



## Ridge Ferry Park Farmer's Market Market Rules & Regulations

The objective of the Rome-Floyd Parks & Recreation Ridge Ferry Farmer's Market is to support the development of the local agricultural economy which will foster stewardship of our land and goodwill in our community by providing a place for vendors to sell their products to consumers, a place that will provide alternative shopping and bring people together from our community.

### **Vendor Selling Fee: \$10 Day per Vendor**

**Discrimination:** All persons associated with or selling at the Market shall not discriminate against any individual in regard to matters of age, sex, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or any physical or mental disability.

**Quality:** The Market strives to provide a marketplace where fresh and wholesome products are sold. This freshness and wholesomeness of the products, as well as the expertise of the vendors is the backbone of the Market experience.

**Market Location; Days & Hours:** The Farmer's Market will be open from 7:00am – 11:00am on Wednesdays and Saturdays beginning Saturday, June 3, 2023 – Saturday, September 30, 2023. The Market will be held in Ridge Ferry Park at the Farmers' Market Pavilion located on the South side of the park.

**Note:** The Market is sometimes subject to close or move due to weather, to accommodate large events at Ridge Ferry Park. You will be notified in advance of any closure or need to move.

**Vendor:** A Vendor is any person/persons that take up a space in the market area and shall be defined as the producer of goods sold and shall include the spouse, siblings, children, parents and employees of the applicant who assist in the cultivation, production and/or sale of goods produced at the address listed on the application. Vendor participation is a privilege not a right; Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation reserves the right to accept or deny participation of any vendor.

**Vendor Products and Product Quality Claims:** Vendors are responsible to abide by all state/federal/county regulations which govern the production, harvest, preparation, preservation, labeling or safety of the product the vendor offers for sale. Though vendors selling at the Market are acting as individual business entities, claims made by individual vendors may be perceived by customers to be backed by the Market as a whole. For this reason, claims of specific production practices and claims that products have specific nutritive or other health benefits must be supported by local, state and/or federal agencies for purposes of certifications.

**Vendor Set-Up / Clean Up:** Each vendor is responsible for setting up, displaying and packaging their products, as well as protecting those products from the elements. Vendors must furnish their own scales, baskets, sacks and other needs. Due to the unavailability of a dumpster, all vendors MUST remove all trash from their site at the closing of each selling day.

**Vendor Booth:** Each table provided by the Farmer's Market under the pavilion constitutes one vendor space. Each vendor will pay for each space used and may be limited to one space if necessary to accommodate all vendors; space shall be generally defined as one parking space; vendors are not

permitted to set up in handicap parking spaces. All spaces are on a first come first served basis; vendors are not permitted to reserve (hold or save) spaces for other vendors. The Market Manager has the right to ask vendors to move spaces closer together when needed. The Market Manager will direct vendors to an available space. If space becomes a factor, agricultural products are given top priority, due to the importance of their freshness and the quick spoilage of these products. Displaying your name or the name of your farm is recommended at your booth.

**Pricing, Weights and Measures:** The pricing of goods is at the discretion of the individual vendor. Weights and measures are expected to be in accordance with all applicable local, state and federal rules and regulations. Scales shall be approved by the Georgia Department of Agriculture and have current inspection stickers. The Market is not responsible for arrangements made between customers and vendors. No warranty of any sort, expressed or implied, is made by the Market. This Market will not make rules about this until it becomes a problem.

**Products That Cannot Be Sold without Proper Licensing:** The following products are governed by specific State or Federal laws and regulations and cannot be sold at the Farmer's Market without proper, up-to-date licensing: **Meat Products, Eggs and Dairy Products.**

**(Processed) Low Acid/Acidified Foods:** Items such as canned vegetables, pickles, salsa cannot be sold at the Farmers' Market UNLESS the Processor (Vendor) is licensed and has completed Better Process Control School. A Food Processing / Certified Kitchen License should be on file with the Market Manager in order to sell these items.

**Labeling:** All PROCESSED PRODUCTS should be labeled with:

1. The common name of the food
2. The name, address and phone number of the person who made the item
3. A list of ingredients with the common name of each ingredient

**Products Made Outside of Georgia:** All vendors who process their food outside of Georgia must have a certificate, license or documentation indicating they are permitted by their respective Regulatory Agency governing food sales; and that their firm is in compliance.

**Livestock/Pets:** No live animals can be sold at the Market, but photos of the animals for sale can be exhibited and information about them distributed. All pets of vendors must be leashed at all times. Safety: The safety of all is a priority. Vendors arriving and departing the Market selling area MUST DRIVE SLOWLY. NO SHOPPERS in cars are allowed to enter the selling area to shop or to pick up market items. All items sold must be carried out-NOT picked up by driving into the selling area.

**Behavior:** All vendors of the Farmer's Market will behave toward Market customers, other Market vendors and Market staff in a professional manner which fosters a sense of Market community and camaraderie, a spirit of cooperative involvement and portrays the market as a whole to the community it serves. Abusive or threatening behavior will not be tolerated. Offenders will not be permitted to return to the Farmer's Market as a vendor.

**Complaints:** Complaints of any kind against any vendor shall be directed to the attention of the Market Manager. All complaints must be in writing; forms are available from the Market Manager or on our website [rfpra.com](http://rfpra.com). Unsubstantiated verbal complaints by any vendor or customer are unacceptable and will not be investigated or tolerated; vendors and/or customers will be asked to leave the Market and

unable to return for the remainder of the season. The Market Manager will seek to resolve the issue immediately and if the Market Manager is unable to do so, he/she will forward the complaint to the Recreation Manager for investigation and resolution.

**Market Manager:** The Market Manager shall have the right to warn and/or suspend a vendor based on the Market Manager's personal observation of a violation of the rules and regulations. The Market Manager and Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation reserve the right to revise the Farmer's Market Rules and Regulations.

Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Contact:

Lindsey Jones, Special Services Manager

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*Rules and Regulations have been established by the Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Department based on the guidelines set forth by the Georgia Department of Agriculture.*