

FAIRHAVEN BOARD OF HEALTH

Temporary Farmers Market Regulations

As part of the orders issued by Governor Baker on March 23, 2020, Farmers Markets were deemed Essential Services. Where as COVID-19 poses a serious health risk and Fairhaven Board of Health is responsible for creating and enforcing reasonable regulations designed to protect and improve the health and quality of those who reside within the Town of Fairhaven, these Emergency Farmer Market Regulations are enacted by a vote of the Fairhaven Board of Health on _____ and continue until such time as the Governor of Massachusetts declares the State of Emergency lifted.

All Farmers Markets operating in the Town of Fairhaven must meet the Fairhaven Board of Health Farmers Market Regulations as attached to this document.

All Farmers Markets operating in the Town of Fairhaven must submit a Covid Plan as outlined below.

All Farmers Markets prior to approval must submit a plan to the Fairhaven Board of Health. The plan will include information on how the market will control for health screening, social distancing and sanitation. The following information should be included in the plan and submitted with your application:

1. Health Screening

- a. **Market staff** - Describe how you will ensure all market staff are screened for COVID-19 before beginning work. Include what you plan to do with market staff who either have symptoms or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 or symptoms.
 - i. **Recommendation:** Please follow DPH Guidelines on quarantine and isolation when staff or vendors have COVID-19 symptoms or are exposed to someone who is sick.
- b. **Vendors** - Describe how you will ensure that all vendors are screened for COVID-19 symptoms before beginning work.
 - i. **Recommendation:** Screen vendors before they arrive at the market that day.
- c. **Customers** - Describe how you will ensure customers who exhibit symptoms are excluded. Describe how you plan to discourage/communicate with customers, staff, vendors who are at a higher risk of illness.
 - i. **Recommendation:** Include the full definition of the high-risk category. People at higher risk include:
 - a. Over 60 years of age
 - b. With underlying health conditions including heart disease, lung disease or diabetes and weakened immune systems
 - c. Those who are pregnant
- d. **Market staff** - Identify market staff who will be charged with the responsibility of health screening staff, vendors and customers.
- e. **Vendors, customers, market staff**- Describe how you will ensure that face coverings are worn at the market to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- f. **Maintain a daily log of all customers** contact information, including customer names, phone/email, and time/date they were at the market. Maintain the log for 30 days to help with contact tracing.

2. Social Distancing

- a. Describe how you plan to ensure adherence to social distancing requirements at all times (vendors, customers, market staff).

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- b. Describe how you are ensuring market vendors are keeping adequate social distancing during set up and tear down.
 - c. Describe your plan to ensure multiple customers aren't crowding a booth. How do you plan to limit customer numbers to reduce indoor/outdoor crowding?
 - d. Describe your plan to ensure customers that are waiting to get into the market or inside the market aren't congregating.
 - e. Describe how you plan to space booths, customers in line, and customers walking through the market so 6-foot social distancing is followed.
 - f. Describe the signage you will use to notify customers about social distancing expectations, not to gather in groups, staying home if sick, face coverings and where you will have these posted (required at entrances).
 - g. Identify market staff who will be charged with the responsibility of ensuring the social distancing plan is followed.
 - h. Describe how you will intervene with customers, vendors and staff that aren't complying with the social distancing requirements?
 - i. **Recommendations:**
 - 1. Have specific market entry and exit points so the number of customers coming in and going out of the market can be counted and controlled.
 - 2. The number of customers in the market at any given time should be kept at or below the maximum capacity to allow adequate space for the required social distancing. Other customers must follow social distancing requirements while in line to enter.
 - 3. Consider expanding market hours to prevent overcrowding by spacing out the number of customers at the market.
 - i. Vendor booths must be placed at a minimum of 10 feet apart with 1 customer allowed per booth.
 - j. Total Market Customer Capacity shall be number of booths times two. (IE: 50 booth equals total Market capacity of 100 customers.
3. **Sanitation**
- a. Describe your overall sanitation plan, including sanitizing common contact surfaces, and disinfection of restrooms.
 - b. Describe how you plan to provide adequate hand wash stations for vendors, customers and staff. Additional hand wash sinks may be required. How will you keep them supplied with hot water, soap and paper towels throughout the day?
 - c. Describe how you will provide adequate restroom access with adequate hand wash stations to the vendors, customers, and market staff.
 - d. Identify market staff that will be charged with the responsibility of ensuring sanitation plans are met.
 - e. Ensure a hand wash station is provided for each vendor booth.
 - f. Provide hand sanitizer or hand wash stations at market entry points.
 - g. Provide a hand wash station for staff use.

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4. Vendors

- a. Provide a list of vendors who will be participating at the market.
- b. A temporary handwashing station will be required in every vendor booth.
- c. Except for produce, all food and bakery products must be prepackaged.
- d. Sampling, food prepared at the market (in food booths), entertainment and other non-essential services are to be excluded.
- e. In addition to packaged food, produce and farmer grown cut flowers sold in prearranged bouquets, farmers markets can add non-food but farmer related product vendors as long as less than twenty (20) percent are non-food but farm related vendors.
- f. A hand wash station must be set up in the non-food vendor's booth.
- g. Signage urging customers to minimize their time at the produce booth.
- h. Whole fruits and vegetables are not considered ready to eat. Before consumption, they should be washed and signage must be in place stating such.

5. Summary Report

- a. Describe your plan to document what went well, what didn't, and needs for improvement at the end of each market day.
- b. Provide a summary report to the Board of Health monthly that includes each component:
 1. Health checks
 2. Social distancing
 3. Sanitation
- c. Identify market staff that will be charged with documenting and submitting the summary report to the Fairhaven Board of Health

6. Further Recommendations

- a. Fairhaven Board of Health strongly recommends that vendors offer prepaid delivery and/or preorder options to customers to further reduce social interactions at the market.

A Farmer's Market plan will be considered approved only on a contingency basis. Continued approval will be dependent on the monthly review of your end of day market reports. In addition, we will be monitoring your plan of operation while the market is open to verify that the procedures and plans as described are being followed.

Under the following circumstances Fairhaven Board of Health or it's designee can require the market to discontinue: Fairhaven Board of Health receives a number of legitimate complaints regarding a lack of compliance or failure to comply with regulations set forth by the Fairhaven Board of Health.

- Lack of verification/documentation.
- Lack of follow-up with identified issues. Reports of exposures to COVID-19, or of illnesses resulting from exposure and failure to manage the situation.