

Tourism Award: Emery's Farm

By Pat Johnson

Photo credit: Emery's Farm.



The farm market has been selling produce grown on the 50 acres surrounding the country store and bakery for over 70 years.

draws folks from across the state for a day in the country. Sandra Lazzaro, Division Director for the Ocean County Business Development & Tourism and Executive Director, Tourism Advisory Council said the Joseph H. Vicari Ocean County Tourism Award is given annually to honor the business, organization or individual who made the greatest contribution to the \$7 Billion annual Ocean County tourism industry.

"Emery's Farm has continually contributed to the agritourism of Ocean County. We are very lucky to have this beautiful farm for tourists to visit our County!"

Produce sales begin as the season progresses through spring and summer with blueberries making their star appearance starting early June and running through July. Emery's grows five varieties of high bush blueberries on 20 acres of the farm and they are sold by the pint or the flat. U-pick blueberries are available mid-June from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Entire families can make a day of it; cost is \$2 per person (to cover berries eaten while picking) and picked blueberries are priced at \$3 a pound. Dress for the weather and bring a picnic. Stop by the farm animal compound and meet the chickens, goats, sheep and miniature donkey. They will appreciate the special animal feed available for a quarter. Just keep your palm

straight and giggle at the gentle pecks and nuzzles. Fall is a wonderful time at the farm: pumpkins are ripe and the corn is high. Emery's is known for its family-friendly Halloween activities. A pumpkin patch with hundreds of ripe orange orbs stretches across a grassy field close to the store and parking lot. Kiddies can toddle through a straw-bale maze and more

athletic types can wander through the two-acre, treasure-hunt corn maze.

Hayrides pulled by a tractor are available on weekends in the fall. The tour around the farm shows the bounteous, autumn harvest.



Inside the Emery's Farm kitchen.
Photo courtesy: Emery's Farm.

Emery's Farm continued...



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Emery's is also famous for its on-site bakery, offering a wide selection of pies, loaves, muffins, scones, turnovers and more--baked daily. The bakery opens April 1 in time for specialty Easter breads.

The market also stocks homemade jams, pickles and preserves and can fashion a gift basket for you.

Emery's Farm Market and Bakery is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. It is located at 346 Long Swamp Road in New Egypt.