



CHARLESTON FARMERS MARKET

Produced and directed by the City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs

2015

FARMER & GROWER

APPLICATION/PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

Deadline: Friday, February 6th, 2015 by 4:00p.m.

***Questions? Call the CFM Manager, Harrison R. Chapman at
(843) 724-7309 or email farmersmarket@charleston-sc.gov***

The Charleston Farmers Market (CFM) is dedicated to the support and advocacy of the Lowcountry’s farmers and growers. Each Saturday from April 4th to November 28th with additional opportunities to participate on Sundays during the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in May and June as well as Saturdays and Sundays during Holiday Magic in December, the CFM provides space in Marion Square for local, fresh and sustainable produce to be available for residents from all parts of the Lowcountry & visitors alike.

Name of Applicant: _____

Farm Name: _____

Farm Location: _____

of Acres: _____

Address (Residence): _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Daytime #: _____ Evening #: _____

Cell #: _____ Email: _____

Website: _____

Brief description of products (i.e. “local produce” or “organic herbs”): _____

RULES & REGULATIONS

- The Charleston Farmers Market (CFM) is a producer-only Market. Exceptions are noted during the non-harvest seasons outlined in the **Rules & Regulations** and then the produce must originate in the regional Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group (SSAWG) designated states consisting of North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, West Virginia, Kentucky and Mississippi. **At no time can produce grown outside the SSAWG region be purchased for resale by the CFM farmer/grower and sold at the Charleston Farmers Market.**
- The local boundaries for farmers/growers participating in the Market are from the North Carolina border to the Georgia border and east of I-95 to the Atlantic Ocean with preference given to farmers in Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester and Berkeley counties.
- To be considered an eligible participant in the farmer/grower category, vendors must be involved in either full-time or part-time agriculture. A farmer/grower is one who grows produce from seed propagation, plugs or established tree crop orchards and harvests it for sale. Individuals who solely buy and resell agriculture produce are not considered farmers/growers and are therefore excluded from participation in the CFM.
- The City of Charleston, in cooperation with Clemson Extension Services, will determine eligibility. Scheduled field site visits will be conducted for all participants and site inspections and document inspections will be conducted randomly throughout the season.
- Fish vendors are included in the farmers/grower category. There is no resale of fish; the fish, including shrimp, must be harvested by the fisherman holding a SC commercial boat license and sold by the fisherman or members of the immediate family. Fish vendors are subject to the rules and regulations outlined by DHEC and DNR.
- Value-added produce such as jams and jellies, honey and sauces may be sold by the farmer/grower and fisherman. The product must be made by the eligible CFM farmer/grower, fisherman or a member of the family and is subject to DHEC rules for production and packaging.

NEW IN 2011 – THE 75/25 PERCENT RULE

- **The 75/25 Percent Rule IS in effect during the two Lowcountry harvesting periods when a great variety of fruits and vegetables can be grown locally: May 1 - July 15 & September 1 - November 30.** During these designated times, 75% of the fruits and vegetables that you offer for sale must be grown on your farm within the CFM county boundaries. The other 25% must be purchased from other local or regional farmers in South Carolina with the SC Grown designation clearly labeled.
- **The 75/25 Percent Rule IS NOT in effect from April 9-30; July 16-August 31; and December 1-21.** During these designated times, the produce that you sell, which is not grown on your farm, must originate from South Carolina or from the SSAWG region and must be appropriately labeled (identify to CFM Management the name of the farm, mailing address, telephone number and contact person). Examples of appropriate produce include oranges grown in Florida and apples, pumpkins and gourds grown in North Carolina. The CFM Management reserves the right to question the origin of any produce being sold in the Market and to make a decision on whether the produce in question can or cannot be sold in the Market.
- When the 75/25 Percent Rule is in effect, produce can be purchased as part of the 25% but, it must be purchased from a Farmer/Grower within South Carolina and be designated as SC Grown. This rule remains in effect until it is determined the local harvest is over. For example, when strawberries are in season

locally, all strawberries for sale must be grown or purchased from a regional farm within South Carolina and be designated **SC GROWN**. When the strawberry season is over in South Carolina, strawberries can originate from a SSAWG designated state and be sold at the Charleston Farmers Market. All such produce must be properly labeled with its origin.

