

FORWARD BRUNSWICK FARMERS' MARKET

RULES AND REGULATION FOR OUR MARKET

Effective March 1, 2023

Forward Brunswick Farmers' Market Mission:

- Increase the availability of fresh, local food, helping to eliminate food deserts and hunger in the Golden Isles,
- Support local farmers and food producers, and
- Make downtown Brunswick a Saturday shopping destination for visitors and residents of the Golden Isles.

We are a **food and horticulture, producer-only market**. This means all vendors must grow or produce the items they offer for sale. There are two categories of vendors, *Farm Product Vendors* and *Prepared Food Vendors*.

Farm Product Vendors

Farm Product Vendors sell live plants, cut plants, seedlings, plant seeds, raw agricultural food products, including produce, nuts, eggs, honey, milk, and/or uncooked meat and seafood. **Farm Product Vendors must grow or harvest 75% of what they offer at the market.** Approved farm products from other farms in a collaborative partnership with the Farm Product Vendor may be sold, however secondary farms must meet all of our market guidelines and be listed on the Farm Product Vendor Application.

Prepared Food Vendors

Prepared Food Vendors sell processed or cooked food. This may include: baked goods, bread, cheese, confections, premade meals, any canned/preserved goods, or other foods that are not whole and raw. **Prepared Food Vendors must produce 100% of the products they have for sale.**

All Vendors who sell at our Market must follow all State of Georgia rules governing food/horticultural sales and food safety, including applicable sales tax, licensure fees, or inspection fees. Market management has the right to inspect facilities of Farm Product and Prepared Food Vendors for compliance with our market rules.

Because we are in the City of Brunswick there are City of Brunswick and Glynn County food, agricultural and sales rules that may also apply.

If you are interested in becoming a vendor at Forward Brunswick Farmers' Market, please read the following rules, complete an application, along with payment for your booth rental.

Forward Brunswick Farmers' Market Rules & Regulations 2023

Market Season

March 11- December 23, 2023 – on the Second and Fourth Saturday of every month. The Market is a rain or shine market. The market is located at the Pavilion at Mary Ross Park in downtown Brunswick.

Market Mission

- Increase the availability of fresh, local food, helping to eliminate food deserts and hunger in Brunswick,
- Support local farmers and food producers, and
- Make downtown Brunswick a Saturday shopping destination for visitors and residents of the Golden Isles.

Market Rules

All individuals or groups (hereafter referred to as Vendors) selling anything at the Mary Ross Park Farmers' Market (hereafter referred to as the Market) must abide by these rules and have all appropriate licenses, certifications, etc., to legally sell their product(s) in Glynn County. Our Market Staff (hereafter referred to as the Staff) are responsible for enforcing market rules. These rules are mandatory for all Vendors. By signing and submitting this application to the market, you acknowledge that you've read the following rules, understand them, and agree to follow them. Failure to follow these rules can result in penalties including fines and possible dismissal from the Market.

All Vendors who sell at the Market are responsible for and must follow any State of Georgia rules governing food/horticultural sales and food safety, including applicable sales tax, licensure fees, or inspection fees. Because we are on City of Brunswick property, there may be other rules that apply to our market. You are responsible for knowing and following these rules.

Farm Product Vendors and Prepared Food Vendors Defined

All products sold at the Market must be either edible or horticultural in nature. All products must be grown or be made within a 250-mile radius of Brunswick. Applicants will fall into one of two categories: Farm Product vendor or Prepared Food vendor. The market maintains a balance of 60% of Farm Product vendors to 40% Prepared Food vendors. **We accept only food and plant vendors. We do not allow vendors who are acting as distributors, i.e. solely reselling another person or company's products.** The only non-food or non-plant items that Vendors may sell are merchandise printed with their own name and/or logo. All merchandise you intend to sell must be listed on your application or submitted via addendum to the Market staff.

