

## **Market Manager Report**

*Presented March 23, 2017*

Stephanie Willette, Market Manager

*Stephanie Willette graduated with a political science degree from Kalamazoo College, where she spent time studying sustainable development in Thailand, learning about food and farming systems in Southeast Asia. After returning to the U.S., she began farming through an internship at Tantre Farm in Chelsea. She became a farm manager at Capella Farm, and then started her own farm, Two Tracks Acres, in Grass Lake. She now raises animals on pasture for meat, in addition to growing vegetables. Most recently, Stephanie served as the Chelsea Farmers Market manager, working to implement food assistance programs at adjacent community farmers markets and working part time for Chelsea Community Kitchen. She serves on the Farmers Policy Action Team for the Washtenaw Food Policy Council.*

### Operations

- Priority deadline for Farmers Market Food Truck Rally participants was March 20, 2017. Applicants will have a response by mid-April.
- Market and Parks staff have been working with the Ann Arbor Downtown Development Authority in the development of streetscape design for the 5<sup>th</sup> Street/Detroit Street redevelopment planned for 2018.

### Events

- Market staff attended the Michigan Farmers Market Association Conference, March 7 & 8
- Market staff attended the The Slow Food Huron Valley Annual Local Food Summit, March 20
- Wednesday Market returns May 3, 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- 2017 Food Truck Rally Dates: May 3, June 7, July 5, Aug. 2, Sept. 6, Oct. 4, 5 – 8 p.m.

### Marketing

- The Market was featured in the Spring 2017 edition of Michigan Meetings and Events magazine's article: "Jewel of a City"
- The Brinery was featured in Bon Appetit: <http://www.bonappetit.com/story/small-batch-sauerkrauts>