

Bland County Farmers Market

2021 Operational Rules & Information

Market Season:

May 8-October 30

Purpose:

To provide growers and producers in Bland and adjoining counties, a venue for the sale of fresh, locally grown or produced agriculture commodities and other farm-related, value-added products to promote sustainable agriculture in our community.

Location:

591 Main Street
Bland, VA 24315
(Downtown, Beside Extension Office)

Hours of Operation:

Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Management:

Market Manager: Eisle Havens
Kristi Blevins, Project Coordinator
County of Bland
612 Main Street
Bland, VA 24315
(276) 688-4622 or kblevins@bland.org

The Market Manager is responsible for the following:

- Enforcing rules and regulations of the Market according to VDACS
- Assuring vendors are in compliance with regulations
- Providing information about current vendors, upcoming events
- Scheduling and planning events
- Overseeing the set-up and break down of the Market
- Recording attendance of vendors
- Address disputes or complaints
- Processing registration forms of vendors
- Suspend vendor privileges when regulation has been violated
- Upkeep Social Media – Facebook, Twitter, email
- Marketing/Advertising

Eligibility:

The Bland Farmer's Market is primarily a producer only market (vegetables, fruit, herbs, gardening related items). Eligibility will include Bland County and surrounding counties. (Wythe, Smyth, Pulaski, Giles, Tazewell) All products must be agriculturally derived and the original work of the vendor. No item offered for sale will be commercially made, created, or produced without value added by the vendor.

Vendor Space: Vendor spaces in the Farmer's Market will be on a first come first serve basis. There will be no charge for covered vendor spaces. All tables provided by the Farmer's Market must remain in designated locations.

Equipment: Vendors are responsible for their own chairs, change, bags, etc. (Free bags can be ordered from <http://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/vagrown/logos.shtml>)

Operation of stands:

- Vendors will strive to sell products of highest freshness and quality
- Vendors will be expected to conduct business in a courteous manner - Products must be clearly priced and the prices displayed

Clean Up: Each vendor will be responsible for keeping their area clean and pick up during and after the market. Vendor is responsible for removing trash from their table and placing it in the trash receptacle. Market manager will ensure that area is clean before closing for the day.

Baked Goods: All items containing dairy products must contain pasteurized or aged products. All prepared food must be prepared in an inspected facility. Prepared foods and baked goods must be labeled with ingredients and preparer's name and location.

Perishable produce and food items must be maintained at appropriate temperatures with heating and cooling devices. Eggs must be kept in a cooler at 45 degrees. It is the vendor's responsibility to supply whatever is needed to accomplish this. An empty egg carton may be kept in view, so customers know there are eggs for sale. Mark through brand names or grades used on egg cartons.

Every package or container of processed food must be labeled with the following minimum information: name of the food; name and address of the manufacturer, as well as a weight or measure.

Scale Requirements: To be in compliance with Virginia Weights and Measures Law, contact VDACS Wytheville regional office at (276) 228-5501. This is a free governmental service. *Note: Products sold by the piece or pre-packaged and priced by that package- not by weight, do not require scales for measurement.*

Sales Tax: If you need help with registration or reports, you may call your local Virginia Cooperative Extension Bland County Agent at 276-688-3542.

Fees: There are no fees associated with selling at the Bland Farmers Market. The vendor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the County of Bland and the landowner from any and all causes of action that may rise from the operation of this farmers market, not caused by negligence of the farmers market.

Adherence to market rules and regulations:

- Disputes or questions such as the provenance of items for sale, space assignment, general conduct, enforcement of market rules will be resolved by the market manager or Project Manager. - Violations of the rules, regulations, or provisions of the market may result in the suspension or disqualification from the market.

VENDOR REGISTRATION FOR:

Bland County Farmer's Market

Please print:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Produce to be sold: _____

Do you produce, raise, or make your own products?

_____ Yes _____ No Comments:

By signing this registration form, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the Vendor Rules and Regulations and will abide by the terms presented.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Return registration form to:

County of Bland
County Administrator
PO Box 510
Bland, VA 24315