

NORWICH FARMERS MARKET

Guidelines for Prepared Food Vendors (Supplement to the Market Rules)

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Eligibility of Vendors and Products

All new vendors will be screened by the Jury. This committee is comprised of three vendors appointed by the Board and representing the three areas of the market, Ag, Crafts and Prepared Foods.

- a. The Jury will evaluate each applicant and the products to be sold
- b. The Jury will monitor compliance with the appropriate guidelines
- c. Decisions of the Jury are subject to Board approval

General

The materials and ingredients of prepared food come from raw agricultural products. Some of those products are typically grown in this area and some are not. In order for this organization to attain its goals, and as a member of this organization, we expect that you will use local products whenever possible.

Prepared Foods

1. Make certain you have the proper license for the type of product and method of preparation and vending at the market
2. A prepared food is defined as a product or ingredient which has been significantly altered, reflecting the skill and creativity of the vendor. The major portion of the food must be made by the vendor. No mixes or instant foods are allowed. Vendors are expected to use local products whenever possible and encouraged to purchase ingredients from market farmers whenever possible.
- 3 The Jury will determine eligibility of vendors according to the Prepared Food Guidelines. This will include current vendors who wish to add prepared foods to their products for sale.

Prepared Food Guidelines

A. In determining vendor eligibility and the products to be sold weight will be given to the following aspects:

1. The degree to which the ingredients are locally sourced
2. The degree of vendor preparation
3. The degree to which the ingredients are organic
4. The degree to which packaging is environmentally friendly

B. Applicants will be assigned points according to the above four areas in the following manner for discussion within the jury committee:

- 35 points for #1 with a minimum requirement of 20 points
- 35 points for #2 with a minimum requirement of 20 points
- 10 points for #3
- 10 points for #4

An overall rating of at least 50 points is required for the applicant to be approved to be a vendor at the market.

4. Vendors should be prepared with a quantity of product adequate to sell for the entire market time.
5. Vendors are asked to use biodegradable, non-bulky containers, or environmentally friendly, re-usable containers such as glass. The board reserves the right to jury and approve containers based on the criteria above. Food vendors are expected to work with the board on waste reduction and management, as needed.
6. Gas and charcoal grills are allowed. Vendors are responsible for eliminating any smoke nuisance. If a nuisance persists, the vendor may be asked to change fuel or cooking systems. Lighter fluid and/or fluid-soaked charcoal are prohibited. Vendors cooking at the market are expected to consider the impact of their process on the neighboring vendors.

Guidelines for Beverages

March 15, 2009

A prepared beverage is defined as agricultural products or ingredients that have been processed and/or modified to create a beverage. No mixes or instant beverages are allowed. While vendors are encouraged to use their own or locally grown products whenever possible, beverages made from non-local ingredients will be allowed. It is understood that for some beverages, significant alteration of the original ingredients is not necessary.

Prepared Beverage Guidelines

A. In determining eligibility of the beverages to be sold, weight will be given to the following aspects:

1. The degree to which the ingredients are locally grown
2. The degree to which non-local ingredients are locally processed and acquired from Fair Trade and sustainable sources
3. The degree to which the ingredients are organic
4. The degree of vendor preparation
5. The degree to which packaging is environmentally friendly

B. Beverages will be assigned points according to the above five areas in the following manner for discussion within the jury committee:

- 10 points for #1
- 10 points for #2 with a minimum requirement of 5 points
- 10 points for #3
- 10 points for #4
- 10 points for #5

An overall rating of at least 25 points is required for a beverage to be approved for sale at the market.