

Dansville Farmers' Market Rules

June 18 through September 24, 2015

The Dansville Farmers' Market (DFM) provides an outlet for locally-grown, fresh produce, agricultural products and crafts to be marketed to the Dansville community. An agreement signed by the vendor and DMF will state the seller's intention to comply with all the rules in order to participate as a vendor. The market will be open to the public from 4 pm to 7 pm on each Thursday from June 18th through September 24th, 2015.

The following rules will apply to all vendors at the DFM:

Eligibility

The DFM is open to all area farmers, home gardeners and crafters. A list of specific products which may or may not be sold at the DFM is described below. DFM will require vendors to submit applications listing what products they will sell. This list will then be reviewed by the market to determine the suitability of the listed items. DFM reserves the right to refuse any application that does not meet their criteria and/or product listing.

Donations

Participation in the DFM as a vendor requires a donation for market space to cover market operational costs. Two categories of vendor space are available:

1. Annual Space:

\$75 per 10' x 10' space for the 2015 season (15 days/\$5 per day). The donation for annual vendor space must be paid in full by June 1, 2015 for space under the pavilion. Annual vendors will have the right to the same space for the entire season of the market as long as they adhere to the rules in regard to no call/no show (NCNS) as outlined below.

2. Daily Space:

\$10 per 10' x 10' space per market day for the 2015 season. A per market day donation is payable for those not selling for the entire market season. Daily space will be assigned on a first come-first served basis by the market manager or appointee.

Donations for market space must be given before selling at the market. Failure to pay the donation will result in the market denying the vendor the right to sell at the market.

Market Operations

Management of the DFM will be the responsibility of the market manager. Dispute resolution, compliance and other management decisions will be the responsibility of the market manager. The market manager will have the authority to enforce the market rules, and the responsibility to ensure all vendors are treated in a manner consistent with the rules. However, dispute resolution and/or other management decisions may also involve the Heritage United Brethren Church Board of Elders, representatives of the property owner, Heritage United Brethren Church of Dansville.

DFM has the right to terminate vendors who do not comply with these rules or disrespect the rights of the property owners. Vendors who fail to comply with the rules of the market and/or the market manager's decision will be asked to leave the Heritage United Brethren Church property immediately.

Space

Vendors must be present and ready for business on market days one-half hour before opening.

Any vendors not planning to attend on any given market day must call the market manager at least one hour before market opening. If the vendor chooses not to call and not to show (NCNS) on any market day, the unoccupied space may be rented to other vendors thereafter. Any NCNS may prevent the vendor from occupying their particular seasonal space on future market dates even through it is prepaid. Subsequent location of booth space for NCNS vendors will be determined by the market manager.

Subleasing space paid in advance will only be possible with prior approval of the market manager. Vendors who sublease their space at higher rental rates will be prohibited from selling again at the DFM.

Vendors must supply their own display items like canopies, tables, shading and merchandising shelves. DFM supplies only space. Electricity is available at the pavilion for a donation of \$5.00 per market day. The limited space under the HUB pavilion is available to annual vendors on a first-come first-served basis.

Heritage United Brethren Church reserves the right to pick the spot for its market manager/information table at the market pavilion.

Products Sold

Vendors are expected to sell quality produce. Selling overripe, spoiled or unusable produce is not permitted. Vendors are also required to comply with all Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) Rules and Regulations. Such laws include but are not limited to licensing and permits, food handling and safety, collecting and reporting sales tax, cottage foods, labor issues and farming practices. The market places the burden of compliance with relevant laws on the vendor. Vendors may need to contact state and local agencies to find out the requirements and then take the necessary steps to comply. For more information about license requirements in Michigan, and whether exceptions to the requirements apply to you and your products, contact the Michigan Department of Agriculture at www.mda.org or (517) 373-1104.

Vendors must also comply with all government requirements for labeling of food products. In addition to including their farm or “brand” name on labels, some farmers may seek approval to make a particular label claim to certify production methods or production location. Examples of these types of claims might include USD Organic or “Michigan Grown”. Vendors agree to obtain all required production certification as required by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Cottage Food products must be labeled in accordance with Michigan Department of Agriculture guidelines.

