

# **ISLE LA MOTTE FARMERS' MARKET (ILMFM)**

## **MARKET RULES & GUIDELINES**

### **Overview:**

The goal of ILMFM is to provide an attractive friendly atmosphere for local vendors to market their products. In attempting to achieve that goal, ILMFM provides display space, promotional advertising, trash receptacles, live music (if possible), picnic tables and adequate customer parking. Both market sites, Meadow View Nursery and Hall's Orchard, are in two real farm settings.

The following rules and guidelines have been developed.

### **Vendor Spaces, Allocation and Setup:**

Vendor fees, if not pre-paid, are due prior to the opening of the market.

If scheduled to attend, a vendor must contact market management by 5:00 PM on the day prior to the market if they wish to cancel.

Vendor spaces are 10' x 10'. Certain exceptions to this rule may be granted at the discretion of market management. Vendors are strongly urged to have a 10' x 10' tent for protection during inclement weather, as the markets are a rain-or-shine event. It is mandatory for tents and umbrellas to be securely staked.

Vendors may set up any time during the hour preceding the market opening, and may sell products while setting up. Setups will be on a first-come-first-served basis. The first space will be determined by market management with subsequent vendors setting up next to each other in order to provide a continuous line of vendors.

Vehicles may be driven to spaces for unloading. Once vendors have unloaded, they will park their vehicles as assigned by market management. Vehicles must be off the showing area before the market officially opens.

Vendors should remain in their spaces for the entire market, even if the weather is inclement, unless prearranged with market management. Vendors may choose to leave the market early, however, in the case of thunder / lightning.

Vendors bringing children to the market must provide proper supervision.

Vendors must keep their area neat and clean throughout the market, and should pick up all trash upon leaving.

### **Vendor Acceptance:**

Market management will determine vendor acceptance, the bases for such determination being: availability of space; type and quality of product; vendor balance with respect to total market plan. Due to the objectives of this market, a majority of spaces will be given to agriculture-type businesses. Craft vendors must be juried prior to being accepted for showing.

All items sold at the market, must be produced on vendors' property or handcrafted by vendors. Purchased products and flea market items are not eligible. Exceptions may be brought before market management who will make the final determination of product eligibility. Eligible products include: farm products such as fresh produce, flowers, shrubs, seedlings, honey, maple products, wool, eggs, meat, cheese; homemade baked goods and other prepared food; handmade crafts. Use of local farm products in prepared foods or crafts is strongly recommended.

Agricultural-product vendors are expected to price their products fairly – **“Dumping” of excess product at exceptionally low prices is not permitted.**

All market members are required to comply with all applicable state laws including: licenses required for selling meats, foods and wines; inspected scales, handling of food items and charging sales tax where applicable. Contact the Vt. Dept. of Agriculture, the Vt. Dept. of Taxes and /or the Vt. Dept. of Health for assistance.

All vendors are required to report total gross sales by category (agricultural products, prepared food or crafts) to the ILMFM Treasurer within one week after the market for market-effectiveness analysis. This information remains confidential and is not shared with other vendors, any governmental agency or any other member of the ILMFM Board. This data will be used to prepare a year-end report that will be available to all participants.

### **Vendor Disputes:**

It is important that vendors realize the need for a friendly atmosphere at the markets. To that end, disputes between / among vendors or between / among vendors and market management should be low key. **Loudness, anger, foul language, etc. will not be tolerated.**

Any vendor who has a grievance that cannot be reconciled at the market can make an appeal in writing to the Board.

All vendors should be aware that the Board's decision on rule violations, etc. is solely at the discretion of the Board, that their decision is final and that violations could result in expulsion from the markets.