RULES OF THE MARKET PLACE
FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY FARMERS MARKET

1. The 2015 Market will be held on Fridays from 5-7 p.m. at the Main Street Square lot from May 8th through October 16th. A second market on Tuesdays will be held from June 2nd through October 13th in the same location. To qualify for the Farmers Market Nutrition program, we must keep these hours and have at least one certified vendor present at all times.

2. A $35 season fee will be assessed to take part this year to help cover advertising and of some additional promotion costs. Seasonal vendors will be assigned a permanent spot. There will also be a one-time fee of $10 a one-month fee of $20. Occasional vendors will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. Permanent vendors who have not arrived before 4:45 may lose their spot for that time unless I know you are coming late. New spaces will be assigned because we will be in a new location this year.

3. Vendors will furnish their own tables, chairs, and selling supplies. New this year, I will require all vendors to use new, unused grocery bags. Food safety is dictating this change. Also vendors are responsible for cleaning their own selling space.

4. All food/produce sales must be in weights or units (so much per piece, per half dozen, etc.) However, if your scale is not inspected by the state and approved, selling by the exact pound is not advised. It is better to have them pre-packaged in bags of equal size. You can weigh them at home for the purpose of packaging in equal size bags, but you cannot advertise so much per pound unless you have an inspected scale at home. I do not advise bringing a scale to market. One additional reminder, for Farmers Market nutrition sales, the bags cannot be sealed. Tucking in the flap is ok. This is a rather cumbersome rule, but program rules and food safety rules require this.

5. All food/produce must be displayed up off the ground. It is to your advantage to have it packaged or displayed attractively. Attractive packages and attractive tables mean better sales.

6. No animals are to be sold or given away at the Farmers Market.

7. Products for sale can include fresh raw garden produce, fruit, honey, herbs, nuts, eggs, flowers, plants, non-hazardous home-baked goods, 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. This is to protect your liability, so please obey this safety precaution. Salmonella bacteria has become a real problem with eggs and this is the reason behind this directive. Baked goods must be wrapped and labeled with your name and address and name of product. Craft items as the only selling item is discouraged because we are not a Flee Market.

The following may NOT be sold because of potential food safety problems unless the vendor has contacted the proper state authorities and met requirements for selling a potentially hazardous product.

-- home-canned meats, fruits, vegetables, and pickles
-- raw milk
-- meringue pies
-- custard or cream filled goods

-- meats and meat products - canned, or fresh
-- unless inspected, properly labeled and kept cold
-- homemade butter or lard

8. Our market requests producer only vendors. Customers expect to be able to visit with the person who has grown the product. This is not possible if vendors are purchasing at auction from people they do not know for resale of produce. The market manager will be doing site visits to ensure this rule is followed and to take pictures for promotion purposes at the market.

9. Selling time is 5 p.m. and WILL BE ENFORCED. To aid us in maintaining this, please do not set out uncovered food items until 4:55 p.m. Customers tend to examine what they can see and reach. Signs are a good way to advertise items for sale rather than showing them.

10. Check with your insurance company concerning liability insurance. The Extension Service does not cover you.

11. Vendors selling taxable items need a sales tax permit. See Market Manager.

Please call the Franklin County Extension Office (641-456-4811) or Barb Ristau (641-456-3280) if you have questions.

Revised March, 2015