The Dansville Farmers’ Market pavilion is on private property owned by Heritage United Brethren Church of Dansville, MI. In accordance with church policy, no alcoholic beverages, homemade wines, or alcoholic products or samples may be sold or distributed on church property.

Acceptable products to sell at the DFM:

Eggs from home flocks if stored according to MDA requirements
Fresh produce – fruits and vegetables, flowers (fresh or dried)
Fresh meats processed in licensed facilities
Cottage law food items: jams, jellies, bakery items: pies/cakes/breads
Firewood, lumber
Handmade crafts (DFM reserves the right to limit the number
of craft vendors vs. produce vendors at the market)
“Made in Michigan” products
Honey or maple syrup produced in licensed facilities
Potted annual plants/vegetable starts/flower flats
Small animals: rabbits, chickens, kittens, puppies given proper protection
Home-based business items if approved by the market manager

Products unacceptable to sell at the DFM:

Resale items: flea market items, purchased “new” retail items or
nonagricultural products such as household items, toys, clothes
Home canned goods/home canned meats as restricted by the Michigan Cottage
Food Law, including non-acidic fruit jellies like pepper jellies
Fresh meats from unlicensed facilities
Large live animals: horses, cows, pigs, goats, sheep
Perennial plants without State of Michigan license
Homemade wines, wine or alcoholic products, or samples

**Acceptance of S.N.A.P. (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - EBT/Bridge Cards),
and Double Up Food Bucks WIC Project Fresh and WIC Senior Market Fresh Programs
at the DFM:**

The DFM participates in the federal S.N.A.P. Food Assistance Program, Double Up Food Bucks administered by the Fair Food Network, Michigan Project Fresh (WIC) and Michigan Senior Market Fresh (WIC) providing access to fresh produce for low-income families in the community. All produce vendors are requested to participate in these program if they produce allowable products. Agreement forms and vendor training will be provided by the DFM to participating vendors at the beginning of the season.

Severe Weather

Vendors and/or customers assume responsibility for their own safety in the event of any severe weather including lightning, high winds, storms or tornadoes. The market may not officially close, but rather it is up to each individual whether or not to be at the market in unfavorable weather. Due to the outdoor nature of the event, vendors need to be prepared to all types of weather and make judgments accordingly.

Animals at the Market

Any animals at the market, owned by either a vendor or a customer, must be properly restrained in their own area, i.e. leashed or caged. The owner of the animal is liable for any or all injuries which may occur from the animal including but not limited to: bites, scratches or other injury from being jumped on or damage to other exhibits.

Live Animals Sales

Small live animals will be allowed for sale at the DMF (see attached list) only if the animals are provided shelter from the sun and a source of fresh water and adequate food. Proper animal containment will be required. Vendors disregarding care of their animals will be asked to leave the market. Vendors must clean up after their animals.

Signage

All vendors are required to label and price all produce and products sold in a clear manner for consumer convenience. A sign indicating the vendors' name and farm address is also required at the vendor's space. In addition, all vendors must designate produce and/or flowers sold as "**homegrown**", "**farmer direct**" or "**wholesale**" (including shipping manifesto to specify country of origin). Vendors selling their own locally-grown produce shall display a "Michigan Grown" sign at their booth.

Trash

Dumping of produce in the trash cans is forbidden. Vendors are required to take home everything that was not sold including boxes, bags, papers, etc. A one time fee of \$50 will be assessed to vendors who leave trash behind. Each vendor is expected to clean his or her stall at the end of each day and to keep it neat during the period that the market is open.

Child Labor

Children under the age of 18 may be involved in sales at vendor stall if supervised by a parent or other adult. Vendors may not leave unsupervised children under the age of 18 to manage their market space unless approved by the market manager. Children participating in the market are subject to any child labor laws that may apply.

Insurance

Vendors are required to purchase their own liability insurance.

If you have any questions about the Dansville Farmers' Market, please contact:

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