

Rules for Vernon Farmers' Market

The Vernon Farmers' Market is intended to provide healthy, fresh produce and other assorted nutritional non-commercial foods to the residents of, and visitors to, the community and surrounding area. Both small and large farmers and sellers of produce and non-commercial food items will find a supportive outlet for the sale of their goods. The Market will encourage commerce, entertainment and trade in downtown Vernon, and help display the city's history, uniqueness, charm and potential.

MARKET RULES

(IMPORTANT: Please read and sign the Market application and the Market Rules and return them to the Market Manager. Please also initial the tax, health and safety regulations section. Your signature and initial indicate that you have read, understand and agree with the rules. In addition, your signature indicates that you agree that Officers of the Vernon Farmers' Market Committee may inspect the property where produce is being grown if you are claiming that your produce is not resale.)

The purpose of these rules is to govern the operation, administration and management of the Vernon Farmers' Market.

DEFINITIONS

Agent – a representative of a farmer who is working on contract with a farmer to sell for the farmer at the Market

Farmer – a person who sells the produce that they grow

Vendor – a person who is reselling produce bought from a farmer or who is selling non-produce items

Produce – fresh produce (fruits, vegetables, herbs), plant items, flowers, eggs, honey

Produce stall – a stall that includes 51% of items as produce

Non-produce – value-added food products; i.e. jellies, jams, preserves, baked goods and hand-made or hand-assembled non-food items

Non-produce stall – a stall containing 51% non-produce items

Seller – an approved seller at the Market

HOURS, DATES AND LOCATION OF MARKET

The Market will be located on the Wilbarger County courthouse square on Cumberland Street and Pease Street. The Market shall operate every Saturday from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm from mid-May through the end of July, with an additional weekend in August, September and October to be designated by the Vernon Farmers' Market Committee. All sellers must vacate the Market site by 2:00 pm.

PERMITTED MARKET ITEMS

Produce and non-produce items may be sold. No cooking will be allowed on-site, except for demonstrations approved by the Market Manager. The Market Manager may approve up to 25% of the stalls to be non-produce stalls. The Market Manager will resolve any doubt as to the suitability of an item. No soliciting or political or religious activities shall be permitted within the Market area. Displays of public interest, such as nutritional, health or consumer information, may be displayed with the permission of the Market

Manager. All products must be sold, displayed and stored from a surface above the ground. All sellers must utilize tables, shelves, cases or other structures for these purposes.

APPROVAL OF SELLERS

The Market Manager will review applications for compliance with market rules and determine the appropriateness of the applicant's products. The Market Manager will also determine the classification of the seller as either a farmer/agent or as a vendor.

FEES (All fees are utilized for publicity and operation of the Market.)

Ten-foot x ten-foot (10'x10') stall spaces or equivalent parking spaces are \$10.00 including tax per Market day. If inclement weather prevents a vendor from being able to sell for three hours on a Market day, the fee will be refunded. The Market Manager will determine what constitutes inclement weather.

EXHIBIT SPACE

Market management has full authority to assign exhibit space. Stalls and parking spaces will be available on a first-come basis, provided that farmers and agents will be located on the Pease Street side of the courthouse and vendors will be located on the Cumberland Street side of the courthouse.

SET-UP, CLEAN-UP AND BREAKDOWN

Set-up starts at 7:30 am and must be completed by 8:00 am. Sellers are responsible for removing all garbage from their stall space area. Stall spaces are to be left in the same condition as when rented. Breakdown starts at 12:00 pm and must be completed, and stalls vacated, by 2:00 pm.

SELLER EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Each seller is responsible for providing and removing any and all equipment and supplies he or she requires to do business on the Market site. This includes signs, tables, chairs, products and equipment utilized for clean-up purposes. No electricity will be provided.

SIGNS

All signs must remain within the allotted seller's exhibit space and must not block traffic or pedestrian ingress or egress, or interfere with other sellers' display or views.

PERMIT DISPLAY

All sellers must display their permit pass in order to occupy a stall site. Permits shall remain on display during Market hours.

VEHICLES AND PRODUCT DISPLAY

Vehicles may be utilized as a display or dispensing area for Market goods. No vehicle may remain running during Market hours. The use of canopies, awning and sun-umbrellas are encouraged.

TAX, HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS

Sellers are responsible for collecting and remitting their own sales tax. Sellers are responsible for abiding by all Texas State and federal health and safety regulations. All rules may be revised by the decision of the Officers of the Vernon Farmers' Market Committee.

ENFORCEMENT OF RULES

The Market Manager is responsible for enforcing the Market rules. Possible violations will be discussed and resolution attempted. Sellers selling prohibited items will be asked to remove those items from sale or leave the Market. Unresolved problems will be referred to the Market Board. Continued violations will result in being banned from the Market with no reimbursement of fees paid. Any seller challenging another seller's product's legitimacy or conduct must file a written complaint with the Market Manager, giving the name of the seller and the product or situation they feel may not be in compliance with Market policies. The complainant must date and sign their name to the complaint and the Market Manager will attempt resolution. If resolution is not possible, the complaint will be referred to the Market Board.

INSURANCE

Sellers are encouraged to consider obtaining individual liability insurance for products sold.

Signature

Printed Name:

Date: