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Queens Botanical Garden's Down to Earth Farmers Market Begins 2014 Season This Friday, June 20th

June 2014 (Ossining, NY) – Down to Earth Markets, managers of 19 farmers markets in and around New York City, is delighted to start the 13th year of the farmers market at Queens Botanical Garden. The market will open on Friday, June 20th and run every Friday through November 21st, 2014, from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. It will be held on sidewalk outside the garden, on Dahlia Avenue at the corner of Main Street.

E.B.T. (Electronic Benefits Terminal) will be available for shoppers with SNAP Benefits (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program). The market will also welcome Health Bucks when they are issued by the New York City Department of Health, starting in July. With this program, shoppers who spend \$5 in SNAP Benefits at the farmers market receive an additional \$2 in Health Bucks to buy more fresh produce.

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Of special note this year is the introduction of the **Urban Farm Project** as a market vendor. In this partnership between the Queens Botanical Garden and the NYC Compost Project's Local Organics Recovery Program, a project of the Department of Sanitation, people are invited to drop off their compost at the market. The Urban Farm Project will collect the organic waste donations every week and then use it to create compost to nurture the soil. From the farm's composted half acre, they have already started growing a range of mixed vegetables. As the summer advances, they will bring lettuce varieties, carrots, tomatoes, and much more to the market.

The Urban Farm Project will join the market's longstanding neighborhood favorites: **Alex's Tomato Farm** and **Migliorelli Farm**. Down to Earth Markets is pleased to welcome Anandi Premlall, a leader in urban farming and environmental activism in Queens, as the Market Manager for the 2014 season.

Queens Botanical Garden's Down to Earth Farmers Market

When: Fridays: June 20 – November 21, 2014 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Where: Sidewalk outside of the Queens Botanical Garden, on Dahlia Avenue at Main Street

Who: Full-season vendors: Alex's Tomato Farm, Migliorelli Farm, and The Urban Farm Project

Down to Earth Farmers Markets is a certified B (Beneficial) Corporation that curates and manages approximately twenty farmers markets in and around New York City. We believe that seasonal, local food is a vital part of our shared heritage that ensures the health of our communities and environment. Visit DowntoEarthMarkets.com to learn more. ###