

# Bangor Farmers' Market Rules

Adopted 2012; Amended 2014, 2015, 2017

The Market Rules are to be followed by all those who participate in the Bangor Farmers' Market.

## 1. Membership Selection.

- a. New member applications will be due by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Returning members in good standing will be automatically reinstated providing their membership forms are received by the annual meeting. A completed membership form constitutes agreement to obey all rules and by-laws of the Association. Applications along with Annual Dues should be returned to the address on the application.
- b. If a member does not attend at least one market during the season, they will be considered as a new member the following year.
- c. The Steering Committee, or its assigned Membership Coordinator, is in charge of application screening, after which applications will be voted on by all members.
- d. New applications will be presented at the Membership Meeting in March. Attendance at this meeting is mandatory in order to be considered for membership. Before the meeting, the Membership Coordinator will send to the new applicants and to all current members a list of new applicants along with the date, time and place of the meeting at which the selections will be made, a two thirds vote of those present being necessary for acceptance. The selections will be based on what best meets the needs of the market and its customers. After the decisions, the Membership Coordinator will notify the prospective applicants of their status.
- e. The Steering Committee will decide whether applications received after the deadline shall be voted on by the membership.
- f. New members will be provisional for at least their first year, without voting rights and subject to a vote on their acceptance into the market at a future Annual Meeting. Each Annual Meeting will consider all outstanding provisional members for full membership.

## 2. Locations and times.

- a. The summer market will be open from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm on Sundays. Opening and closing dates will be determined at the annual meeting.
- b. The summer market will be held in the Abbot Square Parking Lot, on the corner of Franklin and Harlow Streets, Bangor.
- c. Members may attend markets only at the locations for which they have applied and been approved to attend. Members must indicate on their application which market locations they would like to attend. These requests will be considered as application changes at the annual meeting.

### **3. Dues.**

- a. Annual: The Annual Dues is payable with your membership form. Annual Dues will be \$40.00 before the appropriate deadline or \$100.00 after that date. Prospective members should pay their dues when they have been notified of their selection. Checks should be made payable to Bangor Farmers' Market Association and mailed to the address on the application.
- b. Daily Dues are \$5.00 per Sunday and payable to the Market Manager at the beginning of each market day.

### **4. Processed food, scales.**

- a. Handicrafts are not allowed at this market. However, yarn, dried flowers, and other intermediate products are permissible. The Steering Committee will decide the eligibility of borderline or "gray area" products on a case by case basis, but members are encouraged to honor the spirit of the market as primarily oriented toward homegrown and processed food.
- b. All producers of home-processed items such as honey, maple syrup, jams, jellies, relishes and home canned goods are required by law to obtain the proper licenses from the Department of Agriculture.
- c. A state scale inspector may visit the market during the season to check the accuracy of your scales.

### **5. No Buy Rule**

- a. In order to ensure the freshest and highest quality produce at the farmers' market, and to assure customers they are dealing directly with the farmers, members must sell only products they make or grow themselves. Buying products for resale at the market will not be allowed, except from another member attending the market that day.
- b. Items offered for sale must be fresh and of the highest quality.
- c. Emergency Clause: If a member is unable to make it to the market, another member may sell the products of the absent member. This may only happen three times during a season and the identity of the absent member must be made clear to the customer.
- d. Farm visits by member volunteers will be made as needed to ensure a member's production of what is being offered for sale.
- e. Seafood Exception: Members selling seafood exclusively may purchase up to 25% of their products.

### **6. Products.**

- a. If a secondary product becomes primary, you must have permission from the Steering Committee.

b. Members may not use the word "Organic" to describe their products unless they have been certified as organic by a recognized agency.

## **7. Signs.**

All members must display signs that display their name and address in a prominent manner every day they are at market.

## **8. Setting up at Market.**

- a. All displays should be neat, tasteful, and safe.
- b. Only one vehicle per vendor is allowed to be set up at a time.
- c. Maintenance by members of a clear walkway for customers to move from one vendor to another without obstruction is important and will be enforced by the Market Manager.
- d. Members must park their vehicles in a safe and space-efficient manner. Generally, it works best to leave enough space between your setup and the next member's so the customers do not become confused as to whose goods are whose.
- e. No unsecured canopies will be allowed.

## **9. Presentations.**

- a. Members must present themselves in an appropriate manner, dress, and state of cleanliness.
- b. Shirts must be worn.
- c. Members should behave in a cooperative manner with other members.
- d. Consumption of alcoholic beverages by members at market is prohibited.
- e. No hawking or calling out to attract buyers to your goods is permitted.

## **10. Picking up.**

It is a condition of our use of this site that the market will leave the lot exactly as we find it each day. All trash generated by the market must be cleaned up by the members.

## **11. Violation of the rules.**

Upon receiving a complaint that a member has violated a rule, the Chairperson shall appoint three members to investigate the complaint. If the majority of these members find that a violation has occurred, the Steering Committee, a quorum of which shall be considered four of its members, shall meet to consider the report of the investigation committee. If the Steering Committee, by a majority vote of those present, find that a

violation has taken place, it may cancel the membership of the accused member. Any member subject to such action, will be notified and given the opportunity to answer the charge at the meeting of the Steering Committee called to consider such charges.

## **12. Winter Market**

Vendors at the winter market must abide by all of the rules set forth above, with the following exceptions:

- a. The Winter Market will be located at the Sea Dog restaurant (the “host site”) on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the months of December through April. The market shall run from 11 am until 1 pm.
- b. No member shall offer for sale any products which may violate the agreement with the host site.
- c. Members may arrive up to 1 hour before market starts to setup their booth and must be packed up within 1 hour of market close.
- d. Members may use tables and chairs provided by the host site, and these must be put away after each market.
- e. Each member is allowed a single 8’ space.
- f. Members must thoroughly clean up after themselves. Whereas the host site is an indoor, carpeted space, this is very important.
- g. **Fees** will be determined annually, based on the budget for the winter market. Once the budget is agreed upon, it’s total expenses will be divided equally amongst the members of the winter farmers’ market and each members share must be paid in full before the first market date.