Covid-19 Best Practices Basics for Farmers' Markets

Last update: 4/15/20

All vendors must take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. MFFM strongly recommends that markets and vendors enforce best practices.

Basic Health and Safety

- Stay home if you have any symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, shortness of breath).
- Stay home if you have been exposed to anyone with symptoms of illness.
- Maintain 6-foot physical distancing for staff and customers at all times.
- Follow safe face covering protocols. (link 1 + link 2)
- Follow safe glove use protocols. (link 1 + link 2)
- Do not allow shoppers to touch food prior to purchase.
- Sanitize hands after each transaction.
  - Make sure ample hand sanitizer is available for you and your customers
  - Bring a portable handwashing station to market for you/your employees.
  - Follow proper handwashing guidelines (use soap, 20 seconds, do it often).
- Disinfect commonly touched surfaces after each transaction.
- Allow shoppers to pre-order, if possible.

Physical Space

- Allow for social distancing at your booth during shopping and checkout.
- Mark the ground & use other tools to remind customers of 6 foot distance requirement.
- Pre-package foods whenever possible in grab-and-go bags.
- Ensure all surfaces can be sanitized (avoid tablecloths).

Transactions

- If possible, have two separate staff people to handle payments and products.
- When possible, price items to reduce the need for change (in $5 and $10 increments)
- Reduce contact at checkout:
  - Accept checks.
  - Use credit card chip readers and sanitize after each use.
  - Use a cash bucket and ask for exact change.
  - Give change from quarantined bills (at least 7 days).
  - Use no-touch solutions such as Venmo, Apple Pay, etc.

Find this document online to reference links: www.mffm.org/covid

Sources

 Guidelines for Farmers’ Markets, DACF, Updated March 26, 2020
 AN ORDER REGARDING FURTHER RESTRICTIONS ON PUBLIC CONTACT AND MOVEMENT, SCHOOLS, VEHICLE TRAVEL AND RETAIL BUSINESS OPERATIONS, Office of the Governor, State of Maine, March 31, 2020
 AN ORDER REGARDING ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES AND OPERATIONS, Office of the Governor, State of Maine, March 24, 2020
Covid-19 Best Practices Checklist for Vendors
Last update: 4/15/20

NOTE: Feel free to copy and edit this version to meet the specific needs of your market.
Markets: Use this checklist as a tool to help encourage/require vendors to follow best practices.
Vendors: Use this to help you keep track of best practices.

☐ We will not send anyone to the market, including ourselves, who has any symptoms of COVID-19, or has been exposed to anyone with symptoms of illness.
☐ We agree to use best practices and enforce 6-foot social distancing while at the market.
☐ We agree to help manage shoppers and discourage any loitering in the market space.

Market Day Supplies

☐ Face coverings  ☐ Disinfectant
☐ Gloves  ☐ Signs to direct customers
☐ Handwashing station  ☐ Chalk/tape to mark 6-foot distances
☐ Hand sanitizer  ☐ Cash bucket/receptacle

Market Day Practices

☐ We use a preordering system.
☐ We do not allow product sampling.
☐ We pre-package food when possible.
☐ We sanitize all spaces touched after each transaction.

Payments

☐ Use no-touch payment solutions — cash buckets, card, Venmo, Apple Pay, etc.
☐ Accept pre-orders.
☐ Accept checks.

Physical Space

☐ Alter layout to ensure 6-foot distancing.
☐ Use plexiglass as barriers.
☐ Use extra tables as barriers.
☐ Use guide ropes or fencing as barriers.

Signs Posted at Booth

☐ Maintain 6 feet of distance.
☐ Don’t touch food until it is purchased.
☐ No loitering.
☐ Other:

I agree to follow the above (checked off) practices, and I understand that my participation in this market requires me to do so.

Signature:  
Printed Name:  
Date: