

Austin Area Farmers' Market

Market information and policies for the 2008 season

Third Thursday in May through October (except holidays) rain or shine

Eligibility:

- All vendor products must be grown, produced, or crafted by the vendor.
- Vendor must complete application form and pay the established fees.
- Permit may be revoked for repeated violation of market rules. No fee refund!
- Commercial growers are not allowed (example – street/parking lot vendors).

Fees: Full Season: \$100 – 16 foot stall space. Vendors may purchase up to 3 stall spaces. (2008 Rule – Membership price will remain \$100 per stall until May 1st.)

After April 1: \$125 (except first time vendors).

Five time permit: \$50 (6th time \$50 to convert to full time. First time vendors only).

Youth: Free **Guest permit:** Ask

Market Hours and Location:

- The Monday market will be from 4 to 6 pm at Oak Park Mall.
- The Thursday market will be from 4 to 6 pm on Main Street, downtown Austin.
- Sellers will be expected to remain until 6 pm. It is our responsibility to be open during advertised hours.
- The market will begin at exactly 4 pm with a signal. No presales are allowed. Customers and vendors will not be allowed to bag items before 4 pm.

Stalls:

- Stalls will be assigned as you begin to come to market on a regular basis.
- Your stall will be held until 3:30 pm unless you have made prior arrangements.
- The market committee may limit stall size.

Seller Responsibilities:

- All products must be fresh and of high quality unless specifically labeled to inform the public of a lesser quality.
- You should notify the market within 48 hours of a market day you cannot attend.
- You should carry your own general liability and product liability insurance.
- You must have a Minnesota sales tax ID number if you sell taxable items.
- If you sell prepared foods, you must display the proper sign.
- It is your responsibility to know and comply with the laws.
- It is your responsibility to keep your stall neat and clean during and after market.
- Vendors are responsible for their own tables, canopies, and items for display.
- Tents or canopies must be weighted down in a safe manner.
- Prices should be prominently displayed.
- You should display your name and/ or farm name.

General Requirements:

- Scales may only be used in accordance with the weight and measure law of the State of Minnesota.
- All food and food related product must be kept at least six inches off the ground.
- Alcoholic beverages and smoking are prohibited at the market.
- Loud or profane language will not be tolerated.
- Food sampling promotions are not to be set up as “self service” displays for consumers.
- Dispensing of a product must be done in a safe and sanitary manner under control of the vendor only.

Market Responsibility:

- To be a member of the Minnesota Farmers' Market Association, to be licensed with Minnesota Grown, and to encourage members to use its services.
- To make available to members – Minnesota Grown bags at a cost of \$5/100.
- To provide a general market liability insurance coverage.
- To promote the market to the public within the budget available.
- To promote the freshness and health value of our product and to buy locally.
- To encourage more participation – especially the youth and non profit groups.
- To recruit and retain both vendors and customers.
- To enforce the policies of the market and to revoke the permit of anyone in gross violation of a rule.
- To have the authority to inspect a vendor's production site to verify compliance.
- To make available the most recent copy of Operational Guidelines for vendors.

Austin Area Farmers' Market Membership and Officers:

- A member is anyone who has paid for a full season permit and is in good standing. Each permit holder is entitled to one vote.
- The board of directors shall be 3 permit holders and 2 people selected from the community to serve in an advisory capacity for a three year term.
- The Chairman of the Board position is a one year term, with the option to continue if he or she chooses, without another vote for up to 3 years.
- The officers shall be: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Directors.
- The annual meeting shall be held on the third Monday of March. A "wrap up" meeting shall be held immediately following the close of the season in November.
- The board shall meet monthly on the third Thursday during the market season or whenever required to address an issue.
- Changes to rules require a majority vote of members present at a properly notified meeting.

Officers and Terms: Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer receive one free stall.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Term Expires</i>	<i>Position</i>
Steve Otto	346-7811	2009	Chairman
Richard Kiehne	437-8784	2010	Treasurer
Tina Bush	583-2552	2010	Secretary
Bonnie Mogen/Bonnie's	433-8111	2011	Director
Patty Stevens	437-6896	2011	Director
Steve Otto	346-7811	2009	WIC contact
Sharon Thiel	434-7538	2009	Market Manager

To learn the most recent information about laws and regulations:

Minnesota Department of Agriculture: www.mda.state.mn.us.

Subscribe to the list serve program at MDA_Food_Safety_Line@mda.stae.mn.us

Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Dairy and Food Inspection Division, 90 W. Plato Blvd, St. Paul, MN 55107-2094. Telephone 651-296-2627.

Minnesota Department of Revenue: www.taxes.state.mn.us

Corporate and Sales Tax Division – Mail Station 6330 – St. Paul, MN 55146-6330.
Telephone 651-296-6181 or 1-800-657-3777.