



# Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont

*An organization of farmers, gardeners, and consumers working to promote an economically viable and ecologically sound Vermont food system*

## PRESS RELEASE

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## *Funds Help Farmers' Markets Startup and Grow Across Vermont*

**Richmond** – Supporting farmers' markets through technical assistance has long been the work of NOFA Vermont. Now the non-profit association can put its money where its mouth is, literally. Thanks to the generosity of a private foundation, NOFA Vermont has \$100,000 to support farmers' markets across the state. The 2009 Vermont Farmers' Market Mini-Grants provide farmers' markets with supporting grants of up to \$5,000 to support expansion projects at existing markets or to help communities create new farmers' markets.

“We’re pleased to be able to help markets finance projects that will really help them be successful in the long run,” said Jean Hamilton, Farmers’ Market Advisor with NOFA Vermont. “We expect to see farmers’ markets submitting proposals for all kinds of projects, from market promotion to site improvements to special events. We’re also expecting to see this provide the seed capital to communities looking to start up new markets in their communities, helping to pay for site rental, logo development, promotion, and staff time.”

As of the 2008 season, there were 64 farmers’ markets throughout Vermont. In addition, there are 11 winter farmers’ markets in the 2008-2009 season.

Grant applications must be submitted by March 1, 2009. More information and applications may be found online at

<http://www.nofavt.org/market-organic-food/farmers-markets/2009-mini-grants>.

Grants will be awarded by March 15, 2009.

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NOFA Vermont, working for local farms, healthy food,  
and strong communities since 1971



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