

# Petal Farmer's Market

## 2016 Market Rules

Please read the following rules before completing the 2015 Vendor application.

### General Information

- The Farmer's Market is located at Hinton Park (behind the Civic Center)
- The Farmer's Market will be open every Saturday beginning May 14<sup>th</sup> thru October (or as season allows) from 8am-12pm
- The City of Petal and/or the Mayoral Health Council will have the final authority regarding the acceptance or rejection of vendors, their applications, and their products.

### Contact: Market Manager

- Tom Hardges, City of Petal Parks and Recreation  
601.554.5440  
petalrecreation@cityofpetal.com

### Check-In Requirements

- The Market opens for vendors at 7:00am.
- Set-up should be complete by 7:45am. The Market officially opens at 8:00am, but sales before officially opening are permissible.
- Vendors arriving late should call the Market Manager at least one hour before opening when possible.

### 2015 Fee Schedule

- All fees for the 2016 Season are waived. There is no fee to participate.

**Products to be sold:** The Petal Farmer's Market strives to achieve a balance of products. The Market's ideal balance is **70% fresh produce** and **30% (locally produced) dairy, meats, and other food/agricultural items**.

**Produce:** Vendors must grow at least 75% of the products offered for sale. Farm inspections may be conducted on a random basis with a 24 hour notice throughout the season in order to verify vendor compliance.

**Florist/Plant Nursery:** Priority will be given to those vendors that raise their own plants.

**Food Items:** All processed foods sold to the public must be manufactured in a commercial food processing facility with appropriate permits and licenses. Vendors must adhere to government-approved methods for preparing, storing, handling, and packaging of food products. All prepared foods must exhibit a list of ingredients if there are more than two, given in descending order of predominance by weight, and the name and complete address of the business. "Low risk" prepared foods, which include baked goods, honey, jellies, jams, cider, and sauces may be brought by farmers if the foods contain produce from their farm. Except for these "low risk" items, farmers must utilize an approved commercial food processing facility to sell all prepared foods.

**Original Art Work and Crafts:** Not allowed for 2016 season.

**Civic Organization Participation:** Nonprofit, charitable organizations are welcome at the Market. All charitable organization must complete an application and be approved by the Market Manager. Organizations setting up information, donation-only tables, and Organizations selling a product in order to raise funds will be subject to the same regulations as other vendors. The Market is a public space, not a public forum. Organizations espousing controversial and/or incendiary messages are not allowed.

**Products Not Allowed at the Market:** Seafood, Fireworks, firearms, knives, any type of drugs/paraphernalia, tobacco products of any kind, pharmaceuticals, legal or otherwise, stolen merchandise of any kind, CDs, DVDs, videos which are pirated or dubbed new, mass produced items sold in bulk (i.e. t-shirts, sunglasses, posters, etc.), pornographic materials, any items that by sale or possession are in violation of city, county, state or federal laws.

## **Vendor Rules and Requirements**

- Vendors are responsible for their own sales taxes, licenses, permits and fees required for operation and will abide by all local, state and federal laws.
- There may be vendors selling similar items at the market
- Vendors will supply their own tables, chairs, signage, scales, tents, displays, bags for customers, and money for change.
- Vendors should provide a sign positing their name and location of their farm and display a price list. Also when applicable, vendors must be able to provide proof of license or permit. Signage is subject to the approval of the Market Manager.
- Vendors are restricted from attracting attention to the items for sale by outcries in a loud, annoying, rude or offending manner. Vendors are expected to be courteous to customers, other vendors, the Market Manager and volunteers.
- Vendors are required to truthfully represent their products and operations. The Market in no way guarantees, warrants, or stipulates that any merchandise offered at the market either for sale or sample is organic. To advertise as “organic”, the Market requires the certification of “organic” products by the United States Department of Agriculture Organic Certification Program certified by the Mississippi Department of Agriculture. Vendors, who use methods in accordance with these standards but are not certified, may not market their goods as “organic” and must use other terminology. We encourage vendors to communicate their agricultural practices with customers.
- Each booth area is approximately 10’ x 10’
- Separate vendors shall not share the same booth space.
- The booths must be occupied by the vendor or designee while the Market is open. Early pack-up or departure is only allowed at the discretion of the Market Manager.
- Special needs should be reported to the Market Manager.
- Each vendor may set his or her own prices. Prices should be set in keeping with customer satisfaction and consideration of other market vendors.
- Market Staff or volunteers may ask that you move your vehicle once you are unloaded. Leave all handicap spots open for handicapped customers.
- Food shall be clean, wholesome and safe for human consumption and shall be handled, stored, transported and offered for sale in a sanitary manner.
- Food products can be cut or opened for displays at the market if properly wrapped, but cannot then be sold. Free samples may be given to customers in accordance with county health regulations. Disposable utensils (i.e. napkins, toothpicks, etc.) will be provided and disposed of by the vendor.
- Vendors are responsible for the cleanliness of their areas during AND after operation. Upon closing of the market, spaces are to be cleaned by the vendor. Vendors are responsible for bringing their own equipment/utensils for clean-up.
- To the fullest extent allowed by law, each vendor shall indemnify, defend, save, hold harmless, protect and exonerate the City of Petal, the Market Manager, and the State of Mississippi from and against all claims, demands, liability, suits, actions, damages and losses for personal injury, death or property damage, including, without limitation, court costs, investigative fees and attorneys’ fees arising out of such vendor’s operation on the City of Petal’s grounds, and whether caused by the vendor or his agents, employees, or subcontractors. Each vendor shall be solely responsible for all costs and/or expenses associated with such defense.
- Each vendor is required to provide scales of demonstrative accuracy and price and sell products in an easily understandable manner: by weight or by the bushel, quart, pint or individual piece.

## **Rights Reserved by the Market Manager**

- Only the Market Manager or designated representative can close the market at any time other than that which is scheduled, except in the case of inclement weather, when vendors exercise their own judgment.
- The Market Manager reserves the right to reject a vendor application if, in the Manager's judgment, the goods, merchandise, or participation are not compatible with the overall concept of the market or are inappropriate.
- The Manager shall have the authority to oversee and enforce the Market Rules and has the right to refuse a vendor's participation at any time for any reason violating the market Rules. The Manager may also exercise Due Process for suspension in accordance with the following criteria: 1) adequate verbal notification to the specific vendor by the Market Manager: 2) written notification of suspension from the Market Manager based on noncompliance by the vendor to adhere to verbal and written direction: 3) date scheduled to provide vendor the opportunity to address allegations with the City of Petal representative or the Mayoral Health Council for reinstatement. Decisions for appropriate discipline or notification of permanent suspension will be at the discretion of the City of Petal and/or the Mayoral Health Council.
- The Market Manager retains the right to immediately deny a vendor the privilege of selling at the market for any of the following reasons: misrepresentation of products, poor quality of products or produce, or disorderly conduct.

## **Modifications to Rules**

The Market Manager, City of Petal representative, or the Mayoral Health Council reserves the right to revise the **Petal Farmer's Market** rules and regulations at any time. The new rules will be immediately available to all interested parties.

## **Application for the Market**

Applications may be requested by email at [petalrecreation@cityofpetal.com](mailto:petalrecreation@cityofpetal.com) or go to [www.cityofpetal.com](http://www.cityofpetal.com) to download.

Applications are also available at City Hall, 119 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Petal, MS.

The application serves as an acknowledged agreement between the vendor and the Petal Farmer's Market to abide by the market rules.