Lenoir County Farmer’s Market
Rules and Regulations

Mission

The Lenoir County Farmer’s Market was established to provide a retail outlet for local growers and producers to sell their goods directly to consumers. The market strives to educate consumers on local farm products and practices, promote the use of local products and serve the community through programming and activities.

This Market is sponsored by the Lenoir County Farmer’s Market Association in cooperation with Lenoir County Cooperative Extension Service. It is governed by the Farmer’s Market Advisory Committee and Association Board Market consisting of participating vendors, community leaders, and representatives from Lenoir County Cooperative Extension.

Fees, Rules & Regulations for the Lenoir County Farmer’s Market Eligibility

1. Sellers must reside and produce the items they sell in the state of North Carolina.

2. Sellers must make or produce 75% of the items they sell. Seventy-five percent of product must be locally produced, local referring to production in Lenoir County or from areas within a 50 mile radius of Kinston. Only relatives or a member of the vendor’s farm or craft business may participate in the market.

3. Products that may be sold, but not limited to are (keep in mind 25% may come from a source other than your farm):
   · Vegetables grown from seeds, sets, or seedlings by the seller
   · Fruits, nuts, or berries grown 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
   · Dairy products from animals raised by and made by the seller
   · Honey produced from the seller’s bees
   · Cut or dried flowers grown by the seller
   · Firewood cut by the seller
   · Straw baled by the seller
   · Preserves, pickles, relishes, jams, jellies and candies made by the seller
   · Baked goods baked by the seller
   · Seafood caught by the seller
   · Art or crafts made or crafted by the seller (see guidelines for non-farm craft)
4. All items sold as organic must meet the requirements of the National Organic Program. Sellers of organic items must have a copy of their certification on file with the market manager as well as with them when selling at market. Only certified organic growers may display signs using the word organic. All items must be produced in North Carolina.

5. With prior Market Committee approval, vendors are allowed to supplement their product with other locally grown or produced items (termed “carrying”); only if at least 75% of the value of the product offered each market day is grown or produced by the vendor. All products must be clearly labeled with the producer’s name and location of production. All products must be produced in North Carolina; all items must meet all eligibility requirements for products that can be sold at the market. Prior approval is required to sell any product other than what was initially applied for.

6. All products must be of top quality.

7. All prepared food items, meat, fish, and cheese sold must meet state and local health regulations including the inspection of the prepared foods seller's kitchens by NCDA health inspectors and labeling in compliance with the regulations. Sellers must have a copy of their inspection form on file with the market manager, as well as with them when selling at market. Must be inspected by NCDA Food Safety Compliance officer. Call 919-733-7366 to make an appointment to get your kitchen inspected.

8. Prior to participating in the farm all sellers’ farm or business must be visited by representatives of the LCFM Association or Advisory Board in order to determine eligibility to sell.

**Hours ~ Fees ~ Attendance**

9. The market will operate from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Each participant is asked to commit to the 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon both sale days. The Market Grand Opening will be held May 11, 2010. There will be special activities on that date. Date cover May through December.

10. Sellers may choose to join the Lenoir County Farmer’s Market Association for $50.00 annual membership fee, to be submitted with a completed seller application.

11. Sellers must pay a daily fee of $12.00 for one space for LCFM Association members, and a daily fee of $20.00 for non-association members. Daily fees may be paid on a monthly basis by the first of each month, (non-refundable), or on a daily basis. Fees must be paid prior to sale. Fees will be paid to the Market Manager or Association Treasurer in the event that the manager is not available. Spaces will be assigned by the Market Manager or Representative LCFM Association Board member.

12. The market will operate rain or shine. Sellers are required to remain on site for the entire duration of the market.
13. Priority is given to vendors who attended at least 30 weeks of the previous season.

**Booth Space ~ Displays**

14. Returning vendors that attended at least 30 weeks of the previous season will be given the opportunity to retain the same vendor space they were occupying at the end of the season. Other vendors will be placed in the market space on an individual basis by the market manager or Representative of the LCFM Association Board.

15. Vendor booths must be well organized, professional and easily accessible for the customer. Products must be displayed on tables, not on the ground (with the exception of plants). Some tables and selling benches are available on a first come first serve basis. In the event that the covered market spaces are full, product may be sold from tents, canopies or umbrellas.

16. Each booth space must have a sign indicating the name and location of the farm or business. Prices must be posted for all products, or individually priced. Product must also be labeled as local, produced in NC, certified organic, produced in another state, etc.

17. Scales used must have a current state certification sticker visible. You may contact 919-733-3313

18. No smoking is allowed within vendor booths.

19. Vendors are responsible for cleaning up their spaces at the close of each market day. All trash must be hauled away.

**Miscellaneous**

20. No live animals may be sold or given away at the market.

21. The market does not offer exclusive rights to any one vendor to sell any one product.

22. Pricing of goods at the market is the sole responsibility of the individual vendor. However vendors are expected to be aware of and maintain fair market values. Radical price cutting of quality produce or “dumping” is prohibited. Poor quality or overripe products labeled as such may be sold at a discounted price. Advertised prices must be displayed throughout the market day.

23. All market members must conduct themselves in a professional manner, they shall not engage in unfair business practices. The Market Manager and/or the LCFM Association or Lenoir County Cooperative Extension Director reserve the right to monitor vendors, booth spaces and the products sold to maintain quality and variety.