



# Improving Equitable Access to Food in San Juan County

San Juan County Health & Community Services

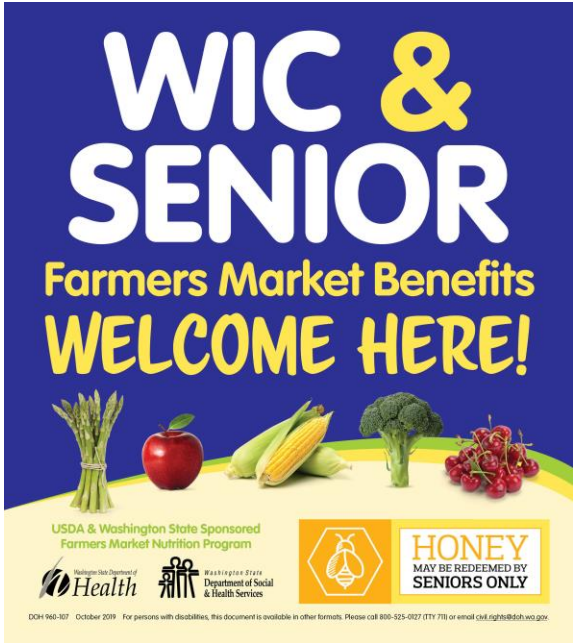
Healthy Communities Division

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# Farm to Community: Programs to support Food Equity and Local Agriculture



Economic Multiplier for every \$1 spent on incentives generates \$2.70 to support local economy



# Market Match

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- At Orcas Island Farmers Market
- \$40 in matching \$ for:
  - Fresh vegetables
  - Fresh fruits
  - Mushrooms
  - Fresh herbs
  - Seeds and plants that produce food (for example, tomato seeds or tomato plants)



**EBT TOKENS &  
FRESH BUCKS  
GLADLY ACCEPTED**



**E Fruits & Vegetables!**

**GET**

**END**

**GET MORE Fruits & Vegetables When You  
Swipe Your EBT Card at the Farmers M**

The image shows a promotional graphic for the Fresh Bucks program. It features a yellow background with green accents. At the top, it says "E Fruits & Vegetables!". Below that, a Washington QUEST EBT card is shown with a portrait of George Washington, the card number 5077 1912 3458 7390, and the name MARY SMITH. To the right of the card, a dotted arrow points to a "GET" button. On the far right, there is a vertical strip with a dollar sign, the word "DO", and another dollar sign. At the bottom, it says "GET MORE Fruits & Vegetables When You Swipe Your EBT Card at the Farmers M".

# Fresh Bucks Program on San Juan and Orcas Island

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# Increasing Healthy Food Access

- EBT Match promotes buying power – up to \$20 match at Farmers Market and Co-ops
- Increases consumption of fruits and vegetables for low-income families
- Increase dollars invested in local agriculture
- **Fresh Bucks 2022:**
  - **Orcas** – 130 Households, 285 people, \$13,738 redeemed
  - **San Juan** – on hold 2022, (2021 -155 Households \$13,906 Fresh Bucks at Co-op and Farmers Market)
    - 2023 raised \$10,500 in funds to support.



# Island Grown Food Access Card

- Enrolled 166 households/ 342 individuals to receive a \$150+ benefit on debit/credit card
- Spend on locally grown EBT eligible foods at the San Juan Islands Food Hub (sjifh) and Farm Stands/ Farmers Market Vendors that accept debit/ credit cards
- Use your debit card to purchase any **EBT eligible food items; fruits, vegetables, meat, fish, poultry, eggs, dairy products, bread, and seeds/plants starts that produce food.**



**To date:**

562 transactions  
\$20,857 spent

2022 Survey: 40 responses, 9 LatinX

45% last 12 months couldn't afford to eat balanced meals

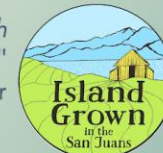
87% Island Grown helped them better afford balanced meals

“It made it easier (to) afford and encouraged me to take advantage and eat healthier”

“It has been wonderful to have a card that is just like any other cc and doesn't stand out as EBT, which I can use at my own discretion”

"This program helps lower income individuals and families stretch their food dollars and buy more locally grown food products."

-Island Grown Project Leader



**The Island Grown Food Access Program**

**Simple application process:**

- number in household
- address
- email
- phone number
- age



**\$28,000 from generous community supported grants!**



**\$150 Balance on Island Grown Debit Card\***

\* Cards can be reloaded with an additional \$75 balance.

**RESULTS BY THE NUMBERS**

**\$11,000 locally grown groceries sold**

\* Since July 2021

**117 household budgets enhanced**

**25 Vendors and growing**

- Lopez Island
- Orcas Island
- San Juan Island
- Waldron
- or buy online!

**234 neighbors served**



**We could do so much more:**

Help us continue the Island Grown Food Access Card by donating to the San Juan Islands Ag Guild and note Food Access.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - SNAP.



**San Juan Islands Ag Guild**  
sjiagguild.com

