

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO LOW-INCOME SENIORS:

Seniors that qualify for the Maine Senior FarmShare Program may also qualify for other benefits. Contact your local Area Agency on Aging by calling the **ELDERS-1** toll free number at **1-877-353-3771** regarding other benefit opportunities or do a self-assessment test online: [www.benefitscheckup.org](http://www.benefitscheckup.org). These benefits may include:

- Maine Rx Plus
- Low Cost Drug Program
- Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)
- Food Supplement Program
- Medicare Savings Program
- MaineCare
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

### Other Maine Resources:

DHHS Office of Aging and Disability Services: [www.maine.gov/dhhs/oads/](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oads/)

The Emergency Food Assistance Program of Maine: [www.maine.gov/dacf/ard/tefap/index.shtml](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/ard/tefap/index.shtml)

### **USDA Non-Discrimination Statement**

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## MAINE SENIOR FARMSHARE PROGRAM PARTICIPANT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

***By signing the Maine Senior FarmShare Program Senior FarmShare Agreement Form, I agree that I have been advised of the following:***

- I have been advised of my rights and obligations under the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program.
- I certify that the information I have provided for my eligibility determination is correct, to the best of my knowledge.
- This certification form is being submitted in connection with the receipt of Federal assistance. Program officials may verify the information on this form.
- I understand that intentionally making a false or misleading statement or intentionally misrepresenting, concealing, or withholding facts may result in paying the Maine Senior FarmShare Program, in cash, the value of the food benefits improperly issued to me and may subject me to civil or criminal prosecution under State and Federal law.
- I **do not** live in the same household as the farmer; I **am not** an immediate family member of the farmer.
- **I understand that I can only sign up with one farmer per year.**
- I understand that once I sign an agreement with a farmer, I am obligated to fulfill my share at this farm during this season unless extenuating circumstances occur.
- I understand that the farmer and I should determine by August 31, if I will be able to use my full \$50 share during the remainder of the season and that my unused balance may be given to other qualified seniors.
- I understand that if I do not spend all \$50 worth of produce by the date mutually agreed upon, the farmer may or may not deliver the remaining FarmShare balance of farmer selected produce to me.
- I understand that if I am unable to perform these actions for myself, I can designate a person (Proxy) to act on my behalf by completing a Designation of Proxy Form. This form is available from the farmer and can be completed during any part of the program season.
- The Maine Senior FarmShare Program is prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by the USDA. If I feel my rights have been violated, I may file a complaint of discrimination. (See Non-Discrimination Statement on the reverse of this sheet.)
- I understand if I have a complaint against the farmer's practices, I can file a complaint with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF), Maine Senior FarmShare Program, #28 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0028. Phone: 207-446-5550 or Fax: 207-287-7548
- I understand that I may appeal any decision made by the Maine Senior FarmShare Program regarding my eligibility for the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program.

### **SENIOR AGREEMENT FORM ETHNICITY: SENIOR INFORMATION FOR USDA RECORDS:**

The information requested on the Senior Agreement Form is being compiled by the Maine Senior FarmShare Program to comply with Federal record keeping regulations. You are not required to furnish this information, but your cooperation is encouraged.