Farm Product Vendors

Farm Product Vendors must grow/produce at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the items that they offer at the market. The other 25% of the items sold must be from secondary INDEPENDENT farmers/producers (i.e. a small-scale farmer, not a reseller or distributor) also within 250 miles of Mary Ross Park. All secondary farms/producers **must be identified on the product's label or on signage displayed during the market.** This information must be provided in the application or addendum submitted to Staff.

Prepared Food Vendors

A **prepared food vendor** sells processed or cooked food. This may include baked goods, bread, cheese, confections, premade meals, any canned/preserved goods, or other foods that are not whole and raw. **Prepared food Vendors must produce 100% of the products they have for sale.** Prepared foods will be allowed only if they are packaged and labeled in accordance with all governmental regulations. We do not accept hot prepared food vendors. By Georgia Statue, any vendor wishing to sell prepared food at the market **must** have a valid temporary food service permit and must post the permit in clear public view. Permits may be obtained from Glynn County Environmental Health (912-264-3831).

Scheduled site visits and site inspections may be requested by the Market Staff before acceptance as a vendor and may be requested periodically throughout the Market season.

ADDITIONAL RULES

1. Sales tax

Food and food ingredients sold to individuals for off-premises consumption are exempt from the Georgia state sales and use tax, but fully subject to the local county sales and use tax. Prepared food is fully subject to both state and local sales and use tax.

2. Insurance

Each Vendor must have public liability insurance to afford protection against any and all claims for damages which may be made by any person or persons alleging injury or damage, including death, due to Vendor's acts or omissions, including injury or damage arising from the consumption or use of Vendor's products.

3. Proof of certifications, registration and licenses

All Vendors are required to provide copies of all applicable certifications, registrations, and licenses to the Market Staff before beginning participation and are encouraged to keep these certifications and licenses with them during market hours and display them when required by law.

4. Market Schedule

The Farmers Market will be held on second and fourth Saturdays starting March 11, 2023 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. The Market may close to accommodate additional special events or holidays, and such closures will be announced to Vendors in advance.

5. Arrival and Set-up

Vendor arrival time is from 7:00 am – 8:45 am. All vendors agree to arrive by 8:30 am and be open for business at 9:00 am and stay open for business until 1:00 pm unless specific permission is granted by the Staff. No sidewalk parking. Vendors are responsible for being able to transport their own property, including any equipment needed for setup, and product to be sold.

6. Check out and Breakdown

Before leaving, each Vendor must checkout with Staff. At this time, all financial transactions between the Vendor and the Market will be conducted including all fees for the day and reimbursements for tokens. *Vendors must vacate the premises by 2:00 pm.*

7. Labels and signage

Vendors are required to label all products in accordance with our rules and any applicable health and governmental regulations. The offering for sale of food in hermetically sealed containers that was not prepared in a licensed food processing establishment is prohibited. This includes canned products of all types. Food shall be obtained from sources that comply with all laws relating to food and food labeling.

8. Market Fees

The Market will collect fees from all Vendors based on the number of booths rented. Fees are normally collected at the end of the market during the checkout process. **Booth rentals are \$25.00 per day.**

9. Booth Regulations

All trash, including produce scraps, must be removed from the park by the vendor by 2:00PM. Large boxes and crates must be kept at your booth and removed at the end of the day. Littering of any type is strictly prohibited.

10. General Conduct/Rules

Staff, volunteers, Vendors, customers and visitors will not be subject to language or actions considered to be abusive, profane, threatening, or harassing.

- Threatening behavior, vandalism and the use or threat of violence by a Vendor or person conducting sales at their booth constitutes a violation of Market Rules and will constitute immediate and permanent expulsion from the Market.
- Possession of firearms or fireworks, gambling, or use of alcohol or drugs are not permitted.
- Pets are not permitted in the market pavilion.
- Smoking is not allowed in the pavilion.
- Solicitation for products, services, or charitable contributions not meeting the Market criteria, or by vendors other than approved Market Vendors, will not be permitted.
- All Vendors are responsible for the actions of their employees and/or agents, including knowledge of, and adhering to all market rules.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: PHILIP GRAITCER 404-245-9780/pgraitc@me.com