Farmers Market Reopening Guidance

• Prior to reopening, examine Farmers Market vendor layout chart to establish the best method of meeting the appropriate social distancing of 6-feet and rearrange accordingly.

• A 6-foot distance must be maintained between parties, whether indoor or outdoor. Space vendors appropriately to distance and also provide enough space for customer access.

• Consider designated entrances and exits to minimize face-to-face exposure of patrons entering and exiting the market.

• Consider touchless payments and digital ordering to further minimize touching of writing implements and high touch surfaces.

• Avoid hand-to-hand contact; allow vendors to bag items and set them on the table before picking up; place payment on table for vendors to pick up.

• Encourage customer pre-orders and web-based ordering systems with designated pick up times.

• Incorporate curbside delivery or drive-thru delivery options. Provide staff that can take pre-orders out to the parking lot when the customer calls.

• Make handwash stations and hand sanitizer bottles or stations available.

• Encourage vendors to use non-porous surface covers at stand and to sanitize items that customers may touch while visiting the stand locations.

• Use signage and social media to inform customers to refrain from visiting the establishment if they feel sick, have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, or are exhibiting symptoms. Encourage curbside, delivery, or takeout options for those customers.

• Screen/question customers, employees and vendors for symptoms. (cough, fever, shortness of breath, close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19).

• Recommend vendors wear masks when interacting with customers.

• Use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved sanitation products and retrain staff on best practices to avoid contamination.

• Sampling of food items discouraged but if provided, limit to pre-packaged sample size item that are only given out by vendor and not available for customer self-service.

• Post signage regarding importance of washing produce before storing or consuming and washing hands after getting product home.
Temperature Checks
Consider use of a touchless infrared thermometer to check the temperature of employee each day. Any employee who has a temperature above 100.4°F should be sent home immediately and not allowed to return to the facility until they are 72 hours fever free (without taking fever-reducing medication) and no evidence of COVID-19 symptoms. The employee conducting temperature checks should be wearing a mask.

Employees
• Increased washing of hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

• Even with hand washing, best practice is to use a barrier such as tongs, tissues, or other utensil to prevent direct hand contact with the prepared food.

• Remind employees to cover coughs and sneezes and use a tissue when possible then follow with an immediate hand wash of at least 20 seconds.

• Avoid touching eyes, nose, mouth or face mask (if applicable).

• Workers that are possibly sick with the symptoms matching COVID-19 should stay home.

• Workers who have symptoms should not return to work until they are symptom free and fever free for 72 hours without taking fever-reducing medication).

Employers
• Limit use of high-risk staff (Age 65+, immunocompromised).

• Ensure that your sick leave policies are flexible and that employees are aware of these policies.

• If an employee is confirmed to have COVID-19, employers should inform fellow employees of their possible exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace but maintain confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Employees exposed to a co-worker with confirmed COVID-19 should refer to CDC guidance for how to conduct a risk assessment of their potential exposure.

• Cross-train personnel to perform essential functions so that the workplace is able to operate even if key staff members are absent.

• Consider displaying posters and signs to frequently remind guests to take steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These messages may include information about:
  - Staying home if you are sick or do not feel well, and what to do if you’re sick or feel ill.
  - Reminders of facial hygiene and cleanliness, such as avoid touching eyes nose and math with unwashed hands.
  - Covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throwing the tissue in the trash.
  - Washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
  - Physical separation reminders.

Consider use of a touchless infrared thermometer

Please check with your local municipality for additional guidance or requirements for reopening.