



Chester Farmers and Artisan Market

2013 Rules and Regulations

- 1. 2013 Market Season:** The 2013 market season will begin Saturday, April 27, 2013.
- 2. Market Days and Hours:** The market will operate on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays every week. Hours are 7:30 AM to 1:00 PM each market day. Saturday markets will include special events sponsored by the City of Chester and local civic/church organizations
- 3. Market Location:** 111 Columbia Street, Chester, SC 29706
- 4. General Rules**
 - a. Previous vendors and potential vendors must register with the market by completing an application and submitting required documents at least 2 weeks before wanting to do business. Registering or showing up on the day or week of the market is not acceptable. New applications must be approved. Vendors must keep their information current.
 - b. Vendors are not allowed to have pets at the market.
 - c. Vendors will dress appropriately. Smoking is prohibited in the market building and the demonstration garden. Smoking is only permitted in the parking lot adjacent to the market building. No alcohol or illegal drugs are allowed on property. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult.
 - d. Vendors are responsible for handling complaints from customers. If the vendor and customer cannot come to a reasonable agreement, the market manager will mediate a resolution to the disagreement. The market managers decision is final.
 - e. Weather Policy: The market will be cancelled in the event of any weather condition that the manager deems to be unsafe. E-mail will be sent to vendors if market is cancelled for the day. If a vendor does not have email, it will be his/her responsibility to call the market manager for an update.
 - f. Vendors will, at all times, treat other vendors with respect and not interfere with customers standing at their site and/or actively transacting business.
 - g. Hawking is prohibited. (Selling aggressively, especially by calling out)
 - h. Solicitations for products, services or charitable contributions are NOT permitted except with the express permission of Market management.

5. Licenses

- a. It is the responsibility of the vendor to research and comply with all federal, state, and local regulations governing the sale of their items. Products must be labeled, processed, and prepared in compliance with the SC Department of Agriculture and any other appropriate regulations. If selling livestock and livestock products (meat, dairy, fish, eggs, cheese and products made from such) for human consumption, vendors must furnish proof of compliance with all appropriate regulations and proof of their product liability insurance policy to the market manager with application 2 weeks before desired selling date.
- b. It is the responsibility of the vendor to research and comply with all business and tax regulations for the sale of their items.

6. Products Offered

- a. Quality of Product: All items will be reviewed and must be healthy, safe and of a high quality. Do not display any products that are bruised, discolored, or undesirable.
- b. Vendors may offer agricultural products, produce, plants, and crafts/artwork that they have produced or grown themselves in SC, including products made from SC agricultural products that they produced or grew, (i.e. goat milk soap and beeswax candles).
- c. Vendors may resell agricultural products from SC if the product is clearly marked as resale (for example, Pageland Watermelons). In order to resell, at least twenty percent of a vendor's total products available for sale must be grown or raised on a farm or garden by the vendor during the season. Produce from other states may be offered, only when the same SC produce is not being harvested (for example, apples from North Carolina). If the percentage of locally grown items is in doubt, the market staff reserves the right to request a farm/garden visit.
- d. Nothing imported shall be sold at the Chester Market.
- e. The Chester Market does not accept brokers: i.e. participants who have bought produce, plants or flowers from a grower and do not grow anything themselves.
- f. Farmer Priority: If a farmer brings an ample amount of a product to supply the consumer base at the Market, then priority to sell this product will be given to the farmer, and resellers are not allowed to sell the same product during that time. For example, if honey is sold in sufficient supply by a beekeeper during the month of June, then honey is not allowed to be sold by a reseller during that time, even if the resold honey is local. Resellers are required to consult with market management on a weekly basis to assess when it is appropriate for them to sell products in question.
- g. The market allows the participation of food vendors (for examples, bakers/grills/restaurants/caterers). Food vendors must annually provide required documents with application and must be compliant with all SCDA/DHEC regulations while at the market.

- h. Items other than those outlined in this application are not allowed to be sold at the market. Examples of this include dietary supplements, nutrition drinks, fried dough, snow cones, cotton candy, commercial candy and sweets, imported items and crafts. No beverages for consumption at the market may be sold by vendors. The Chester Market reserves the right to refuse the sale of any item. All products to be sold during 2013 must be listed on the application for approval. New items intended for sale during the season must be preapproved.
- i. Commercial vending vehicles, e.g. "ice cream trucks", are not allowed to sell on property during farmers market.

7. Space and Tents

- a. Vendors are required to sell their items from a table either in the market building or under a tent outside. The City of Chester will provide 10 tents and 12 tables for use inside the building on a first-come-first-serve basis.
- b. Sellers will maintain clean sites. No offensive odors from merchandise or generators (includes noise). Vendors must keep hands clean. Unless placed inside a cooler, as in the case of meats or eggs, all food items and their containers must be kept off of the ground. Seller's trash must be collected and removed from the property, not placed in trash cans. Do not leave discarded produce on ground or in trash cans.
- c. Vendors must provide their own scales, containers, bags, etc, for the sale of their goods. Scales are subject to inspection by SCDA.
- d. The market staff reserves the right to move vendor spots or the entire market to enhance or facilitate market operations.

8. Vendor Fees

- a. There are no vendor fees for the 2013 market season at the Chester Farmers and Artisan Market.

9. Signage

- a. Vendors must have proper signage at all times! This must include the business name, vendor's name and location of business. Farm address where produce is grown should be used.
- b. Prices for all items are required and should be easily visible. Customers want to see prices rather than asking! Prices may be individual or on a container. A large poster or marker board is acceptable if easily seen from all areas of booth.
- c. Resale signs are required, if any items are being resold. Label clearly. Sign should include name of item, words "purchased from" and location of farm where item was purchased. Farmers who sell only what they grow may display a sign indicating this.

- 10.** The market does not guarantee the marketability of the vendors' goods or the success of the vendors' efforts.

- 11.** Neither the Chester Market nor the City of Chester shall be responsible for any loss through theft, or otherwise, of products or any private property while on the City of Chester property. The Chester Market or the City of Chester will not be responsible for personal injuries or damage to private property.

- 12.** The Chester Market staff reserves the right to revoke a vendor's participation in the market if any of the above rules or regulations is violated. The Chester Market managerial staff reserves the right to amend these rules and regulations at any time without prior notice.