



MARKET RULES AND REGULATIONS

VENDOR QUALIFICATIONS

1. The **Thomasville Farmers Market (TFM)** is limited to certified growers who live within Davidson County or the surrounding counties of Davie, Forsyth, Guilford, Montgomery, Randolph or Rowan counties.
2. A County Extension Agent must certify that each vendor grows 100% of what they offer for sale with the following exceptions:
Exception 1: A vendor may be the authorized agent of another member farm in the Thomasville Market counties. In this case the vendor must label items so the customer will know what each farm provided. A vendor may be the authorized agent for more than one other grower. A vendor must pay a stall fee for each stall used.
Exception 2: A vendor may sell an NC Grown item if it is not available in the Thomasville Market counties, with advance approval by the market manager and the Davidson County Extension Agent.
3. All farms must be certified by the County Extension Agent at least once every three years, and updated at least annually if items grown change. The market manager or County Extension Agent may inspect the farm of any market member during the season at any time to verify a product's origin.
4. Vendors offering value-added products (e.g. baked goods, jams & jellies, crafts) must be registered with the NC Department of Revenue (DOR), and their DOR certificate must be displayed in their market stall.
5. All dairy must be grade A. Unpasteurized dairy labeling must comply with NCDA & CS regulations.
4. Vendors agree to comply with all rules, regulations, and guidelines set forth by the farmers market, as outlined in the Market Rules and Regulations. This includes but is not limited to health and safety standards, product quality requirements, conduct and operational procedures. The agreement also designates an authorized agent, if applicable.

MARKET FEES:

- Annual membership dues are \$25.00/year
- Daily Vendor Fee for TFM members is \$10 for each stall used
- Daily Vendor Fee for non-members, including non-profits \$20 for one stall
- Church Bakes Sales - Fee \$15
- Season Pass Fee \$150
- No fee for Health Education i.e. Medical Ministries

PRODUCTS THAT CAN BE SOLD:

- Vegetables grown from seeds, sets, or seedlings
- Fruits, nuts, or berries grown on land owned or leased by the seller
- Plants grown by the seller from seed, seedling, transplant or cutting
- Bulbs propagated by the seller
- Eggs produced from the seller's hens
- Meats from animals raised by the seller
- Grade A dairy milk and dairy-related products
- Honey produced from the seller's bees
- Cut or dried flowers grown by the seller
- Firewood cut by the seller
- Straw or hay baled by the seller (Hay for sale may be advertised on the market message board)
- Preserves, pickles, relishes, jams and jellies made by the seller in a certified kitchen
- Baked goods baked by the seller in a certified kitchen
- Beverages (e.g. coffee, herbal teas, sodas, lemonade) sold in recyclable cans or biodegradable cups
- Crafts should be hand-made and related to farm, food or rural living
- Other products approved by the Board of Directors

All products produced under certification such as organic, licensed meat, poultry, or dairy products or products requiring inspection, such as baked goods or preserves, must display certification or license and have a copy on file with the market manager.

HEALTH, PUBLIC SAFETY AND FOOD SAFETY

- No running, bicycle riding or skateboarding inside the market fence.
- No unattended children in the market.
- No glass beverage containers in the market.
- Customers and their children must remain in the center aisle, not between trucks and tables.
- To ensure food safety, live animals are not allowed in the market except for service animals.
- NO SMOKING in the market enclosure.
- All produce vendors must use new bags for customer purchases.
- NO low-acid canned foods such as green beans, corn, peas, carrots, etc. may be sold. In addition no **canned** tomato products may be sold.
- All vendor tables at the market must be adorned with clean, laundered tablecloths.

MARKET OPERATION

- The Saturday market operates from 8 AM to Noon, starting in May and concluding on the last Saturday in September. Vendors are permitted to begin setup between 6:30 and 7:30 AM. The current setup schedule is as follows: 6:30 AM for stall vendors, 7 AM for vendors facing the water tower, and 7:30 AM for vendors in tents. If a market member or vendor fails to arrive by 7:45 AM, their stall may be reassigned to another vendor for that day. Additionally, there may be special Saturdays held after the regular season, such as the fall market or holiday market. The Tuesday market hours and start date will be determined later.
- Additional pop-up markets may occur depending on vendor interest.
- Each seller is responsible for cleaning up and maintaining safety in the area around his/her selling space including any vehicle.
- Only members are authorized to pay for a reserved space for either the entire season or a portion thereof. In the case of reserving for a partial season, please specify the dates at the time of payment. Members are required to inform the market manager in advance if they will not be present on a particular market day, with notifications to be provided no later than Wednesday of the respective week.
- Each market member is allotted one space. Members representing other members may share space for efficiency. If market conditions permit, members may rent a second stall.
- The Market Manager will allocate reserved spaces.
- Non-reserved spaces will be available and assigned by the market manager on a first come first served basis.
- Priority for space under the shelter will be given to TFM members. Produce vendors and bakers have first priority for spaces. In the event of overflow, priority will be given in the order in which requests for space were made. Overflow vendors must provide their own canopies or use the canopies provided by Thomasville Park and Recreation, if available.
- Soliciting customers by loudly advertising to get customers' attention is not allowed at the market.
- Complaints or questions of process may be submitted in writing to the TFM Board via the market manager.

