Policies of the Swain Tailgate Farmers Market

The goal of the Swain County Farmers Market is to allow local crafters, farmers, gardeners and growers to earn extra income by selling locally produced farm products and crafts. In addition, the market aims to provide residents and visitors to Swain County an opportunity to buy fresh, quality, local produce and other farm goods at a fair price.

Sellers must reside and produce the items they sell within Swain and adjacent counties (Graham, EBCI, Jackson, Macon and Clay).

Sellers must be the original producer (or family member) of all items being sold. No buying and reselling of produce or other products are allowed.

Sellers must agree to Farmers Market policies and submit an application prior to any sales to:

Swain County Cooperative Extension Service
Attention Christy Bredenkamp
PO Box 2329, Bryson City, NC 28713.

The market will operate from 9:00 am until 1:00p.m. each Friday from spring through fall. The exact dates will be determined each year by the market organization. In 2010, the market will begin Friday May 7th and ending on Friday October 29th.

Products, which can be sold, include:

- Any vegetable grown by the seller from seeds, sets, or seedlings
- Any fruits, nuts, or berries grown by the seller from trees, bushes, or vines on the seller’s farm
- Any plant grown by the seller from seed, seedling, transplant, or cutting
- Cut or dried flowers grown by the seller
- Bulbs and seeds propagated by the seller
- Mushrooms grown by the seller
- Honey produced by the seller's bees
- Firewood cut by the seller from the sellers land
- Straw baled by the seller
- Wild fruits harvested by the seller in Swain and surrounding adjacent counties.
• Eggs produced by the seller’s poultry if: 1) the carton is marked with grower’s name and telephone number 2) carton states the date the eggs are collected 3) eggs are kept below 40 degrees F.

• Preserves, pickles, relishes, jam, and jellies made by the seller if prepared in an Inspected Kitchen with labeling that meets the State Health Code for Prepared Foods. *

• No “low-acid” canned foods such as green beans, corn, peas, carrots, etc. may be sold.

• Baked goods baked by the seller: Sale of baked goods such as breads, muffins, cakes, pies and cookies are permitted on a regular basis if prepared in an Inspected Kitchen.*

• One time baked sales: State Health Law permits “one-time sales” of baked foods such as breads, muffins, pies, cookies and cakes. These are permitted as a one-time sale.

• Craft Sales: This is primarily a farm market. Craft sales must be approved by the market committee. All crafters must reside and produce the items they sell within Swain and surrounding adjacent counties.

• Other products may be sold with committee approval

All food must meet state and local health regulations.

All produce must be of top quality.

Each seller is responsible for safety and cleaning up the area around their vehicle and space.

Sellers should not move their vehicles in or out of the market area during times when such movement would pose a danger to people in the shopping area.

The Market will be operated by the Farmers Market Committee, the majority of whom are active producing members of the market. The committee reserves the right to interpret the Market Rules and to modify them as needed for the market’s operation. If questions arise about any produce sold, a member of the Farmers Market committee may visit the seller and farm involved.

A planning meeting for the Swain Farmers Market will be held the second Tuesday in the months of April and November.

* Contact one of NCDA’s compliance officers at 919 733 7366 for more information on how to get your kitchen inspected. Joan, Melanie and Erin are happy to answer any of
your questions in regards to appropriate inspection documents. For more information visit their website: www.agr.state.nc.us/fooddrug/food/homebiz.htm. You may also prepare foods at the Stecoah Valley Food Ventures 828 479-3364 or the Blue Ridge Food Ventures in Asheville.

The Swain Tailgate Farmers Market is a collaborative effort between local vendors, Freds Market and Super Saver Foods, the Chamber of Commerce, the Cooperative Extension Service and Mrs. West.