

VENDOR POLICY

Market Hours: 10 am to 1 pm. Vendors must be set up by 9:30am. Customer sales do not begin until 10am; vendor to vendor sales are allowed any time. If you leave your stall unattended at any time during market hour, you must leave a sign at your stall indicating when you will return.

Vending at the market is a privilege, not a right. We are all responsible for creating a harmonious place for vendors and customers alike. All vendors and customers in our market shall be treated with dignity and respect. Any vendor that causes a disturbance at the market will receive a strike. Complaints should be made in writing to the Market Manager, listing who, what, and when the violations occurred. There is a Three Strikes Your Out policy for contravention of the rules. In such a case, the vendor will be asked to leave the market.

Booth Renewal and Applications:

All vendors must re-apply each year through the link on The Errington Farmers Market Website. Having the same booth as the previous year is possible, but not guaranteed. Priority will be given first to full-season vendors whose payments and applications are received by March 15th.

A detailed list of products must be provided on the vendor's application and no other items may be introduced without approval from the market manager.

In order to keep a fair balance of products and stay in alignment with BCFMA vendor ratio policies, vendors must stick to the category of product that they have applied for.

The Errington Farmers Market Categories are:

1. Farmer
2. Food Producer
3. Soap & Body Care
4. Artisan
5. Jeweler
6. Not-for-Profit/Community Organization
7. Wine/Spirits
8. Musician
9. Child Vendor
10. Cafe Operator

Vendor Expectations:

1. All Market Members are encouraged to attend meetings. This is the place for discussion and input. These meetings are held on a Saturday after the market closes for the day. During the “off season”, meetings may be held at the Errington Hall or via Zoom. Dates of meetings will be emailed to the membership.
2. Prepared Food Vendors: All vendors selling food must follow rules set by the Island Health Authority (VIHA) and provide a copy of their Foodsafe Certificate for our records. You need to apply for approval by April 1st to be allowed to sell your food in May. Please contact VIHA directly.
3. Vendors are required to supply their own tents, tent weights, tables, chairs, signs, power, refrigeration, hand washing station, cleaning supplies, and other necessary supplies. The market does have power for vendors on the field only. There is a \$2.00/week fee to use the market's power.
4. **Tent weights MUST be 20lbs MINIMUM (recommended 40lbs) for each tent leg, with a total MINIMUM weight of 80lbs (recommended 160lbs).** If our market gets hit with surprise gusts of wind, for the safety of our staff, volunteers, shoppers and you(!) this must be followed at all markets regardless of weather. **You will not be granted entry without proper tent weights.**
5. Unloading Zone: After unloading, vendors will move their vehicles to the far end of the parking area to make room for customers.
6. Cut-Off Time for Booths: Vendors must be at their booths by 9:30am or risk forfeiting their space.
7. Early Shut Down: If you sell out of your product, you may NOT pack up your booth as it creates empty “gaps” in the market. You may leave a sign on your booth or table saying SOLD OUT, if you decide to walk away from your booth for the rest of that day's market.
8. Cancellations: If you know you will not attend on a certain week, you must let the Market Manager know by Wednesday prior to the market you are cancelling, in writing or via email.
9. Disabled Vendor parking: Vendors who are disabled are welcome to ask for assistance to move sale items and display materials. We do expect them to park in the field with other vendors. The Market's two designated disabled parking spots are reserved for customers.
10. Display/Tent Safety: No nails or other hanging devices may be installed within 8 feet of the ground in front of the booths and displays must be sturdy and not invade the walkway. Tents must be weighted down with a

11. Vendor Garbage: Any vendor generating garbage (e.g. giving samples) must be responsible for the removal of their garbage that day.

12. Adopt a Task: Market members should be prepared to take a job in order to keep fees low. We ask for help with site clean-up, repairs, signage, advertising, etc. These things benefit all vendors!

13. Vendor Dogs: Vendors may not bring pets to the market. This is an Island Health ruling.

14. Vendor Smoking: Smoking is NOT ALLOWED in any Regional District of Nanaimo Parks. This includes on the Market grounds. If you must smoke, please do so out on the public road.

BC Farmers Market Grow, Make, Bake, Raise, Wild Harvest

The BCAFM definition of “Farmers’ Market” requires that the majority (51%) of our vendors sell farm products. Farm products include local produce, meat, fish and shellfish, eggs, dairy products, honey, flowers, seeds, plants, herbal tinctures, and even cosmetics made from farm products or products made from farm-grown fibre (such as yarn, socks, rovings made with wool, hemp or other natural fibres).

Vendors must 100% Grow, Make, Bake, Raise, Wild Harvest their products.

The Errington Farmers' Market is composed exclusively (100%) of BC Vendors and Qualified Extra-Provincial Food Vendors who grow, make, bake, raise or wild harvest the products they sell.

The reselling of products of any kind at BCAFM member farmers’ markets is not allowed. Reselling means to sell something one has previously bought, and then sell it on to someone else. Note this includes, but is not limited to:

- Accrual-Based Transactions: Products purchased for the purpose of reselling, whether purchased in advance or on an accrual basis (e.g. invoiced net 30 terms), fall under the definition of reselling.
- Intermediary Sales: Acting as a sales intermediary/distributor between a producer and a farmers’ market customer, where the seller, whether individual or entity, has not directly contributed to the creation, cultivation, or production of the goods, constitutes reselling.

Grow Means:

- Farm products that are grown or produced in BC or extra-provincially (see definitions above).
- Nursery products, such as plants, trees, or seeds that are grown and/or propagated by a farm vendor in BC or extra-provincially.
- Cut flowers that were grown and/or propagated by the farm vendor.

Make means:

- Processed/prepared foods in BC or extra-provincially: value added edible product that has been cut, cooked, smoked, canned or otherwise altered from its original/natural state. Approved by BCAFM Board of Directors on December 10, 2024. Qualified Extra-Provincial Food Vendors must comply with British Columbia health authority regulations.
- Artisanal and craft products: value added products that are created, sewn, constructed or otherwise fashioned from component materials in a way that makes the item unique. These may include raw component products that were purchased or that originated on one's farm. Artisan and craft items must show artistic effort and a substantial change from base components. An artist may sell reproductions of their own original creation. AI generated design is not considered original creation.
- Services that are provided at the farmers' market. Examples include knife sharpening, chair massage.
- Priority will be given to makers that source ingredients and components of BC origin.

Bake means:

- Products that are baked from scratch in BC or extra-provincially (i.e.: utilizing basic ingredients, not purchased pre-mixed or pre-made components).
- Priority will be given to bakers that source ingredients of BC origin.

Raise means:

- Farm products that are raised on land or waters in BC or extra-provincially, with the appropriate permits and/or approvals.

Wild Harvest means:

- Products harvested, caught, hunted or wild crafted from wild lands or waters in BC or extra-provincially, with the appropriate permits and/or approvals, including the approval of Indigenous communities.