



## INDEPENDENCE FARMERS MARKET RULES 2024

1. The 2024 Independence Farmers Market will be held every Saturday from 8 am – 12 pm, starting May 11, 2024 and ending October 12, 2024. The market will be located at the historic Wapsipinicon Mill (100 1<sup>st</sup> St W, Independence) and will be held rain or shine. In the event of flooding, the market will be relocated just south to River's EDGE parking lot (133 2nd St SE, Independence).
2. A Youth Vendor Booth will be open to vendors under the age of 18. Interested participants must apply in advance and complete all paperwork. Youth Vendors may participate a maximum of three times per season and must follow all Farmers Market rules.
3. Sales begin promptly at the signal at 8:00 am. No early bird selling.
4. Only items manufactured or grown in the vendor's gardens, farm or home may be offered for sale. No distributors or auction items allowed. Vendors may also be employees or family members of the grower. Vendors sharing a booth under one vendor fee must be pre-approved by Market Manager.
5. **NEW in 2024:** No selling of live animals will be allowed at the market.
6. A full-season permit is a \$50 one-time fee, and an occasional permit is \$10 per day until \$50 is reached.
7. Nonprofit organizations may obtain a booth to disseminate information free of charge and may notify the Market Manager at least one week in advance to reserve a spot. Any organization wishing to fundraise at the market will have to be approved by the Market Manager at least one week in advance and can do so free of charge.
8. Vendor stalls will come on a first-come-first-served basis on the day of the market. Vendors are expected to be respectful of the limited amount of stall space available at the market. Vendors may be asked to move their booth and/or vehicles to better utilize the available space. If you have questions/concerns the day of the market, please see the Market Manager.
9. Vendors will furnish their own tables, chairs, shade tents, and selling supplies. Vendors are also responsible for proper cleanup of their space. Please ask the Market Manager about availability of free bags and branded price signs.
10. All produce and baked goods must be displayed up off the ground.
11. Products that do not require a food license to sell include fruit, honey, herbs, nuts, eggs, flowers, plants, non-hazardous home-baked goods (jams, jellies, bakery items), and handcrafted items. Fruits and vegetables should be washed as needed. Eggs must be kept cold in an ice chest with ice to maintain refrigerator temperature.

All food sold at the market must be labeled with:

1. Common name of the food

2. Name and address of the person who prepared the food
3. Allergens declared for: Peanuts, Soybeans (not refined soybean oil), Milk, Eggs, Fish, Crustacean (crab, lobster, or shrimp), Tree Nuts (almonds, coconut, pecans, or walnuts) and Wheat.

Food prepared in a licensed food establishment or a food processing plant have additional labeling requirements. If you would like assistance with creating labels for your product, please contact the Market Manager.

**\*\*Please see the Iowa Inspections & Appeals “Farmers Markets Requirements” document for products NOT to be sold farmers markets because of potential food safety problems. Vendors may sell these products only if they have contacted the proper state authorities, obtained the proper license, and met requirements for selling a potentially hazardous product. Also refer to the Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 30, Food and Consumer Safety, for definitions and licensing information. If selling products that require a license, please submit a copy of the license to the Market Manager before selling the products.**

12. Samples are encouraged at the market following appropriate food safety standards, such as proper handwashing, use of disposable gloves, proper sanitation of tools, and required temperature control of the samples. Fruits and vegetables must be cut on-site and held at proper temperature. Please see Black Hawk Health Department’s document *Sampling at Farmer’s Markets* for specific guidelines (can be obtained from the Market Manager).
13. The Farmers Market Produce Donation Program is available for those vendors and community members who would like to donate usable produce to the Independence Area Food Pantry. Produce will be collected at the end of each market day and transported to the food pantry.
14. The Independence Farmers Market Board would like to encourage vendors of the market to consider using environmentally friendly packaging to help reduce our plastic footprint. Please consider encouraging customers to bring reusable bags and containers when shopping.
15. Vendors are responsible for getting their own WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) coupon permits. Please visit the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) website for more details: [https://www.iowaagriculture.gov/Horticulture\\_and\\_FarmersMarkets/farmersMarketNutritionProgram.asp](https://www.iowaagriculture.gov/Horticulture_and_FarmersMarkets/farmersMarketNutritionProgram.asp) These are generally held in mid-March and mid-April in the mornings. Please contact the Buchanan County Extension office for details.
16. Vendors are responsible for a sales tax permit from the Iowa Department of Revenue if selling products that are taxable. In general, fruits, vegetables, and bakery items are not taxable, while crafts, plants, and flowers are taxable. Please see the IDR “Iowa Sales Tax on Items Sold at a Farmers Market” document for more details. <http://publications.iowa.gov/23930/1/31039.pdf>
17. Disputes will be handled by the Market Manager, or appointed representative, as they occur. The Market Manager has the right to ask someone to leave the market if they are being disruptive, offensive in any way or not following Market rules.
18. Vendors are responsible for obtaining any necessary city, county, state, or federal licenses, permits, and insurance for selling at a farmers’ market.
19. Smoking is forbidden at the market as the market is held on a city owned street; smoking is forbidden on all city property.

**Please contact Roger Barloon, Farmers Market Manager, with any questions**  
**ISU Extension and Outreach Buchanan County**  
**319-334-7161 or [rbarloon@iastate.edu](mailto:rbarloon@iastate.edu)**

