

2008 REGULATIONS



- 1. Governing agencies.** The Coventry Regional Farmers' Market (CRFM) is sponsored by the Town of Coventry (TOC) in conjunction with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (CDA). The goal of this partnership is to protect and promote Connecticut agriculture and provide consumers with Connecticut-grown food. These goals will be accomplished by providing a place for Connecticut farmers to sell their products directly to the public. The CRFM is held at the Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street, Coventry, owned by Connecticut Landmarks. The TOC and the CRFM have complete authority over the operation of the market. The CRFM Committee is designated as the representative body for the TOC in all matters involving operation of the market.
- 2. Obligations of market vendors to government agencies.** CRFM vendors must comply with all pertinent TOC, State of Connecticut and U.S. Government regulations. Vendors must conform to the requirements of state and local health agencies and must maintain pertinent health documents at their market site. Scales must bear a Connecticut Department of Consumer Affairs seal. Responsibility for collection of sales tax lies with the vendor. Sales tax numbers must be furnished on the vendor application if applicable.
- 3. Who may sell in the market.** Only vendors who have been approved by the CRFM Committee are allowed to sell in the market. No activities other than the selling of approved products will be permitted.
- 4. Market Masters** will act as administrators of the weekly market. Their duties include resolving any questions, comments, or complaints involving the operation of the market and ensuring that all regulations are enforced.
- 5. The procedure for becoming a vendor.** Vendors are required to submit an application to the CRFM that includes a description of the products to be sold along with the following:

 - CT Sales Tax Permit (if applicable)
 - Health Department Permit (if applicable)
 - WIC Certificate (if applicable)
 - Photos of products to be sold (new artisans only)
 - Check for the designated vendor fee

Applications will be reviewed by the CRFM and participation in the CRFM will be for one year only. Fees are non-refundable.
- 6. Items allowed to be sold:**

 - a) Farmers may sell produce and plant material for food or horticultural purposes, live ornamental plants, or food and fiber derived from animals raised by the farmer. All items must be grown or produced on property owned or leased by said farmer. The farm must be located in Connecticut. Resale of pre-finished plants is not allowed.

- b) Farmers may sell products (other than processed food) that are not produced on their property only if that product is not being offered in the market in sufficient quantity and the following conditions apply:
- Permission must be obtained in advance from the CRFM
 - Products must be produced on a Connecticut farm
 - Products must be visibly marked with the name and location of the farm where it was produced

Persons engaged in the business of buying and re-selling farm produce will not be permitted to sell at CRFM. Purchasing farm produce and reselling it is strictly prohibited.

- c) Artisan food processors may sell their home-made products. Purchasing processed foods and re-selling them is prohibited.
- d) While preference is given to agricultural-related products, the CRFM will offer available space to artisans. Prospective artisans must submit photographs and descriptions of their products for review. All items offered by artisans must be made by them.
- e) Items offered for sale must be fresh and of the highest quality.

- 7. Hours of operation.** Sundays – 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There will be no selling before the 11:00 a.m. opening. Set up may begin no earlier than 9:30 a.m. and vendors must vacate their space by 3:00 p.m. All vendors must be in place and fully set up for sales by 10:45, and remain in place until the close of the market.
- 8. Vendor Space** is a minimum of 10' x 10' and will be assigned by the market master. Each vendor must leave the site in the same condition as it was upon arrival. CRFM reserves the right to rent a table on a weekly or monthly basis for the purpose of market diversity.
- 9. All tents must be securely anchored at all times.**
- 10. Vendors' Attendance.** Vendors are expected to maintain consistent weekly attendance. In the case of a necessary absence, vendors are required to contact the Market Masters in advance. Vendors sharing booths are to arrange replacements *from their group* if an absence is anticipated.
- 11. All prices must be clearly marked.**
- 12. Insurance.** The proper insurance, including product liability, is the responsibility of the vendor. The TOC and CRFM will assume no liability for loss or injury caused by products sold by any vendor.
- 13. WIC Certification.** The CRFM is a WIC approved farmers' market for fruit and vegetable vendors. Vendors must prominently display their WIC certification at the market. Non-certified vendors will have an opportunity to become certified at the annual information meeting in April.
- 14.** As representatives of CRFM, vendors must be courteous and honest with all customers. There will be no profanity, shouting or disruption to the market. Smoking and consumption of alcoholic beverages on the premises is prohibited.
- 15.** Vendors violating these regulations may be suspended or dismissed.
- 16.** Connecticut Landmarks and the TOC reserve the right to close the market in emergency situations.