MARKET SIGNAGE GUIDELINES

- Prices must be clearly posted for all items sold.
- Market members determine their own prices. It is recommended that prices reflect accurate and fair value.
- Only certified organic growers may use the term organic in their advertising at the Thomasville Farmers Market.
- Vendors must have clear signage indicating the name and location (city and county) of each farm or business providing items for sale at their booths.

VENDOR CONDUCT

- **Non-Discrimination:** Vendors shall follow non-discriminatory practices and ensure that all activities and services are offered without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, familial status, political beliefs, parental status, receipt of public assistance or protected genetic information. The farmers market is committed to promoting inclusivity and diversity among its vendors and customers.
- **Professionalism, Courtesy and Positive Representation:** When practicing non-discrimination, vendors shall conduct themselves in a professional and courteous manner at all times while participating in the farmers market. Vendors understand that they are representatives of the farmers market and agree to uphold its reputation through their actions and behavior. This includes refraining from engaging in any activities that may damage the reputation or integrity of the market or its stakeholders. This includes interacting respectfully with customers, fellow vendors, market staff, and the general public.
- **Social Media Usage:** Vendors shall exercise discretion and professionalism when using social media platforms to promote their participation in the farmers market. Any content shared should align with the values and standards of the market and should not disparage or undermine the market or its stakeholders.
- **Sexual Conduct Policy:** TFM is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment for all participants, free from any form of sexual harassment or misconduct. Sexual Harassment or misconduct will not be tolerated.
 - Sexual Harassment is defined as any unwelcome verbal, non-verbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature, including but not limited to:
 - Unwanted sexual advances, propositions, or requests for sexual favors.
 - Sexually suggestive comments, jokes, or gestures.
 - Displaying sexually explicit materials or images.
 - Inappropriate physical contact or invasion of personal space.
- **Honesty and Transparency:** Vendors shall provide accurate and truthful information about their products, including pricing, origin, and production methods. Any claims or representations made about products must be honest and transparent.
- **Confidentiality:** Vendors shall maintain the confidentiality of any sensitive information shared by the farmers market, its organizers, or fellow vendors. This includes but is not limited to business practices, customer data, and internal communications.
- **Minors Policy:** Vendors are responsible for supervising any minors (under 16 years of age) they bring to the market at all times. Minors must refrain from running, causing distractions to other vendors, or displaying disrespectful behavior towards customers.
- **Reporting Violations:** Vendors are encouraged to promptly report any violations of market rules or regulations, whether observed firsthand or brought to their attention. Such proactive reporting assists market management in ensuring a conducive environment for all participants.

OTHER RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Groups hosting bake sales at the market are permitted to exclusively offer baked goods within their designated booth. This includes items such as pastries, cakes, cookies, and bread. Non-baked food items like coffee, honey, vegetable produce, fresh fruit, etc., are prohibited from being sold in the bake sale booth.
- Churches and non-profit organizations holding bake sales at the market are exempt from the certified kitchen regulation for baked goods only.
- Anyone using scales must have them approved by NCDA.
- Any vendor serving as market manager does not pay the stall fee for the day(s) he/she is the manager.

VIOLATION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

Violations of the market rules and regulations are subject to disciplinary action, which may include but are not limited to:

- **Warnings:** Verbal or written notices informing the vendor of the violation and its consequences.
- **Fines:** Monetary penalties imposed on the vendor for the violation, payable to the Thomasville Farmers Market.
- **Suspension:** Temporary cessation of the vendor's participation in the farmers market for a specified period.
- **Termination:** Permanent discontinuation of the vendor's involvement in the farmers market activities.

Determination:

The determination of disciplinary actions shall be made by the Thomasville Farmers Market board, taking into account the severity of the violation and any mitigating or aggravating factors.