COVID-19 Farmers Markets Guidance

The ND Department of Agriculture has developed the following guidance and recommendations for farmers markets to maintain a safe shopping experience for consumers.

Follow CDC Recommendations

- Wash hands regularly, at least 20 seconds each time, multiple times throughout the market day.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover mouth with a bent elbow when sneezing or coughing. If a tissue is used, dispose of it immediately and follow with proper hand washing.
- Maintain the recommended social distancing protocols of six (6) feet of separation between individuals.
- Limit access to and disinfect common areas regularly.
- Stay home if you are sick.

Protecting Yourself and Your Customers

- Prevent customers from congregating and visually remind them of the six (6) foot separation by placing cones, spray chalk dots, an extra table, or other items able to be sanitized, six (6) feet apart in front of vendors and around the market where necessary.
- Separate vendors as far from one another as reasonably possible, at least six (6) feet, to allow for increased social distancing.
- Post signage stating the farmers are happy to assist customers and will select products for consumers.
- Limit the number of customers within the market at one time.
- Consider a defined entrance and defined exit to allow for a one-way flow of traffic.
- Tablecloths, unless they can be cleaned and sanitized, should not be allowed.
- Samples should not be allowed for any reason during this time.
- Remove all sit down and eating areas.
- Post signage re: washing all produce before eating, frequent handwashing, do not touch your face, etc.
- Have a central hand washing station and/or hand sanitizer for market staff/volunteers, vendors, and shoppers.
- Wipe down your credit card terminal with an approved disinfectant (see link above) after each use and/or provide single-use Q Tips for button pushing and easy disposal.
- Separate and group (being mindful of social distancing) farmers selling food from vendors selling non-food respectively together.
- Limit the number of volunteers to only those that are essential.
- Have an abundance of disposable, single-use gloves available.