

Grindrod Garlic Festival Letter to Vendors for 2022

We are excited to welcome you to the 13th Annual Grindrod Garlic Market on August 21, 2022.

Here is a short update with some important information for you as you get ready for the Market.

Don't forget your hand sanitizer and to wash or disinfect your hands often. We will have a table set up with sanitizer and a hand wash station for the public at the entrance.

Set Up

Vendors must set up between 7am and 9am on the day of the Market. Plan to arrive early, especially if you have a large vehicle or trailer: set up must be completed by 9:30 am. **Grindrod Rec will be holding a pancake breakfast at the hall from 8 to 10 AM.**

Please check in with the Market Coordinator as you enter to be directed to your vendor space. Most spots will be filled as vendors arrive and most vendors can park a vehicle immediately behind their vendor stall – if you are able to unload and move your vehicle please email us so we can place you in the centre. *Parking for festival goers will be in the field, same as last year.*

Vendor spaces are approximately 10x10 feet and vendors are asked to remain within their designated spaces. The space is marked by dots which mark the front of your tent. Do not allow people to walk between vendor spaces – please direct them to the entrance if they attempt to do so.

Vendors are responsible for their own protection from the elements, for all materials and equipment required for their booths, and for ensuring such materials and equipment are secure in all weather conditions. It was unusually windy last year so be sure to bring weights for your tents. *The Grindrod Garlic Festival Society and organizers are not liable for any damage caused by vendor installations, materials or equipment.*

Food vendors need a current FoodSafe certificate. Vendors who sell high risk foods are required to have a permit from Interior Health (letter of approval).

Vendors are expected to treat each other, patrons, Society directors, volunteers and the Market Coordinator with respect and common courtesy. *The Market Coordinator has final authority on the day of the Festival.*

ATM

There isn't one this year. We were unable to get a hold of our ATM provider but since most vendors are able to accept cards with some kind of point of sale system, we feel this is ok. The store across the highway does have an ATM, and I will also be making a post on social media to let people know that there is no ATM this year.

Washrooms

We will have the usual washrooms set up for festival goers near the hall, and new this year will have a washroom with wash station set up on the other end (west side) for the vendors.

Waste and Sustainability

One goal of the Grindrod Garlic Festival is to improve our environmental sustainability. Every year we are committed, where possible, to adopt practices that reflect sustainable principles and best practices, such as using paper, glass, or compostable packaging in place of plastic bags or garlic sleeves. In 2019 we generated less than one full bag of garbage for the entire day as most waste was diverted to recycling and compost!

Thank you to all vendors that make an effort to provide reusable and /or recyclable packaging, and especially those that avoid the use of plastic.

We ordered more cloth bags and will be selling them for \$3 each. A lot of people purchase them at the entrance but if any vendors would like some, please let us know.

Vendor Participation

Please bring an entry for our judging categories! Categories this year will be Largest Garlic (any variety), Best Garlic Braid (Softneck), Best Garlic Braid (Hardneck), and People's Choice Best Garlic Art (painting or drawing). The art will be displayed at the festival and posted on facebook where people will vote by "liking." The winner of the People's Choice Art will get a small prize and be featured on the poster for next year. *previous winners are welcome to enter but are not eligible to win*

Volunteers

HELP!! We can always use volunteers on the day of the Market. If you or friends and relatives can spare an hour or two to help on Market day it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact grindrodgarlicfestival@gmail.com if you can help!

Take Down

The Market opens to the public at 10 am and closes at 4 pm. Vendors must wait until 4 pm to begin taking down their stalls. If any vendor is seen starting tear down before the market is finished, they may not be accepted in the future.

Absolutely no vehicles can drive in or out until market staff gives clearance to do so!

We rent the Park location and provide a damage deposit. Every vendor is responsible for leaving their space in immaculate condition.

Thank you for supporting the Grindrod Garlic Market!

As your board, we continue to try to keep the Festival fresh and interesting, while renewing the most popular events. If you have ideas for adding to the Festival, or any feedback, feel free to share with us by emailing us at grindrodgarlicfestival@gmail.com