



Vendor Application

Products in the Starkville Community Market are reviewed and placed into one of four (4) categories. The produce and other edible products are organized by the level of consumer risk to contract a food-borne illness from eating food purchased at the Market. Additionally, the Market is pledged to achieve a balance of products. The Market's ideal balance for produce and food is: 60% Category 1, 20% Category 2 and 3 combined, and 20% Category 4. The Market/Market Manager reserves the right to inspect vendors' farms and/or production facilities and review products before application process is complete.

Category 1: Products in Category 1 include foods that historically have not been identified as sources of food-borne illness: raw vegetables and fruits, edible plants, eggs, honey, shelled peas and beans (cut, washed and unwashed), nuts, garlic, spices, grains, herbs, bedding or ornamental plants.

Category 2: Products in Category 2 have been identified as the source of a few outbreaks of food-borne illness. They utilize two primary packaging formats: plastic bags or glass/plastic bottles and jars. Farmers/vendors who sell Category 2 items should receive a permit from the MS Department of Health before selling these goods when not falling within the regulations of Cottage Food Bill 2553. This category includes: herbal vinegars, fruit syrups, jellies, jams, herbal and vegetable spreads, chocolates, and baked goods not subject to spoilage such as pastries, cookies, cakes, vegetarian focaccias, pies, stuffed breads that do not contain meat and/or seafood, fresh pasta, fresh juice and cider.

Category 3: Products in Category 3 have been the source of most food-borne illness. Some indeed are life threatening. Clean process, transportation, and storage environments are required. Farmers/vendors who sell Category 3 items should receive a permit from the MS Department of Health before selling these goods. Items in this category include: baked goods subject to spoilage (cream-filled pastries, custards, cheesecakes, and baked goods that must be refrigerated), raw and frozen meats (beef, lamb, mutton, pork, goat), raw and frozen small poultry, raw and frozen game bird and rabbit, raw and frozen fin fish and seafood (crustaceans, fish, turtle, alligator), live seafood (shellfish, crustaceans, oysters), fluid milk and fresh dairy products, cheese, canned and pickled products, cured sausage and meat and eggs.

Category 4: Products in Category 4 include original fine arts and craftwork, which the vendor produces. Products must be of high quality, handcrafted, and not imported. Items for sale must be constructed or crafted out of a natural product, except for vendors who are approved to sell at the First Saturday events on the first Saturday of each month. Items on those days may include but are not restricted to all traditional fine arts and crafts: drawing, painting, photography, printmaking, collage, sculpture, and crafts in ceramic, glass, metal, wood, and fiber.

For Category 1 Producers: You must submit applications to the Market in order that the Market Manager can seek verification as to the status (if any) of grower in the area. **You must also submit an application fee of \$25 along with your application. This fee is to cover the cost associated with travel to certify farms, and will be credited back to your vendor fee once you become an active vendor at the Market.** Products in this area should be:

- a. 100% Grown or produced by the vendor at the location listed on the application.
- b. Within 150 miles of the Market as the crow flies.
- c. Crop Projection worksheet submitted. Visited for inspection prior to participation in the Market.
Application must be submitted no later than Monday prior to the Market which you intend to sell.

For Category 2 and 3 Producers: The item(s) should:

- a. Product must be locally made/produced within 150 miles of the Market as the crow flies and/or demonstrate some linkage to Mississippi's cultural heritage.
- b. Be a product that can be marketed during more than one season.
- c. Jpeg images of products must be submitted in the exact form that they will be offered for sale for jury by the Market Board. They must be packaged and properly labeled according to Market Rules and Regulations and labels must be submitted and approved by Market Manager prior to selling.
- d. Provide all required certifications and permits to the Market Manager from the MS Department of Health before selling these items.

For Category 4 Artisans: Artisan vendors must submit for jury digital images of representative works for all items intended for sale at their Market booth, and only accepted work may be sold or displayed at the Market. Vendors also need acceptance before new items are to be included for sale at their booths. Completed applications and digital images of work submissions are required for initial acceptance to the Market, and must be submitted no later than Monday prior to the Market in which you wish to sell.

REMEMBER: You are only allowed to sell the products you have indicated on this form and that you have been approved to sell through the artisan jury process, tasting, site-inspection, or Market Board's approval. This measure is not meant to stifle creativity on your part but rather to ensure a sustainable product mix and set a standard for high quality. Should you wish to expand your line of products, please contact the Market Manager.

All Vendors may petition the Market Manager and Starkville Community Market Board for admission of products outside of the guidelines of the Starkville Community Market. All petitions will be heard and considered at the discretion of the Market Manager.

If your product is not invited to the Market, it may not reflect upon the quality of your product. Rather, products are chosen based upon the Market's stated criteria and specific need for a balanced product mix. We appreciate any/all interest from potential vendors, and the creative talent and entrepreneurial drive within our region. We hope that our Market will be a useful outlet for your talents.

A new fee is due every week if a seasonal fee has not been paid. Fees must be paid before you leave for the day at the conclusion of market hours. All new applications must be received by MONDAY of the Market week to allow for certification and review. Full season Vendors must contact the Market Manager by THURSDAY of the Market week if they will not be selling that week.

** Other food vendors and service providers may be present at the market as a service to customers by invitation of the Market Manager and the Starkville Main Street Association.

RETURN APPLICATIONS TO:

Jennifer Prather
Starkville Community Market
200 East Main Street
Starkville, MS 39759
Email: jprather@starkville.org
Fax: 662-323-5815

Personal Information

Name: _____

Farm/Business/Studio Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

County: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Website: _____ Email: _____

Facebook: _____ Twitter: _____

Best Method of Contact: _____

Farm/Business/Studio (if not same as above)

Physical address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

County: _____ Zip: _____

Number of Farmed acres: _____

Category 1, 2, 3

Please list products: _____

Applicant Statement:

I AGREE to abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Starkville Community Market, TO OBTAIN LIABILITY INSURANCE and any and all PERMITS and LICENSES (where applicable); TO ASSIST in the inspection of my garden/farm by agents of the Starkville Community Market; TO SELL only agricultural products produced in my garden/farm, or production facility. I agree to hereby and forever discharge the Starkville Community Market, the City of Starkville, and owner of the Market Site from all manner of actions, suits, damages, claims, and demands whatsoever in law or equity from any loss or damage to the undersigned's property while in possession, supervision, or auspices of the Starkville Community Market or its agents and representatives.

If agreed -

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Artist & Craftsmen

Please list products: _____

Applicant Statement:

I AGREE to abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Starkville Community Market. I certify I am MAKING my product by hand or with appropriate tools, and that my product is not the result of direct resale of imported or commercially available goods or wares. I agree to hereby and forever discharge the Starkville Community Market, the City of Starkville, and owner of the Market Site from all manner of actions, suits, damages, claims, and demands whatsoever in law or equity from any loss or damage to the undersigned's property while in possession, supervision, or auspices of the Starkville Community Market or its agents and representatives.

If agreed –

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

