



## Farmers' Market

Farmers' markets can be centers of commercial activity, meeting places, a stage for celebrating culture, and they can also be a link in the community that fights food insecurity. CAST assisted in implementing and supporting a Bethel Framers' Market at Petersen barn during the summers of 2009 and 2010.

These are some of the most important advantages to farmers' markets:

- More money is spent in the local economy, and circulates locally longer.
- They provide an outlet for local produce, helping to start new local businesses and expand existing ones.
- They reinforce local job and business networks, maintaining local employment.
- Consumers enjoy the atmosphere and experience of farmers' markets.
- Consumers get fresh, healthy produce usually at competitive prices.
- They offer increased choice, and can offer extra fresh, affordable produce in areas with few such options.
- They strengthen community— a key factor in the quality of life in any community.
- They are good for the environment; food travels less distance making less “food miles” and there is less packaging involved.
- They are an important outlet for farmers selling organic and less intensively produced and less processed food.

[Click here to view our report on Bethel–Danebo Neighborhood Market Report 2009 and 2010](#)

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