

## **Ann Arbor Farmers Market: Becoming a Vendor**

### **How do I apply to become a vendor at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market?**

Please confirm that your product fits with the market's current needs before applying. You must complete a market application, which can be found on our website. Please do not bring samples of your products to the office.

Completed applications should be sent to the Ann Arbor Farmers Market at 315 Detroit Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

### **How long will it take to process my application?**

Generally, it takes anywhere from four to six weeks for our office to process your application after we receive it.

### **Are there spaces available? Is there a waiting list?**

The Farmers Market accepts vendor applications on a rolling basis. Newly accepted vendors are added to the end of our Daily Vendor List. Each Market day stalls are assigned first to Annual Vendors and then to Daily Vendors in order of seniority. As soon as a new vendor is accepted to the Market, they will be able to confirm a start date with Market Manager.

We do not accept seasonal or winter-only vendors at this time. Acceptance to the Wednesday & Saturday daytime markets is based upon product mix across both markets.

### **What does the Farmers Market look for in its vendors?**

Unlike resale and wholesale markets, the Ann Arbor Farmers Market is producers-only. This means that each vendor selling at the market is the grower, baker, artist, cook, etc. of his/her own items for sale at market.

All of our vendors should not only produce their products locally, they should also value sourcing from other local producers whenever possible.

All new vendors should offer a product that is compatible with the Market's current product mix and contributes to the overall direction of the Farmers Market.

### **How much does it cost to be a vendor?**

For the Wednesday and Saturday daytime market, the fee is \$30/stall, per day, or \$450 for one stall annually.

Please see the Food Truck Rally application for current fees.

### **What are the rules of the Market?**

Please read the Public Market Operating Rules if you are applying to become a vendor. The rules are posted on the market website: [www.a2gov.org/market#rules](http://www.a2gov.org/market#rules).

### **Can I submit an application for the Sunday Artisan Market to the Farmers Market office?**

The Sunday Artisan Market is a separate market that rents the space at the Farmers Market on Sundays during the months of April-December. To find out more about joining this market, please visit their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SundayArtisanMarket/>. All questions should be directed to the manager of the Sunday Artisan Market.

### **Does my product qualify for sale under Michigan's Cottage Food Laws? How can I start a Cottage Food Business in Michigan?**

Michigan Cottage Food Laws are determined by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD). You can read the laws in their entirety [here](#), including a full list of what can and cannot be sold under the Cottage Food Laws, an outline of the labeling guidelines and regulations, and a checklist for how to start your own Cottage Food Business.

Vendors at the Farmers Market are ultimately responsible for following Michigan's Cottage Food Laws and any ineligible products listed on your application will result in a void application.

### What information do I need to provide to become a vendor?

All Ann Arbor Farmers Market vendors must comply with local, state, and federal requirements regarding the production and sale of their products. The following list is a collection of the most common permits and licenses required of market vendors; it is by no means exhaustive.

Product	Requirement	Issuing Agency
Nursery stock	varies-as recommended by your inspector	MDARD
*Organic Growers	copy of USDA Organic Certification	Organic Certifying Body
Perennials	Perennial stock inspection	MDARD
Prepared Foods	Prepared in licensed kitchen	MDARD
Food Cart Vendor	Licensed Food Cart OR Temporary Food Establishment License	Washtenaw County Health Dept.
Cheese/Dairy	Manufacturing Dairy License	MDARD
Meat	USDA/MDA Inspected Processor (if MDA facility, copy of MDA license is necessary)	USDA/MDA
Cider	Limited Wholesale Food Processor	MDA
Eggs	No license needed	N/A
Maple syrup	Processed and packaged at licensed establishment	MDA
Honey	Processed and packaged at licensed establishment	MDA
Every Vendor	MI sales tax license	MI Dept. of Treasury

For further information, please visit the links below. Any questions on licensing should be directed to the appropriate licensing agencies.

[Licensing Decision Tree](#) – find out if the MDA issues the license that you need for your business

[All MDA Licenses](#) – an alphabetical list of all licenses issued by the MDA and their online applications.

[Cottage Food FAQ's](#) – frequently asked questions about the Michigan Cottage Food Law.

[List of Organic Certifying Agencies by State](#)– to obtain organic certification, these agencies can come inspect your establishment.

[Dairy Licenses and Permits](#) – find out what the MDA requires of your dairy business.

[Temporary Food Establishment Licenses](#) - find out if your business requires one [here](#) or email Kristen Schweighoefer at the Washtenaw County Health Department at [schweigk@ewashtenaw.org](mailto:schweigk@ewashtenaw.org).

### How can I appeal a rejection to the market?

A vendor, vendor applicant or market customer aggrieved by a decision of the Market Manager interpreting or enforcing the Market Rules, may appeal to the Community Services Administrator or his/her designee using the following procedure:

- A. The aggrieved party shall submit by letter or email to the Community Services Administrator or his/her designee a description of the decision of the Market Manager being appealed and the facts and circumstances resulting in the Market Manager's decision.
- B. The appeal must be filed with the Community Services Administrator or his/her designee within 14 days of the date of the Market Manager's decision.
- C. The Community Services Administrator or his/her designee shall review the information submitted and shall provide a written decision within 45 days.
- D. The decision of the Community Services Administrator or his/her designee shall be final.
- E. During appeals, approved vendors may continue to sell at the Market at the discretion of the Market Manager.