

## STATE OF MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE

ANDY GIPSON COMMISSIONER

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 27, 2018

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**What:** Farmers Market Manager Workshop

When: Thursday, May 10, 2018

10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Where: Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum

Forestry Building 1150 Lakeland Drive

Jackson, Mississippi 39216

## **MDAC Announces Upcoming Workshop For Farmers Market Managers**

**JACKSON, Miss.** — The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce will offer the opportunity for farmers market managers, staff, volunteers and board members to learn strategies for managing a farmers market more effectively and efficiently through a workshop hosted on May 10 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum's Forestry Building in Jackson.

Managers from across the state will acquire knowledge on a number of topics, including marketing local food systems using Facebook, business and economic aspects of farmers markets, food safety and an update on the Federal Produce Safety Rule. Regulatory experts will also speak on food permit requirements for items such as meat, dairy, eggs and cottage foods.

Mississippi Agriculture and Commerce Commissioner Andy Gipson urges representatives from farmers markets across the state to attend the workshop.

"This workshop will provide farmers market managers with the knowledge they need to have a successful season," Gipson said. "It will be an extremely beneficial resource to those who attend, as it will give you an opportunity to learn from other managers. I encourage those that are thinking of starting a market to attend."

Registration for the workshop will begin at 9:30 a.m. The registration fee to attend the workshop is \$15, which includes lunch and educational materials. Pre-registration for the workshop is required by Friday, May 4. Registration forms can be obtained by calling (601) 359-1196, emailing <a href="mailto:susan@mdac.ms.gov">susan@mdac.ms.gov</a>, or visiting the Alerts and Announcements section on <a href="mailto:sww.mdac.ms.gov">www.mdac.ms.gov</a>.

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