivers a taste of our state’s agriculture industry without leaving the toll-road. I encourage farmers to participate in this unique program.”

Markets open at 10 a.m. on Saturdays, Mondays and holiday weekends, and at 11 a.m. on Fridays and Sundays. They close at dusk.

At least half of gross sales must be products grown or produced in Pennsylvania. Value-added items like canned goods, candles, soaps, preserves and baked pies may not exceed 25 percent of sales.

Farmers who want to sell products at the service plaza farmers markets should contact Samantha Snyder at [samasnyder@pa.gov](mailto:samasnyder@pa.gov) or call 717-787-1429.

For more information, visit [www.agriculture.state.pa.us](http://www.agriculture.state.pa.us) and search “turnpike market.”

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