



ANDERSON COUNTY FARMERS MARKET 2026 RULES AND GUIDELINES

June 2 through November 24, 2025

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

402 N. Murray Ave., Anderson, SC 29624 – Phone 864-231-7275

snicometo@andersoncountysc.org

VENDOR SELECTION

Vendors will be chosen from the applications by the Farmers Market management and staff according to these guidelines:

- 1. A Complete 2026 Application Submitted:** Including a detailed description of products to be sold and all certifications, permits and licenses. Applications missing proper licensing and permits documentation will not be considered. All permits and licenses must be submitted with the application.
- 2. Type of Product:** The desired ratio of vendors at the Market is as follows: 50% farmer/producer/nursery, 30% processor, 20% as crafter. Therefore, farmers/producers/nurseries may get priority over other applicants to maintain the core of this event as a farmer's market. Although no vendor is promised exclusivity, there is sometimes not enough demand to have more than one provider of the particular item(s).
- 3. Quantity/ Quality of Product:** All items to be sold by the applicant will be reviewed and must be of high quality, safe, of suitable quantity, and an enhancement to the Anderson County Farmers Market.
- 4. Where Product is Grown/Produced:** Applications must include a detailed description of where products are grown or produced. Priority is given to LOCALLY grown, produced, processed and crafted products within 50 miles of Anderson County, SC. The Farmers Market management reserves the right to make exceptions to this rule based upon quality of product, vendors' prior history with the Anderson County Farmers Market and lack of product availability within 50 miles of Anderson County, SC (i.e., fresh coastal seafood).
- 5. Specialty Items:** Specialty items will be selected and approved based on consumer needs.
- 6. Market Season Availability:** Priority may be given to farmers and processors that commit to the entire season.
- 7. Market History:** Number of years a farmer has been at the Anderson County Farmers Market, attendance record, and history of compliance with market rules.

VENDOR CLASSIFICATION

The list below applies to all vendor categories:

1. ALL PRODUCTS to be sold during 2026 season must be listed on the application to be approved.
2. New items intended for sale during the season must be submitted for approval BEFORE being sold at the Market
3. Farmers always take priority! Craft vendors or food producers may be relocated during peak harvest season.

FARMER/PRODUCER/GROWER: Farmers produce locally grown vegetables, fruit, nuts, grains, herbs, flowers or nursery crops from seed or plants. Beekeepers, egg farmers, poultry and livestock producers are considered farmers. No live animals may be sold at the Farmers Market. Farmers that wish to resell products from another farm, please see reseller category below.

VENDOR CLASSIFICATION (continued)

CRAFTER: Crafters produce original, unique, high quality, safe items which bring some added value to the Anderson County Farmers Market. All products must be actual work of the crafter and produced within 50 miles of Anderson County, SC. No commercial items, imported items, manufactured items and second-hand items shall be resold by crafters. Acceptable Craft Products: handmade bath products, handmade jewelry, herbal products, garden art and furniture, pottery, candles, botanical and floral products, abused metal work, wrought iron garden art and crafts made from agricultural materials such as goats' milk, eggs, and beeswax. All crafters will be considered on an individual basis with regards to subject matter and space availability.

FOOD PRODUCER/PROCESSOR: Processors are vendors that utilize local sources to make their products (such as baked goods, jellies, jams, salsas, ciders, smoked meats, honey, handmade candies, etc.). All products must be high quality, safe and an enhancement to the Anderson County Farmers Market. Items produced under SC Cottage Law must follow all rules and regulations set forth by the SC Department of Public Health. Permitted food and further information can be found at the link below: https://agriculture.sc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/SCHome-basedFoodProductionLawBook2024_digital.pdf. Food items that are NOT permitted under this Law must be produced in a SCDPH certified kitchen.

PREPARED FOOD: Prepared food vendors must have all necessary permits required by SC Department of Public Health. You must submit with application and bring certificate(s) to each market. You must adhere to SCDPH regulations (for specific information, contact SCDPH at 803-896-0640). Priority is given to food produced by processors and commercial vendors from an approved kitchen within 50 miles of Anderson County, SC.

RESELLER: Resellers are vendors that are classified as farmers who wish to supplement their yield with local produce, which they did not grow or produce themselves. Farmers may resell produce from other local farms only if they have approval from the Market Coordinator. No more than 50% of produce to be sold may be from another farm. To be approved, these items must bring some added value to the Market (i.e., something that the Market does not have already and/or something that produced lower yields than normal, ex: peaches) and be accepted by the Farmers Market Management. All items approved for resale must also be locally grown items from within 50 miles of Anderson County. The Farmers Market management and staff reserves the right to make exceptions to this rule based upon quality of product and lack of product availability within 50 miles of Anderson County. The vendor must submit a letter of permission from the farm of origin listing all items to be resold with their application. A "farm of origin" label must be displayed with the product.

ORGANIC PRODUCTS: Farmers and producers wishing to sell organic products must provide a copy of their organic certification and must display a copy of the organic certificate onsite. Vendors are not allowed to advertise organic products unless they have an organic certification issued by the USDA or a USDA approved Accredited Certifying Agent.

NON-PROFIT AGENCIES: Organizations promoting community health and welfare either as a chartered 501(c) 3 or other not for profit organization. One space will be made available free of charge, when space allows, for these participants to conduct public outreach. The participating agency must register their intent to use this service at least 1 week prior to their intended use.

REQUIRED PERMITS, LICENSES, and INSPECTIONS: It is the responsibility of the vendor to research and comply with all federal, state, and local regulations governing the sale of their items. Products must be labeled, processed, and prepared in compliance with the SC Department of Agriculture, SCDPH, SC DSS, and all other appropriate regulatory agencies.

