



LANARK COUNTY
Harvest Festival
Get Fresh with a Local Farmer!

Celebrate Lanark County's bounty at Harvest Festival

Want to get fresh with a local farmer? The fourth annual Lanark County Harvest Festival will give everyone a chance to do just that!

This outdoor event, slated for Sunday, Sept. 11 at Beckwith Park (1319, 9th Line, Beckwith), will celebrate the county's bounty of the harvest featuring local producers, food seminars, cooking demonstrations, children's activities, local musicians, historical displays and more. This year, we celebrate the 200th anniversary by showcasing the people, products and projects of Beckwith, Drummond/North Elmsley, Perth and Tay Valley.

The Lanark County Harvest Festival is an opportunity for people to meet our local farmers and purchase local food and other locally made products. The county has a unique blend of producers, passions and food.

The festival will run from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is a collaboration of several local groups, including Lanark Local Flavour, Lanark County Farmers' Markets, the Lanark County Museums Network, the Lanark County Agricultural Advisory Working Group, the Township of Beckwith, and Lanark County.

In 2016, the collaboration among four Beckwith Churches will continue to deliver the popular "Harvest Church Supper" of traditional stew including lamb stew, vegetable stew, beef stew and gluten-free stew (not to mention pie of all kinds). Some of the participants are growing the ingredients, and others are sourcing local ingredients. It is "stew good to miss." Tickets are \$12 and will be sold in advance (online at Ticketsplease.ca) or at the door for the supper, taking place from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the main arena building following the Harvest Festival.

The program includes cooking demonstrations featuring local chefs who will present information about cooking with local ingredients. The renowned "Bowes Brothers" are returning as the musical entertainment; and children's activities (weather permitting) such as a petting zoo, bouncy castle, and face painting, can be expected.

"The event provides a perfect opportunity for local producers to connect with visitors and residents," adds Marie White, Lanark County tourism manager. "The benefits of local food are becoming ever more popular. This festival is a good time to celebrate by sharing food, stories and laughter."

“Beckwith Township is pleased to be the host municipality for the Lanark County Harvest Festival,” says Richard Kidd, Beckwith Reeve. “Our staff has been working very hard with partners to ensure the event is a huge success. It is a tribute to our agricultural past and future.”

This annual event supports more than 55 local businesses and six farmers’ markets, as well as developing a new business network for the county’s producers. “We hope to continue to create employment, build on the customer base and encourage lots of visitors to come to Lanark County,” states festival founder Bill Dobson, Montague Reeve.

“Along with the 200th celebration, Lanark County will be celebrating its 150 years” adds Gail Code, Lanark County Warden. “We invite you to join us on centre stage for the cake cutting ceremony at noon.”

There are still spaces for vendors. To register, contact cmcgregor@twp.beckwith.on.ca. For general information, visit www.harvestfestival.ca or call 1-888-4-LANARK.

– 30 –

For more information, contact:

Marie White, Tourism Manager
Lanark County
1-888-452-6275