

Rules of Operation Franklin County Farmers Market

To permit fair and equal opportunity for all sellers and to ensure quality products for buyers, the following rules have been developed. They will be revised and updated as needed, and may be modified according to the season and products being sold. We want to work with you and welcome your ideas and suggestions at anytime. To achieve maximum benefits and provide the best Market, Everyone - growers, sellers, customers, and management must share and work together. Thank you for choosing the Franklin County Farmers Market to sell your products. The Market Manager and Extension Director may deny the privilege of operating at the Market to any person who violates these guidelines and rules, or who otherwise takes actions which are determined by the Market Manager to be detrimental to the Market. The Market Manager specifically reserves the right to request additional information or documentation before making a decision to deny or limit access to the Market, but is not required by these guidelines to do so. The privilege of selling on the Market is not an entitlement. In utilizing his or her discretion to suspend, revoke, or otherwise terminate a seller's privilege to sell on the Market, the Market Manager and Extension Director may consider a seller's history of cooperation with the Market Manager and the seller's good faith effort to obey the guidelines and rules of the Market. Likewise, any effort to manipulate or to violate the spirit of the rules of operation may be considered. The Market Manager shall have the authority to order and remove any person from the market who is guilty of any violation of the rules, or who may be guilty of violating any ordinances of the city, county or state law, or who shall fail to obey any lawful orders of the Market Manager. The ultimate discretion for eligibility determinations belongs to the Market Manager and Extension Director, and determinations are final once they are rendered.

I. Rules

A. Advertised Farmers Market hours are as follows:

Tuesday	9:00 a.m. until sold out
Friday	9:00 a.m. until sold out
Saturday	9:00 a.m. until sold out

Please adhere to these hours of operation.

No sales or bagging of items will be permitted before the opening time on each sale day.

The customer may not purchase any orders placed on a previous market day on the market grounds **until opening time on the next open day**.

The Market Manager, Agricultural Extension Agent and the County Extension Director will determine beginning and ending dates.

B. Vendor space will be assigned on a **"First come, first serve basis"** for each market day. Tables may be set up at unused vendor spaces, however, these must be moved if a grower arrives that needs the space.

Every person operating a vehicle on the property of the market shall drive such vehicle in a careful and prudent manner and at a rate of speed so as not to endanger the property of another or do physical harm to any person.

The parking of automobiles and other motor vehicles of market vendors and their employees, shall be confined to spaces designated by the manager. Such automobiles shall not be parked where they will obstruct traffic or take up space necessary for the orderly operation of the market business.

If due to limited space available, the Market Manager may restrict each vendor to one space and may require all produce be kept on on vehicle and tables.

- C. The producer shall determine commodity prices for items sold.
- D. **ALL ITEMS SOLD AT THE FRANKLIN COUNTY FARMERS MARKET MUST BE PRODUCED IN FRANKLIN COUNTY.** Purchasing items from other vendors and/or growers in Franklin County for re-sale at the farmers' market is permitted. However, 50% of what is produced should be grown by the vendor. The Market Manager and/or Cooperative Extension Staff will schedule a visit with each market vendor at minimum one time per year prior to the opening of the market season (May) or during the market season.

Vendors selling food items prepared or cooked off-site are required to provide evidence of satisfying food safety requirements of the Food and Drug Protection Division, NC Department of Ag and Consumer Services. For baked goods a certificate of home kitchen inspection is required.

If cakes, pies, etc., are to be sold as whole units or by slices, they should be wrapped prior to offering for sale. **The products should be labeled with the name of the product and list of ingredients**

The sale of food products with high osmotic pressure (high sugar content) such as jams, jellies, and preserves **processed in a certified kitchen is permitted. The products should be labeled with the name of the product and list of ingredients.**

No "low acid" canned food may be sold such as tomatoes, green beans, corn, peas, carrots, potatoes, soup mixtures, etc. unless you have attended the Acidifide Food School offered by the NCSU Food Science Department. For more information, please visit the NCDA&CS - Food and Drug Protection website at www.ncagr.gov/fooddrug/food/homebiz.htm or you can call the division at (919) 733-7366. **The products should be labeled with the name of the product and list of ingredients. They should also be processed in a certified kitchen or commercial kitchen.**

Guidelines For Selling Plants

Plants must be grown and produced by the vendor.

Growing: The definition of “growing” means that you are attending to the product and nurturing the product from an initial stage of planting to a finished product stage that you are offering for sell: (for example: growing the plant being offered for sell from seeds, plugs, cuttings, liners, from 1 gallon to 3 gallon size, etc). You must grow the plant being offered for sell to a point that results in substantial root and plant size development. You are NOT allowed to purchase a pre-finished or finished product (plant) and then bring the purchased plant to the Market for sell after just watering the purchased plant for a short time and/or placing the purchased plant into a larger pot and then offering the plant for sell.

II. Vendor’s Responsibilities

- A. Each vendor will be responsible for keeping his/her sales area clean during selling hours. Before leaving, each vendor is responsible for cleaning his/her market area.
- B. Each vendor is responsible for the quality of his/her product. No person shall sell produce which is unsound or unwholesome or which fails to meet the standards or requirements of federal, state or local laws and regulations. All North Carolina regulatory laws applying to weights, measures, marking of containers, sanitation or other legal requirements will be obeyed by all market vendors. In no case will produce be offered for sale that contains a total of more than 10 percent decay, shriveling and/or other blemishes.
- C. Each vendor should provide a display showing the available commodities and price for that day.
- D. Each vendor should have available an NCDA&CS certified scale “legal for trade” for use on each market day that they plan to sell product that needs to be weighed.
- E. All containers (ie. boxes, cartons, tubs, clamshells, pots, bags, etc.) should be original, clean and only labeled with vendor’s label or product label.
- F. Fraudulent, dishonest, and deceptive practices carried on at the Market will result in revocation of the seller’s privileges for the remainder of the year, or the amount of time will be determined by the Market Manager and Extension Director. No vendor shall do any act or use any language which appears to be intended thereby to insult another vendor or shopper or to intimidate a shopper into purchasing the produce which is his/hers. Persons who circulate false reports tending to upset or destroy the operations of the Market or that may cause upset or damage to vendors in loss in prices shall be subject to expulsion from the Market.
- G. No vendor shall approach a customer for the purposes of making a sale while the customer is in conversation with another vendor. No person shall make any public

outcry, or give any musical or other entertainment for the purpose of drawing customers or to attract attention.

- H. It is the responsibility of all vendors at the market to satisfy customer complaints. Upon receipt of numerous complaints concerning the same vendor, the Market Manager and Extension Director may cancel the marketing privileges of the offending tenant.
- I. Vendors shall not use or contribute to the use of alcohol or drugs on the market premises.
- J. Each vendor is responsible for his/her own records, such as taxes, license (if required), and be in compliance of all Health and NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service regulations.

These rules may be amended as necessary by the Market manager, and County Extension Director. Vendors may not sale at the market until the application is approved.

Franklin County Farmers Market – Vendor Application 2018

Name

Date

Home Address

City / State / Zip Code

Telephone Number (Including area code)

E-mail Address

Crops and/or Items to be Marketed

Agreement on Rules & Regulations

I (***print your name***), _____, have read the Franklin County Farmers' Market Rules and Regulations and agree to abide by those rules and regulations. The items I sell at the Farmers' Market are either grown or made in Franklin County. **I produce 50% of what is for sale each market day at my vendor space.**

Market Vendor Signature

Date

Farmers Market Manager Signature

Date

Cooperative Extension Director Signature

Date

Please list a contact person in case of emergency.

Name

Telephone number (including area code)