



## Press Release

For more information:

Meg Klepack, Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont

802-434-4122

[meg@nofavt.org](mailto:meg@nofavt.org)

[www.nofavt.org](http://www.nofavt.org)

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### **Celebrate Spring at Vermont's Farmers' Markets**

The crunch of asparagus, the deep green of fresh spinach, and the creamy white of farm fresh cheese are just some of the seasonal delicacies for sale as 28 of Vermont's 63 farmers' markets open within the next two weeks. Vermont continues to have the highest number of farmers' markets per capita in the US, allowing local food lovers statewide to get to know their farmers, support the local economy, and buy the freshest produce, meats, cheeses, and more. The number of farmers' markets statewide has increased again this year with Wells Village, Wilmington, and Townshend launching new markets.

The growth in the number of markets statewide is mirrored by the growth of cooperation among the farmers' markets. The Vermont Farmers' Market Association, created under the guidance of NOFA-VT, was launched in January, giving farmers' market managers the ability to work together to promote farmers' markets statewide, share strategies, and find solutions to common issues such as securing market and vendor insurance. The Association is directed by a 13 member board composed of market managers representing markets across the state, and is administered by NOFA-VT.

For a complete list of the 2008 Vermont farmers' markets, as well as more information about the Vermont Farmers' Market Association, please visit <http://www.nofavt.org/market-organic-food/farmers-markets>.

*NOFA Vermont is a non-profit association of farmers, gardeners, and consumers working to promote an economically viable and ecologically sound Vermont food system for the benefit of current and future generations.*