

2022 Flowery Branch Farmers Market Policy

The Flowery Branch Farmers Market Policy follows the Guidelines for Food Products Sold at Events Sponsored by Non-Profit Organizations distributed by the Georgia Department of Agriculture. The Flowery Branch Farmers Market reserves the right to also implement its own rules and guidelines to protect consumers.

Products requiring state licenses may be sold when a copy of current licenses issued by the proper authority accompanies the application.

These products include:

- Dairy Products - Governed by the Georgia Dairy Law
- Eggs- Governed by the Georgia Egg Law
- Low Acid/Acidified Foods (Canned Vegetables, Pickles, Salsa, etc.) -Must have a state license from the Department of Agriculture and completed Better Process Control School.
- Meat Products - Governed by Georgia Meat Compliance Laws
- Organic Products
- Plants - with a current Live Plant License from the Department of Agriculture.

What other products may be sold? Flowering container baskets, herbs, trees, or non-consumable items such as soaps, lotions, or candles that are made and sold by the product creator. No business reselling is allowed.

What products may NOT be sold? Retail sale of items not grown or handmade locally are not allowed. No non-profit bake sales or reselling of pre-packaged items (cookies, popcorn, candy, chocolates, candles, donuts, etc. for fundraising.)

Additional Rules and Guidelines

1. Vendor space will be a 10x10 canopy to start off the season. It is the Vendor(s) responsibility to provide Tent, Tables, Chairs, Canopy Weights, Display Signs, Trash Bags. etc. ALL VENDORS MUST HAVE All 4 Legs of your canopy weighted down or be subjected to being asked to leave the Market. All Vendors MUST clean up their area/space before leaving. If the vendor space is not cleaned, the vendor will be subject to a \$25 fine per occurrence. The Market's location will continue to be on Pine Street combined with Main Street, until the New Market Pavilion is completed.

An assigned space will be available to participants who pay a one-time permit fee of \$100.00 per space for the season. Double-booth space is available for \$200. Double-booth space may not be shared or leased to others (double booth spaces may be limited). The maximum amount of space that may be rented by a participant is a double space. A fee of \$25 per day per space is charged for those unable to commit to full-time participation.

2. There is no guarantee that any vendor will be an exclusive seller of any product. Exclusivity cannot be promised. For certain products, only a limited number of vendors will be allowed.

3. All products shall be sold by the individual or entity that grew/made the product. No re-selling from other markets is allowed. No reselling of other farmers' goods is allowed. You may only sell or represent items grown on land owned by the farmer who is applying for the market.

4. The Flowery Branch Market hours are Thursdays from 3:30pm to 6:30 pm. **(Rain or Shine)** Load in on Market days will begin at 2:30pm with load out beginning at 6:30pm. If you sell out prior to 6:30pm and want to leave, contact the Market Manager on site and accommodations will be made if possible. Each vendor is responsible for cleaning up their space and removing all trash from their area. The Market Manager reserves the right to cancel or close the market if severe inclement weather occurs.

5. All processed products must be labeled with the common food name; the name, address, and phone number of the person who made the item; and a list of ingredients using the common food names. Baked goods should be wrapped for individual sale. All baked goods should be covered and wrapped prior to being at the market to prevent bees and insects from being attracted to the market area.

6. Baked goods should be made in a kitchen that is inspected by the county health department. This may be a commercial facility or a shared kitchen. Please provide address of - or business license for - the shared kitchen. A copy of the contract for commercial facilities should also be provided. Cottage license vendors are allowed with current license from the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

7. If cooking products or samples on site with an open flame, you must have a fire extinguisher in your booth.

8. Products may be sold as "organic products" only if the proper state certification is displayed and a copy has been submitted with the application.

9. The Flowery Branch Farmers Market Management reserves the right to inspect the premises where products are grown, processed or crafted at any time during the Market Season.

10. Only registered participants of the Flowery Branch Farmers Market will be permitted to sell at the market.

11. No smoking or the use of tobacco products in the vendor area. No alcohol or drug use. No profanity. All sellers at the market are encouraged to be friendly, courteous, truthful, and honest. The market manager will investigate customer or participant complaints. Sellers who are the subject of complaints may lose privileges at the market. Submission of a vendor application includes consent to a criminal background check by the Flowery Branch Police Department.

12. Each vendor shall furnish retail packaging for his or her products sold. This may be in the form of bags, boxes, or baskets.

13. If selling by weight, it is the responsibility of the seller to have Georgia Department of Agriculture approved scales for weighing the produce. These scales are to be tested periodically.

14. All problems relating to the market should be discussed with the market manager.

15. The market manager shall maintain exclusive discretion as to the permitting and location of each participant to determine the best and most viable mixture of products. Further, the market manager may exclude any individual or business at their sole discretion and may revoke any participant's market permit with or without cause.

16. Farmers should not move from their assigned spaces for any reason. Violators may be asked to leave the market. To keep the market efficient, farmers should effectively communicate their dates of participation. If a farmer reserves space and misses three markets during the season without contacting the market manager, the farmer may lose his or her permit and be asked to reapply to the market if they wish to continue their participation. No refund of fees will be given for missed markets.

17. Vendors must have a professional looking sign, which clearly and legibly lists the name of their business, and contact information.

18. Any participant who receives complaints from market consumers for product quality is subject to a new farm inspection. Farmers will be removed from the market if there are multiple verified complaints about the quality of their product. No farmer is allowed to sell produce out of season or produce that is not grown on their own farm. No refund of fees.

19. Eggs may be sold at the market only with a Georgia Department of Agriculture Candler's Certificate. Recycled egg containers are only permitted if the original processing information has been covered up, and the egg carton must be labeled with a farm name, grade, and expiration date.

20. The market is for consumable goods, those made, baked or grown by participants. The market is not for business resell, non-profit resell of pre-packaged goods or bake sales, nor should groups sell or use the market space for fundraising.

21. All Vendors and their representative agree the Flowery Branch Farmers Market and the City of Flowery Branch WILL NOT be held responsible for any damages, personal or bodily injury, sickness, disease, or death that may occur as result of a vendor(s) negligence or products.

22. The Flowery Branch Farmers Market has the authority to expel any vendor(s) from the Market should any of the above Guidelines, Policies or Rules be ignored. NO REFUND if asked to leave the Market.

23. The Market Manager reserves the right to amend these policies as needed and will provide an updated copy of the new policy to all registered vendors.

The Flowery Branch Farmers Market Manager for the 2022 season is Renee Carden. Please contact her if you have any Questions or Concerns.

Flowery Branch Farmers Market

Renee Carden, Manager

mobile: 706-708-6648

email: renee@flowerybranchga.org

website: www.flowerybranchfarmersmarket.com

