

## **MIDDLEBOROUGH FARMERS MARKETPLACE RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**Market Manager:** Karen Blair (508) 946-1090  
**Time:** Saturday 10 AM- 2PM June - October  
**Place:** Oliver Mill Park, Nemasket Street, (Rt. 44) Middleboro, MA  
02346

**Mission:** To help preserve agriculture in the town by raising the profile of local farmers, growers, and specialty crafters by offering them the opportunity to directly market their product in a festive community-oriented atmosphere.

### **Membership is open to Farmers, Greenhouse Growers, Herbalists, Artist and Crafters**

All persons submitting an Application must provide an Inventory List of items to be sold at the Market ("List"). The submitted List will be examined at the time of application review and the Market Manager will issue an approved List. Persons approved to sell at the Market (Vendors) may only sell items from their List.

In the event that a Vendor would like to modify his/her List, an amended inventory list must be submitted to the Market Manager for approval. New items identified on the amended inventory list may not be sold prior to the market manager's approval.

All items offered for sale at the Marketplace must be first quality, unless they are expressly posted as "**seconds**".

Only products certified by a USDA National Organic Program accredited certifying agent that certifies farm operations and processors may be labeled "**organic**."

**Vendors are required to comply with all federal state and/or local laws and regulations.**

Prices for all items for sale shall be posted clearly on a sign. No item shall be sold unless the price of the item is clearly displayed.

Prices for items shall be established only by individual Vendors.

Collusion among Vendors to raise or lower prices, or to exert pressure or persuasion to cause any Vendor to increase or decrease selling prices is prohibited.

Each Vendor must post the name and location of his/her farm or business at his/her assigned selling area in the Market.

If a Vendor cannot attend the market, the Market Manager must be notified at least 24 hours in advance at telephone number: **508-946-1090**

Selling at the market shall begin promptly at **10:00 AM**, and no selling may take place before this time.

Vendors shall arrive no earlier than **8:30 AM** to set up displays.

Vendors must agree to sell for the entire market day.

Vendors must vacate the selling area no later than **3:30 PM** and all clean-up must be completed.

No Vendor shall engage in solicitation, collection drives, political or religious activities in the market. No loud hawking of items is allowed.

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Vendors must keep the vicinity in and around their selling area clean at all times and remove all refuse and unsold items at the end of each Market day

Vendors must provide an approved trash receptacle when selling ready-to-eat items.

Vendors must be courteous to other Vendors and to the public at all times. Vendors and their agents, employees and representatives must maintain a neat and clean personal appearance at all times.

No Vendor shall drink alcohol and/or possess or use any controlled substance while at the Market.

### **Grievances**

In the event of a dispute regarding any aspect of the Market, the Market Manager shall make a decision. Any failure to abide by the Market Manager's decision may be sufficient grounds for excluding the Vendor from the Market.

A Vendor may file an appeal from the Market Manager's decision, in writing, to a committee made up of officials, Vendors, sponsors, community groups or like entities of the market and established by the Market ("Grievance Committee"). Any appeal must be filed within ten (10) days of a decision.

Upon receipt of an appeal, the matter will be reviewed expeditiously.

The Grievance Committee will take no more than ten (10) days from receipt of the appeal to make its decision. During this time, the Vendor must adhere to the original decision of the Market Manager with no right to restitution for any losses.

All farmers and growers must grow their own vegetables, fruits, herbs, flowers, and plants. Each member grower will agree to an on-site visit by the market manager.

Artisans must make their products by hand, preferably of materials locally grown, harvested, or produced. All artisans must have a sales tax certificate and display the certificate in their booth

\* The market will be held rain or shine every Saturday from **10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**, beginning May 30th and ending October 10th. All members are expected to attend weekly. However, if you are unable to attend on a particular week you must notify the Market Master as much in advance as possible. Chronic absence from the market may result in the loss of the member's space.

Any members selling processed foods must have a current residential or wholesale kitchen permit. A copy must be submitted to the Market Master prior to the start of the season and is to be kept on site with the member for review by the Middleboro Health Agent. All food must be under cover, may not be handled with bare hands, and must be labeled with ingredients and location of origin.

Scales must have a current seal from the Department of Weights and Measures.

All members with eligible produce and foods must be certified by David Webber, (617) 626-1754 or David.Webber@state.ma.us, at the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture to accept Farmers Marketplace Coupons. Please familiarize yourself with rules and regulations concerning the coupon program at [www.mass.gov/agr](http://www.mass.gov/agr) and/or contact David Webber.

***The Farmers Marketplace will carry Liability Insurance for personal injury coverage. Although it is not required, each member is strongly encouraged to have his/her own policy as well.***

