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**Whole Foods Market Village Garden Opens in West Broad Village
*Region's First Field-to-Store Community Garden To Provide Local, Organic Produce***

RICHMOND, Va. (June 22, 2010) – Whole Foods Market and West Broad Village today announced the opening of Whole Foods Market Village Garden, Whole Foods Market's first onsite field-to-store community garden. The 37,000-square foot garden, known as the Village Garden, is located in West Broad Village. Pending final permitting, the Village Garden will supply fresh and seasonal produce to be sold in the Short Pump Whole Foods Market store and incorporated into prepared dishes and salad bar options. Situated in the heart of Short Pump in the West Broad Village development, the garden is ideally located to offer community access from surrounding shops and restaurants.

"More and more, customers are becoming vocal about wanting to know the origin of their produce. At Whole Foods Market, we're always looking to partner with local farmers, but the Village Garden is something very new for us," said Joey Herndon, store team leader of Whole Foods Market at Short Pump. "We're excited to see our customers reap the benefits of the Village Garden."

The Village Garden was constructed with recycled materials on land donated by Markel-Eagle Partners LLC, the management entity that is a large investor in and operates West Broad Village. The garden is currently almost one acre in size, and Whole Foods Market has future plans of expanding the plot to as many as six acres, which will make it the largest Whole Foods Market-affiliated community garden in the nation.

The garden was built and will be maintained by the local Richmond organization, Backyard Farmer, as well as Whole Foods Market employees, and will include seven production beds, a fruit orchard and grape vines that are expected to mature by mid-July of this year. The Village Garden will be home to an assortment of produce year-round. Squash, tomatoes, peppers and melons will be planted first, along with fruit trees like hardy kiwi, fig, persimmon, pear and plum. The Village Garden also will be home to a number of berry bushes, including blueberry, blackberry and raspberry. A portion of what's grown in the garden will be donated to the Central Virginia Food Bank.

One of the largest multiuse developments in the Richmond area, the 115-acre, \$300 million West Broad Village is an urban living space located in Glen Allen, Va. The Village Garden is an integral part of the development, which was designed specifically for people who live, work, shop and play within the urban setting they call home.

"The Village Garden is just another element of the vision behind West Broad Village," said Stan Manoogian, president of Markel-Eagle Partners. "We wanted to create an inclusive community, and produce grown within the development definitely helps achieve that goal."

The Short Pump Whole Foods Market opened its doors in 2008 and has worked quickly to meet the company's mission of caring for the environment. In fact, the Short Pump store utilizes a waste-to-water machine which uses enzymes to break down food matter into water. Pending final permitting, the Short Pump Whole Foods will be able to provide the community with the option of buying locally grown food from the Village Garden.

In advance of the garden opening, several events will be held to get the community excited and involved: June 23 will be a Whole Foods Market 5% Day, where 5 percent of that day's net sales will be donated to Slow Food Richmond; there will be a complimentary film screening of the movie FRESH June 25, a documentary exposing today's unresolved health and environmental issues; and Saturday, June 26, will be the Village Garden's public grand opening, inviting area residents to visit the new space, enjoy complimentary garden tours, kids' activities, live music by the Richmond Indigenous Gourd Orchestra and more.

About Whole Foods Market®

Founded in 1980 in Austin, Texas, Whole Foods Market (www.wholefoodsmarket.com), a leader in the natural and organic foods industry and America's first national certified organic grocer, was named "America's Healthiest Grocery Store" in 2008 by *Health* magazine. The Whole Foods Market motto, "Whole Foods, Whole People, Whole Planet"™ captures the company's mission to find success in customer satisfaction and wellness, employee excellence and happiness, enhanced shareholder value, community support and environmental improvement. Thanks to its 53,000 Team Members, Whole Foods Market has been ranked as one of the "100 Best Companies to Work For" in America by *FORTUNE* magazine for 12 consecutive years. In fiscal year 2008, the company had sales of \$8 billion and currently has more than 275 stores in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Whole Foods Market, Fresh & Wild™, and Harry's Farmers Market® are trademarks owned by Whole Foods

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West Broad Village

West Broad Village is a masterfully designed urban living space located in Glen Allen, Va., which is part of the Richmond metro area. Pedestrian-friendly brick streets connect single-family, attached homes, creating a community of people who live, work, shop and play within the urban setting they call home. One of the largest multiuse developments in the Richmond area, the 115-acre, \$300 million West Broad Village houses Whole Foods Market, HomeGoods, Recreational Equipment Inc., Dave & Buster's, Kona Grill, The Wine Loft, the Children's Museum of Richmond-Short Pump and other businesses, residential townhouses and apartments. West Broad Village is operated by Markel-Eagle Partners LLC. To learn more, visit: www.westbroadvillage.com.

Markel-Eagle Partners LLC

Markel-Eagle Partners LLC manages and is a large investor in West Broad Village and other properties across Virginia. Markel-Eagle Partners' focus is to grow, build and nurture existing properties, and create value through both financial and operational expertise. Seeking to invest in a variety of real estate assets to achieve equity-level total participation returns, Markel-Eagle Partners concentrates on long-term real estate planning and is committed to professional execution. Managing one of the largest multiuse developments in the Richmond area, West Broad Village, Markel-Eagle Partners works closely with retailers, restaurants and residential properties to deliver superior results and value for the entire community. Learn more at: www.markel-eagle.com.