

Pandemic Management Plan

Farmers Markets Season 2020

General Overview

This document is designed to codify and centralize all reasonable operational protocols that should be adopted by every farmer's market on Long Island in order to maximize health and safety during this pandemic. Listed below are a series of protocols for farmers markets on Long Island to pursue during the Covid-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic. These protocols were generated by the vendors themselves and extend beyond New York State Agriculture & Market's requirements regarding this pandemic.¹ In facing this pandemic, it is in the spirit of leadership and accountability that all essential businesses develop their own internal stress tests along with acknowledging the government's external guidelines. This document is a manifestation of that leadership and accountability. See attached interim guidelines from New York State Agriculture and Markets below.

<https://agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/04/interimguidancefarmersmarkets.pdf>

General Farmers Market Protocols

- Defined parameters should be used to mark where the farmers market begins and ends (e.g. traffic cones, closed-in parking lots, barriers, etc).
- A clear entrance and exit must be formed, both located sufficiently far enough from each other to avoid social clustering at a single entrance/exit way.
- A customer-to-vendor ratio of 2-1 should be established to maintain social distancing within the farmers' market parameters.
- One customer at a time permitted to approach a vendor's tent, standing in the center of the tent to properly distance themselves by at least 10ft on both their right and left side to a potential customer standing at the center of a neighboring tent.
- Queues of more than two people for a single vendor, maintaining 6ft social distancing, still should be avoided.

¹ Ball, Richard A, and Andrew M Cuomo. "Interim Guidance for the Operation of Farmers' Markets." *Agriculture.ny.gov*, New York State Agriculture and Markets, 31 Mar. 2020, agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/04/interimguidancefarmersmarkets.pdf.



- Tents in the same row should space out as much as possible, albeit 10ftx10ft tents with vendors front and center satisfy current social distancing standards.
- Tents facing each other in parallel fashion should maintain at least 20ft apart to give customers sufficient queuing and walking space.

Vendor Protocol

- All vendors should wear face-masks and gloves at all times.
- Vendors should have ample hand-sanitizer available for both customers and themselves (abuse the gloves not your skin).
- As stated above, vendors should stay in the center of their tent to maintain proper social distancing from neighboring vendors.
- An empty pickup table should be set up in front of the vendor's tent for customers to approach, pay and pick up their purchases (pre-ordered or purchased day of).
- Products should be stored and packaged toward the back of the tent and then brought up to the front pickup table.

Customer Protocol

- Customers must maintain current social distancing standards of 6ft apart while within the parameters of the farmers market and while waiting in line to get into the farmers market.
- Customers must wear facemasks and/or something that sufficiently covers their mouth and nose to avoid contagion.

Summary

Faced with limited information regarding this novel coronavirus, it is pertinent that every individual involved in this industry adhere to all the protocols listed above. Ending this pandemic is beyond the scope of our purpose and capabilities, however, lowering the probability of infection while providing healthy food to local people is our goal. With sufficient industriousness, conscientiousness and intelligence we will achieve that goal. For further guidance, below is a hyperlink to New York State Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's Executive Order 202.8.

- [No. 202.8: Continuing Temporary Suspension and Modification of Laws Relating to the Disaster Emergency](#)

