



# The Lunch Counter, Inc. Farmers Market

## Vendor Guidelines & Market Standards

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### Our Mission

The Lunch Counter, Inc. Farmers Market is a **family, women, and Black-owned marketplace** committed to expanding access to **fresh, nourishing, and culturally relevant food** on the South Side of Chicago.

We curate a market experience that celebrates **quality, community, and impact**, uplifting local entrepreneurs while creating a welcoming space for connection, culture, and wellness.

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### Location

**11901 S Loomis St, Chicago, IL 60643 (Outdoor Parking Space)**

Situated along the vibrant 119th Street corridor, our market is thoughtfully placed within a thriving community hub near:

- Johnnie Coleman Elementary School
  - Kroc Center
  - Marshfield Plaza
  - Interstate 294
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### 2026 Market Season

**Biweekly | July – October**

- **July:** July 2 • July 16
  - **August:** August 6 • August 20
  - **September:** September 3 • September 17
  - **October:** October 1 • October 15 • October 29
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## Market Hours

- **Public Market:** 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
  - **Vendor Arrival & Set-Up:** 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM
  - **Breakdown & Departure:** 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
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## Vendor Participation Standards

### Commitment to Presence

Vendors are selected with intention to create a consistent and reliable marketplace. Approved vendors are expected to honor their participation across all confirmed dates.

### Timeliness & Readiness

Vendors must arrive **no later than 9:00 AM**, fully prepared to complete setup prior to opening. The market opens promptly at 10:00 AM, and all booths should be guest-ready at that time.

### Professional Representation

Each vendor space should be staffed appropriately throughout market hours. Vendors and their teams are expected to represent their brand—and the market—with professionalism, warmth, and care.

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## Booth Experience & Responsibilities

Vendors are responsible for maintaining a clean, organized, and visually welcoming booth throughout the duration of the market.

This includes:

- Complete setup and breakdown of all materials
- Ongoing cleanliness during market hours
- Full removal of waste and belongings upon departure

All spaces should be left in **excellent condition**, reflecting pride in both business and community.



## Booth Specifications

### 10 x 10 Market Space

- Includes: 1 table and 2 chairs
- Ideal for single-vendor setups

### 10 x 20 Market Space

- Includes: 2 tables and 4 chairs
- Designed for expanded displays or higher-volume vendors

#### Please Note:

- Vendors are required to provide their own tent or canopy
  - Tent weights will be provided and must be used at all times
  - Displays should be secure, cohesive, and visually intentional
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## Product Curation & Standards

### Accepted Offerings

We welcome thoughtfully crafted and high-quality goods, including:

- Fresh, locally sourced produce
- Baked goods and specialty foods
- Prepared foods and beverages
- Meat, dairy, eggs, and honey
- Flowers and plants
- Handmade goods and artisanal crafts

### Quality & Compliance

To maintain a trusted and elevated market experience:

- All products must be **clearly labeled and professionally presented**
- Products must be **traceable and compliant with all local and state regulations**
- Food vendors must strictly adhere to all health and safety requirements

We prioritize vendors who demonstrate **care, craftsmanship, and integrity** in their offerings.



## Licensing & Documentation

All vendors are required to maintain and provide valid documentation, including:

- Business or Cottage Food License
- Applicable Health Department Permits
- Sales Tax Certificate
- Proof of Insurance

Documentation must be submitted in advance and available upon request during market operations.

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## Community Conduct & Market Culture

The Lunch Counter Farmers Market is a space of **respect, inclusion, and shared purpose**.

All vendors are expected to contribute to an environment that is:

- Welcoming and community-centered
- Safe and respectful for all guests and participants

The following are strictly prohibited:

- Weapons of any kind
- Harassment, discrimination, or aggressive behavior
- Derogatory or offensive language

Failure to uphold these standards may result in removal from the market.

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## Utilities & Site Coordination

- Limited access to power and water may be available upon request
  - All utility needs must be communicated in advance
  - Vehicle access for setup and breakdown will be coordinated by market staff
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## Weather Policy

The market operates **rain or shine**, reflecting our commitment to consistency and community access. Vendors are expected to come prepared for outdoor conditions, including wind, heat, or light rain.

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## Vendor Investment

- **Application Fee:** \$25 (refundable if not accepted)
  - **10 x 10 Booth:** \$75
  - **10 x 20 Booth:** \$145
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## Agreement

Participation in The Lunch Counter Farmers Market signifies agreement to uphold all market guidelines, local regulations, and operational standards.

The Lunch Counter reserves the right to remove any vendor not in alignment with these expectations, without refund.