

## Local Foods Movement Stirs Agriculture Department Support Of Farmers Market Managers

By Administrator

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RALEIGH, (SGRToday.com) - It is one of the fastest growing movements in the country: support of locally grown foods. And now that interest has spurred a state focus on helping farmers market managers and board across the state.

The state Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will host a day-long workshop on March 10 at the Johnston County Cooperative Extension Office in Smithfield.

The workshop, geared toward market managers and their board members, will cover a range of topics such as customer service, media relations and changes to sales tax laws that affect farmers markets and their managers.

A roundtable discussion with market managers will wrap up the workshop.

“Consumer interest in local foods continues to grow, fueling more attention on local and regional farmers market offerings,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler in a news release. “This workshop provides market managers with information and new ideas that will help them tap into this growing trend.”

Pre-registration by March 3 is required. Cost is \$20 for lunch and materials. Registration can be found at [www.ncagr.gov/markets/agribiz/smithfield%20workshop%202014.pdf](http://www.ncagr.gov/markets/agribiz/smithfield%20workshop%202014.pdf)