If you are unsure if you are correctly permitted, licensed or certified; contact South Carolina Department of Agriculture (803-734-2210) or South Carolina Department of Public Health (803-898-3432).

SC CERTIFIED: Priority will be given to vendors who have fulfilled the South Carolina Department of Agriculture's "SC Certified" application process. This includes farmers, nurseries, food producers and crafters. More information can be found at https://agriculture.sc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/SCHome-basedFoodProductionLawBook2024_digital.pdf

VENDOR FEES:

Booth rental is \$400 "BY-THE-SEASON, \$10 "BY-THE-DAY" or \$5 "BY-THE-MONTH". A vendor becomes "BY-THE-MONTH" either by reserving (and paying in advance for) a bay for an entire calendar month or for a minimum of twelve (12) consecutive markets. "BY-THE-MONTH" vendors receive a reserved space.

"BY THE MONTH" vendors are welcome to set up their bay 45 minutes prior to opening. Any vendor who has not occupied their reserved bay by 15 minutes prior to opening will forfeit their bay in the event there is an overflow of "BY-THE-DAY" vendors (unless a prior arrangement with the Farmers Market Management has been made.)

"BY-THE-DAY" vendors are welcome to set up their bay 20 minutes prior to opening. "BY-THE-DAY" vendors must check with Market Staff to be assigned a space. All possible effort will be made to accommodate everyone as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Vendors' assigned spaces are not permanent and may be changed at the discretion of the Market Coordinator for any Market date during the season and/or annually in order to facilitate Anderson County Farmers Market operations.

GENERAL MARKET RULES AND VENDOR CODE OF CONDUCT:

All vendors at the Market must complete and submit an application for the Market as part of the application process prior to be accepted as a new seller. This includes a basic business or farm plan that reflects the products a vendor expects to sell at the Market. Any changes to this plan must be submitted to the Farmers Market Board in writing. A copy of the rules must be given to every seller.

Each vendor will be subject to at least 2 farm/site visits per season. The Farmers Market staff is not required to announce or schedule farm visits, although attempts will be made to schedule the visits. Failure to cooperate with Farmers Market staff in allowing farm inspections will result in your admission to the market being denied.

A seller's vending space must not exceed the limits of their bay as defined by the two brick columns and the three concrete joint lines. Vehicles that protrude too far into the parking lot or cause other obstructions may have to be parked away from the vendor's space after unloading. Vendors are highly encouraged to be completely set-up before opening time.

Each seller is responsible for clean-up of their selling area. Vendors must clean up the area around their booths and sales area before leaving. Waste and trimmings may be placed in trash receptacles. Containers such as large boxes must be broken down before placing in trash receptacles.

Each vendor that has reserved a space must let the Farmers Market Staff know a week in advance if they plan to miss a market. We will be advertising what is available at the market each week. Please think of this as your business.

Product Price Signage: All items must always be clearly priced with approved signage and posted prior to first sale. A product price signage template will be available if needed. All resale items must have approved signage including the name of the "farm of origin".

No "HAWKING" of products, distraction of customers from another vendor's booth or disparaging of another vendor's goods will be tolerated. All vendors are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous and respectful manner in dealing with customers and other vendors.

Vendors are not allowed to bring pets of any type, excluding service animals, to the market.

Smoking is allowed only in designated areas. Smoking (including electronic cigarettes) is at no time allowed under the shelter.

GENERAL MARKET RULES AND VENDOR CODE OF CONDUCT continued:

Vendors are not allowed to promote another organization or event including non-profit organizations and political candidates and/or issues.

Vendors are required to wear proper attire, including shoes and shirts, while selling at Anderson County Farmers Market.

Anderson County Farmers Market reserves the right to prohibit anyone from selling and/or refusing any product from being sold and to refuse participation to vendors who do not comply with market regulations or do not meet market standards which include, but are not limited to, following all local, city, state, and federal laws and regulations.

Anderson County Farmers Market is not liable for any injury, theft or damage to either the buyer or seller, or their property, arising from or pertaining to preparation for or participation in the market.

Anderson County Farmers Market does not guarantee the marketability of the vendors' goods or the success of the vendors' efforts.

Each vendor operates as an individual entity and is responsible for setting his/her own prices. Weights and measures are expected to be in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations.

Any violation of these rules will result in:

- a) **FIRST OFFENSE** – Verbal warning from Farmers Market Management
- b) **SECOND OFFENSE** – Written warning from Farmers Market Management
- c) **THIRD OFFENSE** – Suspension from the Market for the duration of the current market season

Physical violence, verbal abuse/loud foul language, weapons, possession of or consumption of alcohol or illegal substances are grounds for immediate and permanent expulsion. The proper authorities shall be contacted if necessary for the health and safety of the market employees/volunteers, vendors, and general public

Anderson County Farmers Market management reserves the right to revoke a vendor's participation in the market if any of the above rules or regulations are violated.

Anderson County Farmers Market management reserves the right to amend these rules and regulations at any time without prior notice.

ADDITIONAL:

CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS: Customer complaints will be forwarded to vendors and kept on file. Complaints may result in disciplinary action including removal from the Anderson County Farmers Market.

ON-SITE ACCIDENTS: An accident report form is available for anyone to fill out at the market office and should be filled out by the injured person immediately following incident. All accidents should be reported to the staff immediately.

WEATHER: Anderson County Farmers Market is a rain or shine market and will only be cancelled due to an extreme weather forecast. In the event of cancellation due to weather an email will be sent to notify vendors.