- CFM Farmers/Growers are required to label their purchased produce with the specific location of their growth/harvest. The label must be clearly visible to the customer and the farmer must be able to produce proof of the origination to the Market Management. Examples include Wadmalaw squash, Holly Hill peaches, and Lexington, SC tomatoes.
- Those growers selling only their own plants and flowers will be eligible to place special designation on their products.
- Products can only be labeled as Organic if the Farm operation has been designated as Certified Organic and the current 2015 Certified Organic Certificate must be displayed. Descriptive labels such as naturally grown or chemical free can be evident but, not a label describing the produce as organic.

CROP LIST: I plan to plant/catch/produce, harvest and sell the following food products listed below during the 2015 CFM season (only items listed on this original application and approved during the jurying process can be sold during the 2015 CFM Season):

LOCAL CROP	LOCATION PLANT IS BEING GROWN	ACREAGE	HARVEST DATE	SALE DATE

***USE SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER IF NECESSARY**

VENDOR CERTIFICATION:

- I have **read, understand** and **agree** to comply with the **2015 CFM Vendor Manual** including; **General Rules & Regulations** and **CFM Operation Guidelines**
- I understand the violations and sanctions, including suspension and disqualification
- I certify and understand that 75% of the products I offer for sale in the CFM, as per the attached crop list, will be products grown/harvested/produced by me or my family for direct sale to the public. I understand that at certain times of the year the SSAWG rule will be in effect
- I understand that if requested by CFM Management, I must be able to produce paperwork that outlines the origination of the product sold including name and address of farm and contact person
- I understand selling privileges can be revoked by the City of Charleston at any time
- I understand that **no Farmer/Grower is guaranteed acceptance in the CFM and is subject to acceptance into the 2015 CFM by the City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs**
- Farmers/Growers that are accepted in the 2015 CFM will be notified by the City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs as soon as a decision has been made
- I understand that a mandatory vendor meeting will be scheduled upon acceptance

APPLICATION/PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT CHECKLIST

- Completed, signed Application/Participation Agreement
- I have attached a crop list for 2015 and I understand that I must have an approved application and crop list justifying what is being sold at the CFM on file with the City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs prior to vending at CFM
- A copy of the vendor's 2015 DHEC or SCDA Certification must be provided prior to vending at CFM
- If accepted, a copy of vendor's 2015 City of Charleston business license must be provided prior to vending at CFM
- A \$20 non-refundable fee must accompany this application; **DO NOT SEND CASH** – please include a **check or money order** made payable to; City of Charleston
- All vendors must have a General Liability Insurance Policy of no less than \$1,000,000 and proof must be provided prior to vending at CFM

The City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs invites farmers/growers to participate in the 2015 season of the CFM in accordance with the guidelines and criteria outlined in this application/participation agreement. While we anticipate the CFM will soon face additional space constraints arising from construction projects on sites adjacent to Marion Square and the park's overall capacity, the Office of Cultural Affairs remains committed to ensuring the continuing success of this vital resource and encourages participating farmers/growers from the 2014 season, as well as eligible farmers/growers who have not participated in past seasons to apply for the 2015 season. While specific locations within the market or a specific number of tents cannot be guaranteed, farmers/growers will continue to receive priority consideration for access to the CFM and may contact the CFM Manager at any time to discuss specific requests or special needs.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE SEND/DELIVER YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION/PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT AND FEE BY 4P.M. ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2015 TO:

Harrison R. Chapman – CFM Manager
City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs
180 Meeting Street, Suite 200
Charleston, SC 29401

Fax: (843) 720-3967
Phone: (843) 724-7309