

2024 Big Rapids Farmers' Market Qualifications

FRUITS & VEGETABLES:

Fresh, locally grown produce of the highest quality. A vendor must grow the majority of their produce in order to resell other locally grown items. This means 75% of what the vendor has to sell on any market day must be what the vendor raised themselves. Vendors reselling produce must bring it directly to the market and signage that indicates where or whom it came from.

FRESH FLOWERS:

Bedding plants, potted plants, perennials, herbs and fresh cut bouquets should be grown by the vendor. A copy of the vendor's plant license should be sent or given to the market manager.

VALUE-ADDED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS:

These include products grown by the seller that have been processed (products that the government agency regulates). Examples are milk, cheese, oils, vinegars, meats, poultry, eggs, honey, maple syrup, soap and herbal preparations. The vendor must make all value-added products predominately of material grown or gathered by the vendor. Vendors must abide by all federal, state, and local health regulations. Documentation of licensed or inspected goods must be on file with the vendor's market application. The Farmers' Market Committee will make limited exceptions to this rule on a case by case basis.

PROCESSORS:

Processed foods that have been personally prepared on their own or leased/rented property. These include cider, fresh baked goods, jerky, jams/preserves, etc. All processor permits and licenses must be on file with the vendor's market application. All food items are expected to be in a suitable food container or covering. The resale of repackaged foods is not allowed. The onsite preparation and resale of food for immediate consumption is not allowed. The Farmers' Market Committee will make limited exceptions to this rule on a case by case basis.

ARTS & CRAFTS:

These items will be allowed to be sold at the Tuesday & Friday market. The vendor or a family member of the vendor must create these products. These products include such things as apparel, toys, jewelry, home decorations, furniture, pottery, candles, photography, or other fine arts. The board must approve all products. There will be no sale of flea market or yard sale type items. The Board may limit craft vendors that feature competing products based on a first come, first serve basis.

*** All vendor mailing addresses must be in the following counties: Mecosta, Montcalm, Isabella, Osceola, Newaygo, Kent and Lake. The market manager may make exceptions to the rule.*