



Falls Church Farmers Market To Go Operating Guidelines

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By Howard Herman, Market Manager

The Governor and the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) have determined that farmers markets can remain open. The Falls Church Farmers Market provides the essential service of supplying a source for fresh food and produce to the residents of the City of Falls Church and surrounding jurisdictions. In an effort to keep shoppers, producers and employees at the market as safe as possible and to maintain necessary social distancing requirements, the market will emphasize a “To Go” delivery system and adhere to the following guidelines:

1. The Falls Church Farmers will be open on Saturdays from 8 am to 12 noon. Customers are strongly encouraged to pre-order their purchases.
2. A list of contact information for vendors will be maintained on the “To Go” Vendor List on the City’s Farmers Market website, www.fallschurchva.gov/FM.
3. Browsing and shopping are allowed, but discouraged.
4. Food cannot be prepared or cooked on site.
5. Congregating will not be permitted within the boundaries of the market. Customers who want to congregate should do so outside of the market boundaries.
6. A minimum social distancing and physical separation of 6 feet will be enforced.
7. When possible only one person per family should enter the market at a time.
8. There will be three controlled and staffed entrances to the market. One entrance will be on Park Avenue. The second entrance will be off of Little Falls Street. The third entrance will be adjacent to the entrance near the Community Center.
9. Where needed caution tape and barricades will be installed to prevent access to the market from any place other than the three staffed entrances.
10. Patrons can park in the community center parking lot, on the street or in the adjacent private parking lots.
11. At each entrance there will be hand sanitizing lotion.
12. There will be approximately ten feet between producer stands.
13. Producers are required to wipe their table top, vendor space and card reader off frequently.
14. Producers and staff must wear face masks or guards.
15. Customers are strongly encouraged to wear face masks or guards.
16. **NEW: Every attendee age 10 and over will be required to wear a mask or face covering as of August 1, 2020. The exceptions listed in Governor Northam’s Executive Order 63 apply.**
17. Producers must wear gloves and change those gloves frequently.
18. Producers should have hand sanitizer available at their stand.
19. No sampling will be allowed.
20. Producers can only sell items that are prepackaged. Items can be packaged by the producer before arrival at the market or at the market the day of the sale.



21. Customers are not permitted to touch any items for sale other than the prepackaged bag or box they are handed by the producer.
22. Pre-paying for orders is preferred but if that is not possible, payment can be made at the market with a credit card or check. Cash will only be accepted if a card is not available. No coins can be used to complete the transaction.
23. Producers are required to wipe off credit cards and card readers before and after each transaction.
24. Customers and producers who do not feel well should stay home. (This will be posted at the entrance to the market)
25. No one with a fever or symptoms of COVID-19, or known exposure to a COVID-19 case in the prior 14 days, is permitted in the farmers market.
26. General information signs will be posted at entrance points.