



Department of Health & Human  
Services  
2100 Ridge Avenue  
Evanston, Illinois 60201  
T 847.448.4311  
[iogbo@cityofevanston.org](mailto:iogbo@cityofevanston.org)  
[www.cityofevanston.org](http://www.cityofevanston.org)

## **GUIDELINES FOR FARMERS MARKET DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

SARS-CoV-2 is a novel coronavirus that has emerged and caused coronavirus disease (abbreviated as COVID-19). We continue to learn about SARS-CoV-2, but based on current data and similar coronaviruses, spread from person-to-person happens most frequently among close contacts (those within about six feet) via respiratory droplets.

As stated in the Governor's "Stay at Home" Order, Farmers Markets are essential businesses that provide our community with a supply of fresh and local foods. The continuation of the farmers' market's ability to supply fresh and local food to the Evanston community relies on both our vendors and our shoppers following a critical new set of health and safety guidelines due to COVID-19 that are outlined below.

### **Guidelines for Shoppers:**

- Stay home if you are sick
- Anyone who is at higher risk including individuals who are over 65 and/or with underlying health conditions should stay home
- Please wear face covering or mask
- Please be patient. There will be defined entrances at the market and a line. There will also be an outline showing the 6' feet distance between shoppers.
- Please be prepared and ready with a shopping list. Consider sending one family member or person to the market.
- You will only be allowed to enter the market by a Farmers Market staff who will monitor the flow of the customers in and out the market.
- Please sanitize your hands before entering the market. There will be locations throughout the market for this purpose. Sanitize your hands as frequently as you can as you move throughout the market.
- The beginning of the market is usually the busiest. We encourage customers to come later to the market to avoid crowds and having to wait in long lines.
- Please preorder your food items if the vendors offer such services. We encourage you to pick-up your items and leave. This will limit the number of people at the market.
- There will be no lingering at the market. Please limit interactions with others and vendors. No hugs or handshakes, please.
- Maintain at least an arm's length distance between other shoppers and vendors, especially while you walking in the market.
- PLEASE NO DOGS OR OTHER ANIMALS AT THE FARMERS MARKET UNLESS THEY ARE SERVICE DOGS.
- There will be no consumption of food on site and no congregating of any form at the market.
- No hand-to-hand contact will be allowed between vendors and shoppers. Point to the product that you would like, allow the vendor to bag it and set it down on the table before you pick it up.

- Do not hand vendors payments directly. Place cash and credit cards on the table for vendors to pick up. Our vendors are now required to offer a contactless payment option like Venmo or Apple Pay (which allows you to hover your phone, but NOT TOUCH) it over their wifi-enabled reader.

Guidelines for Vendors:

- Stay home if you are sick
- Anyone who is at higher risk including individuals who are over 65 and/or with underlying health conditions should stay home
- Please wear face covering or mask
- All vendors must have handwashing stations for their employees and gloves. Any vendor who violates this will not be allowed to participate in the market.
- There must be sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol content) at every booth, provided by the vendor for customers.
- Vendors are highly encouraged to offer preorder services to limit time spent at the market by customers
- No samples of any kind is allowed and no self-serve services/areas
- No seats should be made available for the customers
- All prepared foods must be prepackaged and offered to go.
- Post a sign(s) at your booth alerting customers that they must follow the 6ft separation recommendation and signs alerting them of efforts in place regarding COVID-19.
- All booths will be 6-7 feet apart to maximize space and to minimize clustering.
- Booth layout will be designed to increase social spacing. The layout should only allow a customer to enter and exit the booth area. Add fences and ropes with signs that state you are only allowing 3 people at any given time. Add marking/signs that indicate where customers need to stand to maintain a 6 feet distance from each other.
- Vendors bag items for customers, then put the bag down and let customer pick up bag. The same should be applied to payment; no hand to hand contact.
- Please limit interactions with others and vendors. No hugs or handshakes, please.
- Vendors must sanitize surfaces every two hours.

If you have questions regarding the guidelines, please contact the Health and Human Services Department at 847-448-4311 or email [health@cityofevanston.org](mailto:health@cityofevanston.org)