



2020 Brigantine Farmers Market Sustainability Policy

The Brigantine Farmers Market is more than a marketplace for fresh, locally-grown agriculture and locally-made food and artisan products. It is a place for community meeting and an avenue for social change. **The Brigantine Farmers Market prohibits the use of Single-use Plastic Bags, Styrofoam cups, Styrofoam plates, Styrofoam takeout containers, plastic straws, plastic tasting spoons.** Because we are committed to sustainability, and we are working hard to reduce the overall waste generated from this event, our market requires *“eco-friendly”* and *“reusable”* rather than *“disposable”* materials in the following ways:

1). **The market prohibits the use of “single-use plastic bags.”** A single-use plastic bag is defined here as a plastic bag provided to a customer at a point of sale to transport food or merchandise from the establishment. No single-use plastic bags, will be permitted at the market. The only exception will be for fish/seafood/meat and other pre-approved vendors that package their product on ice or in liquids. Paper bags are acceptable, and vendors may charge a nominal fee for these bags. **In June 2019 the City of Brigantine passed an ordinance prohibiting the use of “single-use plastic bags.”**

2). **The market prohibits the sale or distribution of packaged or bottled water.** A Water bottle filling station (in City Hall lobby) and water fountains are nearby (City Hall and Library)

3). **The market prohibits the use of Styrofoam cups, Styrofoam plates, and Styrofoam take-out containers. Our Market requires “eco-friendly” and “reusable” rather than “disposable” materials in the following ways:**

- Eco-friendly beverage containers: (a) “Reusable” – (ex: glasses, ceramic mugs, stainless steel canteens); (b) “Biodegradable” or “Recyclable” – (ex: paper cups made from post-consumer recycled content).
- Take-out containers: Cardboard containers can be found at Penn Jersey Paper, Amazon.com, Sysco Philadelphia/Bulk Orders.
- **The 2020 Brigantine Farmers Market will be free of ALL Styrofoam packaging.**

4). **In 2020 the Market prohibits the use of plastic straws and plastic tasting spoons. Our Market requires “eco-friendly” and “reusable” rather than “disposable” materials in the following ways:**

- Paper and/or bamboo straws from companies like Aardvarkstraws.com, and others.
- “Biodegradable” –wooden, cardboard and other biodegradable material.
- “Biodegradable” – small wooden “ice cream” spoons
- “Recyclable” - Paper spoons and other utensils from companies like Ecotensil.com

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR COOPERATION WITH OUR FARMER’S MARKET POLICY! Ideally, our collective pursuit of sustainable practices will encourage our customers to develop good habits like using reusable items such as bags, coolers, canteens, straws and flatware. This inherently *reduces* waste and minimizes our carbon footprint, giving *small* changes a chance to make a **BIG** difference!