



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 703, Hartford, CT 06103
Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Preservation



To: Connecticut Certified Farmers
From: Linda Piotrowicz, Bureau Director
CC: Jaime Smith, Marketing and Inspection Rep II
Date: July 7, 2017
Subj: Suspension of the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

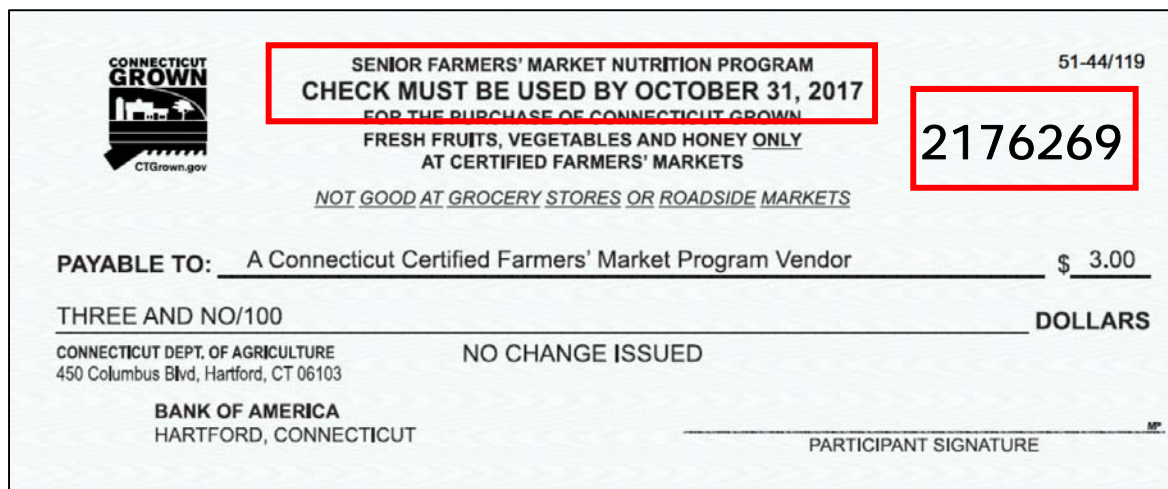
Due to the lack of a state budget being enacted by the General Assembly by July 1, 2017, funding for the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) has been effectively eliminated.

Farmers should immediately stop accepting SFMNP checks for produce and honey, because you cannot be compensated for the transaction at this time.

The affected SFMNP checks are "2 million series" numbered 2000001 through 2200000.

A photo of the check is below. The checks have a greenish/gray background, but can be hard to decipher so a color swatch has been provided for clarification.

DO NOT ACCEPT OR DEPOSIT THESE CHECKS



Senior check color



Senior distribution sites have been notified to stop check distribution immediately. However, because some senior checks have already been received by eligible clients, you may be presented with some.

If you have collected a 2 million series SFMNP check, please hold onto it and do not attempt to deposit it. If the checks are able to be deposited in the future, or if anything other changes arise, we will notify you immediately.

Farmers also may be presented with SFMNP "3 million series" checks numbered 3000001 through 3006000. Farmers receiving these checks can accept them in exchange for produce or honey. This check series is covered under the federal SFMNP, which is fully funded by the USDA. They are the same color as the 2 million series checks.


The WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program checks can also be accepted. These checks are a pink color with a 1 million series check numbering. They can be accepted in exchange for fresh fruits and vegetables, as this program is fully funded through the state and USDA.

Please share this information with farm staff and those who work at farmers' markets.

We appreciate your patience and understanding through this process and will keep you abreast of any further changes in the SFMNP program.

860-713-2503 ♦ CTGrown.gov
An Equal Opportunity Employer

DO NOT ACCEPT OR DEPOSIT THESE CHECKS

 **SENIOR FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM** 51-44/119
CHECK MUST BE USED BY OCTOBER 31, 2017
FOR THE PURCHASE OF CONNECTICUT GROWN
FRESH FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND HONEY ONLY
AT CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKETS
2176269
NOT GOOD AT GROCERY STORES OR ROADSIDE MARKETS

PAYABLE TO: A Connecticut Certified Farmers' Market Program Vendor \$ 3.00
THREE AND NO/100 _____ DOLLARS


CONNECTICUT DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE NO CHANGE ISSUED
450 Columbus Blvd, Hartford, CT 06103

BANK OF AMERICA HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT _____^{MP}
PARTICIPANT SIGNATURE

Senior check color



Certified farmers can continue to accept and deposit these checks

 **WIC FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM** 51-44/119
CHECK MUST BE USED BY OCTOBER 31, 2017
FOR THE PURCHASE OF CONNECTICUT GROWN
FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ONLY
AT CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKETS
1197571
NOT GOOD AT GROCERY STORES OR ROADSIDE MARKETS


PAYABLE TO: A Connecticut Certified Farmers' Market Program Vendor \$ 3.00
THREE AND NO/100 _____ DOLLARS

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WIC check color



 **SENIOR FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM** 51-44/119
CHECK MUST BE USED BY OCTOBER 31, 2017
FOR THE PURCHASE OF CONNECTICUT GROWN
FRESH FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND HONEY ONLY
AT CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKETS
3001275
NOT GOOD AT GROCERY STORES OR ROADSIDE MARKETS

PAYABLE TO: A Connecticut Certified Farmers' Market Program Vendor \$ 3.00
THREE AND NO/100 _____ DOLLARS

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Senior check color

