



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Rules and Regulations for Nashua's Farmers' Market

Farmers' markets provide fresh, local foods and essential goods to consumers. Keeping markets open while maintaining public safety and well-being during COVID-19 is a top priority to ensure safe access to healthy foods. Appropriate safety measures for consumer and vendor safety must be adhered to at all times during market operation. As the COVID-19 response continues, modification to the rules may occur based on the current data.

Market Managers and Vendors

- Check-in with employees and vendors at the beginning of each market day to ensure worker health and review proper hygienic practices.
- Appoint a market safety officer to enforce safety guidelines during all hours of market operation.
- Assign additional market staff to regulate market flow and ensure social distancing.
- Clearly communicate market changes to the community before the start of the market.
- Create a detailed site layout to visualize traffic patterns and avoid bottlenecks
- Create a one-way thoroughfare for the market with clearly defined entrance and exit points
- Limit customer capacity inside the market to promote social distancing and reduce congestion
- Separate vendors/booths with at least 10 feet in-between tents, more where possible, to reduce congestion.
- Add tape/chalk lines 6 feet apart to reinforce and visual represent social distancing.
- Customers shall not pick-up or handle any items at booths and ask vendors to assist them.
- Encourage quick transactions to keep traffic flowing
- Staff handling money, vouchers, or credit cards shall wear gloves and then change gloves and wash hands before moving on to a different task.
 - Vendors should consider additional staff to dedicate for transactions only.
 - Vendors should wash hands after each customer interaction.
- Musical performances, cooking demonstrations, and food/beverage sampling are not allowed during the COVID-19 pandemic response.
- Onsite food consumption is not allowed.
- Set up handwashing/hand sanitizer stations throughout the market to promote hand washing for customers and vendors.
- All food items, other than whole, uncut produce shall be prepackaged.
- Masks shall be worn by all vendors, employees, and market customers unless a health condition would prevent them from doing so.
- Frequently clean and disinfect high touch surfaces.



- Vendor tables shall be easily cleanable or use a vinyl or plastic table cover that can be easily cleaned and sanitized.
- Signs shall be posted reminding market customers to:
 - Wash all produce before consumption
 - Frequently wash hands
 - Social distance
 - Wear a mask
 - Stay home if feeling sick
- Consider expanding shopping options to an online purchasing and drive thru/walk-in pick up model.

Market Customers

- If you are sick, stay home.
- Maintain social distancing at the market by staying at least 6 feet apart from market staff, vendors, and other customers.
- Do not pick up any products at the vendor booths, ask the market vendors to assist you.
- Wear a face covering or cloth mask while shopping.
 - If everyone is wearing a mask we can maximize our protection from each other.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Bring your own cleaning wipes.
- Look for markings that may indicate one way traffic flow through the market and markings at booths to increase social distancing.
- When returning home, wash your hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds and once again after you put away your market goods.
- Frequently clean and disinfect kitchen counters, tables, and sinks with an EPA registered disinfectant.
- Within 2 hours of purchase, refrigerate or freeze cold and perishable food items such as meats, poultry, eggs, and lettuce.
- Currently there is no evidence of food packaging associated transmission of COVID-19. If you like, for an additional safety measure, you can wipe down product packaging and allow it to air dry.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please call us at 603-589-4530 or visit www.nashuanh.gov as guidance may change due to the rapidly changing nature of this event.

Additional resources include:

<https://www.neha.org/just-in-time/just-in-time-farmers-market-safe-operations>

<https://extension.unh.edu/blog/covid-19-precautions-field-market>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>