

Farmers market season to kick off in next two weeks

The season is almost upon us. Local foodies anticipate its coming. Local farmers prepare for it with vigor. We are just two weeks away from the start of the farmers market season.

We have a real treasure north of Springfield in the award-winning Fair Grove Farmers' Market starting up April 20. The market runs 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesdays and was named 2010 Farmers' Market of the Year by the Missouri Department of Agriculture.

In large part, this award is recognition of Fair Grove's exceptional children's program. Each week, kids get free plants and seeds while supplies last. Children are encouraged to participate in the market, selling their harvest. This year, the market kicks off with free trees for children thanks to the Missouri Department of Conservation. With a little help from the library, they are also adding story time from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on the



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IN SEASON THIS WEEK

greens, green onions, spinach, herbs and plants, radishes and local meat. It's time to get your garden ready.

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last Wednesday of the month.

The Greater Springfield Farmers Market kicks off at 8:30 a.m. April 9 on the northwest corner of the Battlefield Mall parking lot at the corner of Glenstone and Battlefield. In 32 years, it has grown to more than 100 vendors and become a very visible part of the local food scene.

The Nixa Area Farmers' Market also starts in April, though no word yet on exactly when. The market

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