



2017 Northeast Farmers Market Important Information

Location:

St. Boniface Church parking lot
629 2nd Street NE, Minneapolis MN 55413
Located on the corner of University Avenue NE & 7th Avenue NE

Dates and time:

Open Saturdays, rain or shine, May 20th through October 21st, 2017 from
9:00am-1:00pm

Mailing Address:

Northeast Farmers Market (NEFM)
PO Box 68067
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Contact:

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Northeast Farmers Market Mission Statement

The Northeast Farmers Market adds to the livability of the neighborhood by providing a welcoming and accessible community market and gathering place.

We contribute to the success of local growers and producers and foster sustainability in the Northeast community.

2017 Important Dates

April 3rd - Vendor Application and Payment Due

April 7th - Vendor Acceptance Notification

May 20th - First Market Day / Foodie 4 Mile Fun Run

July 17th - Second Vendor Payment Due

August 19th - Corn & Brat Feed

October 21st - Final Market Day

*Applications received after the due date will only be considered if space is still available.





FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM (FMNP) TRAINING

All produce vendors are encouraged to participate in the Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP). Vendors who wish to participate and did not attend the training in 2016 will be required to attend training in 2017.

For updated information about FMNP training sessions, please contact Carol Miligan (Carol.Miligan@state.mn.us or 651-201-6606) at the MDA.

Tokens, Market Bucks, and Coupons Rules and Procedures

Customers at NE Farmers Market may use these alternative forms of cash:
(Look for the Northeast Farmers Market logo!)

EBT Eligible Food Items Only		Work Like Cash (Anyone can accept)	
Market Bucks (\$1 value)	EBT Token (\$1 value)	Cash Token (\$5 value)	Coupon (\$1 value)
			
NO CHANGE may be given		Cash Change is OK	

EBT Tokens (**Red**) and Market Bucks

- They are worth \$1 each.
- **These can only be used to purchase eligible foods items (see list on back).**
- EBT tokens and Market Bucks look different, but they work the same.
- No change can be given. (Note: it is illegal to exchange EBT for cash).

Cash Tokens (**Black**) and Coupons

- Cash tokens are worth \$5.
- Coupons are worth \$1 each.
- **Both work just like cash and can be used to purchase anything.**
- Cash change should be given.
 - *Please do not give EBT tokens or Market Bucks as change!*
- All vendors can accept Cash Tokens & Coupons.

Redemption and Reimbursement

Vendors are responsible to return all Tokens, Market Bucks, and Coupons to the Information Tent for redemption. Market staff will record the total amount turned in. Both market staff and the vendor will initial to verify the correct total.

Reimbursements will be made at the end of each month. Checks will be written for amounts over \$50 and remaining funds will rollover to the following month. Checks will be distributed at the market or by mail. Reimbursements can be received via PayPal with no minimum dollar requirement. Ask market staff how to setup PayPal reimbursements.

All remaining balances (including amounts under \$50) will be paid out after the last market day of the season.

Vendors who do not abide by these rules risk not being reimbursed and the offense may result in a fine or affect ability to participate in the market.

Who Can Accept EBT and Market Bucks?

Only the following food items may be purchases using EBT tokens and Market Bucks:

EBT Eligible Food Items	
<u>YES, you CAN sell:</u>	<u>NO, you CANNOT sell:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fruits and vegetables • Breads, grains, cereals • Meats, fish, poultry and dairy products • Other food and food products for human consumption. • Seeds and plants which produce food for the household to eat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food that will be eaten on-premise • Hot foods • Alcohol, beer, wine, liquor, cigarettes or tobacco • Nonfood items such as: pet foods, soaps, paper products, household supplies • Vitamins and minerals

In general: all produce vendors, most baked goods vendors, and some specialty food vendors may accept EBT and Market Bucks. Please ask market staff if clarification is needed.

Signage

Vendors who accept EBT must display “EBT Accepted Here” signage every day at their tent(s). Signage will be provided by the market. Please keep track of your sign. 😊

Customer Process

- **EBT**: Customers looking to use EBT should find the Information Tent where staff will swipe their EBT card for the amount they wish to spend. In exchange, customers receive EBT tokens and Market Bucks to buy eligible food items. Preferably, this is done before shopping for food.
- **Cash Tokens**: are available at the Information Tent for customers who forgot or run short on cash. Staff can swipe their credit or debit card for the amount they choose in \$5 increments. In exchange, customers receive Cash Tokens to spend at the market. We charge customers \$1 to cover transaction fees.

What is EBT?

- Formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, EBT (Electronic Benefit Transfer) is the debit card system that delivers food and cash benefits to qualifying consumers. Food benefits are distributed through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). “EBT” and “SNAP” can be used interchangeably.
- EBT can only be used to buy certain food items (list above). EBT recipients are also responsible to know the program rules of what can and cannot be purchased.
- NE Famers Market has accepted EBT since 2009. This system is being adopted by farmers markets across the nation. It is an excellent program to increase access to healthy, local foods for low-income consumers while boosting the amount of money being spent at farmers markets and increasing your profit.

Vendors who do not abide by these rules risk not being reimbursed and the offense may result in a fine or affect ability to participate in the market.



Zero Waste Farmers Market

Vendor Roles, Responsibilities and Requirements

Why is NE Farmers Market promoting zero waste?

- A Zero Waste Plan was adopted by the Board of Directors in January 2014 to *minimize* trash, *increase* compost collection and *improve* the quality of recyclables.
- Going zero waste protects the environment; by saving energy when materials are recycled vs. being landfilled or burned at the incinerator. Compost, aka Organics, turns into nutrient-rich soil, which can be used to grow more local food.

How the program works:

- Waste stations will be provided at the market, each with three bins: Recycling, Compost/Organics and a small one for Trash.
- Handout with pictures explains what can be put in the recycling and compost bins.



Where does the recycling and compost go?

- Recycling is taken to a Materials Recovery Facility where items are sorted, bailed and shipped for reprocessing into new products.
- Compost/Organics are taken to an industrial compost site where the materials breakdown into nutrient-rich soil.

Vendor Requirements:

- All prepared food vendors and vendors who sample food at the market must use compostable foodservice ware:
 - Compostable products include paper plates, cups, bowls, napkins, wooden toothpicks, cardboard, etc. (no Styrofoam or plastic insulation or lining)
 - Compostable products include bio-based plastic products such as utensils, clear cups, straws, hot cup lids.
 - Any bio-based product must be certified compostable:
- Compostable material can be collected in paper bags or certified compostable bags, but never regular plastic bags.
- Vendors must sort all waste generated from their stalls appropriately into recycling, compost and trash bins.
 - Vendors are responsible for training all people working in their stalls on recycling and composting rules.
 - Any waste containers provided by a vendor should NOT be accessible to customers. Vendors should direct customers to the nearest waste station instead.



Please contact market staff or stop by the information booth if you have any questions!

Thank you for making NE Farmers Market a zero waste market!