

# ST. CLOUD AREA FARMERS MARKET

## 2012 Membership/Market Standards

### I. LOCATION AND HOURS OF OPERATION

1. The St. Cloud Area Farmers Market meets from the first Saturday in May until the last Saturday in October, in the parking lot of the downtown Bremer Bank, 1100 St. Germain Street West, St. Cloud, from 8:00 AM until noon.

### II. RULES OF OPERATION

1. Market Master may use discretion in determining space in a full market.
2. A vendor who does not have 50% attendance may be subject to the Board's discretion for membership in the following season. Exclusions include seasonal vendors, natural disasters, and family emergencies.
3. Members are responsible for cleaning their area at the end of the market.
4. Vendors located on the west side of the Market must remain in place until 12:00.
5. To provide for all members to thoroughly consider all suggested changes and/or additions to the Market Standards, all such changes must be submitted in writing to an officer no less than 15 days in advance of a meeting to vote on the change. The suggested change must be published to the entire membership no less than 10 days in advance of a meeting to vote on the change. At the meeting, the suggested change must be made a motion and seconded before a vote on the change can proceed. All votes on changes to the Market Standards will be cast by written ballots.
6. The SCAFM does *not* have a "No Dogs Allowed" policy.
7. Members are expected to conduct themselves in a manner with customers, other market members and the officers to contribute to a positive and friendly market image and environment. Disruptive, harassing or antagonistic behavior will not be tolerated.

### III. DUES AND FEE STRUCTURE

1. Membership Fees are \$50 and must be received before March 1.
2. Yearly Stall Fees are \$10/foot for stall space up to and including 10 feet. To insure the market operating revenue is not negatively impacted by loss of membership fees because of large stall sizes, all members with stall space in excess of 10 feet will pay an additional \$5 per foot for every foot in excess of 10 feet.
3. The maximum stall size is 22 feet.
4. Stall fees are waived for the Market Master.
5. All Membership Fees and Stall Fees are non-refundable.
6. Members shall be able to retain the same amount of stall space each year unless rules of the market are changed by the membership. Members may request additional stall space or relinquish

stall space in writing. Stall space decisions will be made by the officers. Preference for stall size increase requests will be given to those with the smallest stalls.

7. Membership is limited to 30 members with no more than 25 at the Saturday Market.

#### IV. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

1. New members may be admitted after March 1 if there is available space. Acceptance of new members into the market will be decided by the officers with first priority given to insuring the market provides a wide diversity of products, and then to membership qualifications, and then to insuring the market is full. There shall be no restrictions on the number of vendors selling a particular product or group of products.
2. Obtaining proper licensing, inspection and certification are the responsibility of each vendor:
  - Sellers of shrubs, trees and perennials must have proper license.
  - Meat products must meet State or USDA processing and inspection guidelines.
  - Vendors of home-processed/canned foods must follow State guidelines for processed foods.
  - Home-processed/canned food items with an equilibrium pH of 4.6 or greater cannot be sold at a Farmers Market.
  - Some processed foods/products must be prepared in a licensed kitchen.
3. Members must provide a copy of liability insurance rider showing Farmers Market coverage.
4. Members must grow/produce the products they sell. Purchasing items for resale is not allowed. (Variance may be granted for unique products contributing to market diversity. Two-thirds vote required at a properly called meeting.)
5. Products must be grown/produced within a 50-mile radius of St. Cloud. Members must provide driving directions to their production/farm location/s. Elected officers or their representatives reserve the right to inspect a producer's operation.
6. Membership in the market is not automatically renewable. The officers shall have the right to not renew a newly admitted member during an initial two-year probationary period.
7. Members must complete and return a Minnesota Operator Certificate of Compliance. Sellers of non-food items must have a Sales Tax ID number.
8. Members must sign and abide by this list of Membership/Market Standards.

#### V. ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES

1. Complaints pertaining to violation of Membership/Market Standards must be made in written form on a timely basis to the elected officers.
2. First violation of Market Standards will result in a written warning; second violation will result in a 2-week suspension; market privileges may be suspended for the remainder of the season after the third violation.

A member may be non-renewed for a season or permanently expelled from the Market under the following provisions:

- A) A membership renewal for a new season may be denied by unanimous vote of the officers for habitual violation of Market Standards for attendance or product origin; or
- B) A member may be permanently expelled by:

- (I) Unanimous recommendation from the officers for expulsion requiring written documentation of reasons for expulsion recommendation to be presented to the entire market membership, and then -
  - (II) A 2/3rds majority of votes cast by members to affirm expulsion. The vote to expel a member must be taken by written ballot at a properly called Annual meeting or a special meeting with a minimum 10-day written notice.
3. Exceptions to Market Standards and By-Laws will be reviewed on an annual basis.

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**(Member's Signature and Date)**

**By signing and dating the above, you are indicating that you have read, understand and agree to abide by the 2012 Membership/Market Standards along with the SCAFM By-Laws.**