

CLEAR LAKE FARMERS MARKET 2025 RULES AND REGULATIONS

Goal

The mission of the Clear Lake Farmers Market (CLFM) is to offer healthy, fresh produce and handcrafted products to consumers while building community connections and supporting the local economy.

General Information

- Market day will be Saturdays from 9:00 A.M. to Noon beginning May 17, 2025 and ending on the first Saturday in October (October 4, 2025). The final Market day is HarvestFest, which is held downtown.
- No selling will be allowed before the opening hours. This includes no bagging, no money exchange, no holding of product. Special orders (call-ins) may be sacked but not sold until official starting time. A whistle will be blown or bell rung at 9:00 A.M. to signal that the market is open.
- Vendors may sell to other vendors from 8:30 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.
- Vendors must arrive by 8:30 A.M. and must be set up by 8:45. After 8:30 stalls may be reassigned to another vendor or activity for that market day. This is to minimize gaps and to prevent vehicles from driving into the market area, and to ensure the safety of our customers and vendors.
- Vendors must leave their tables set up until Noon. If a vendor sells out, they may leave the market, but their tables, canopies etc. must remain in place and be picked up at Noon. Vendors are not permitted to drive through the market during market hours.
- Location: 460 North Shore Drive, in the parking lot of the Surf Ballroom & Museum
- Email is the primary communication method. Vendors are responsible for checking their email on a regular basis to ensure they are current on market updates.
- Market will be held rain or shine. Use your own discretion in the event of severe weather.
- Market related information, online vendor application and other helpful links can be found at www.clearlakefarmersmarket.com.

Administration

- The Clear Lake Farmers Market is governed by a volunteer board of directors (Market Board).
- The Market Board will call Board meetings periodically throughout the year as needed.
- The Market Board will review vendor applications and products for appropriateness based upon the market rules.
- The Market Board reserves the right to approve, refuse, and limit products to be sold for any reason.
- The Market Board reserves the right to approve, refuse, and limit market vendors for any reason.
- A formal vendor meeting will be held in the spring before the start of the market season.

Vendor Rules

- All products sold at market must be made, grown, or raised by the vendor applying. Any resold products must first be approved by the Market Manager or Market Board in advance, and their origins must be clearly displayed at the vendor's stall. This includes selling products on behalf of others. The sale of live animals is not permitted.
- All vendors are responsible for meeting local or state regulations and obtaining appropriate licensure and permits, if applicable. Links are available at www.clearlakefarmersmarket.com/apply.
- All vendors are required to have and maintain their own liability insurance.
- All vendors at the market shall dress appropriately, be neat and clean in appearance and conduct themselves professionally. Rudeness, use of loud or profane language, arguing, or harassment will be considered violations and may result in the vendor being prohibited from participating in the market.
- Each vendor is responsible for the cleanup of his/her selling area and removing all refuse prior to leaving the market area.

- Vendors must provide their own equipment and supplies such as tables and boards from which to sell products and must supply sacks or other containers for product sales.
- Each vendor agrees the Market Manager, Market Board, The Surf Ballroom, or City of Clear Lake will not be responsible for accidents or lost articles or have any obligation to safeguard profits or provide protection against losses of money or product.
- Vendor's vehicles should be parked away from the market to allow convenient parking for customers.
- The CLFM will be a smoke-free area. Smoking of cigarettes, pipes or cigars is strictly forbidden at vendor stalls or within the market limits. No alcoholic beverages will be consumed on the market grounds.

Vendor Stall Sizes and Fees

- Our standard stall size is 12' wide x 12' deep. A single vendor may reserve up to 3 stalls. If additional space is needed, written approval from the Market Board or Market Manager is required. Vehicles are only allowed in specific stalls as shown on the stall layout diagram. These stalls where vehicles are allowed are available on a first come, first serve basis. Vehicles are not allowed within other vendor stalls.
- There is an application fee of \$15 per year. Stall fees are \$125 for the season. A one week drop in pass is available for \$20 or a 4-week pass for \$50.
- Vendors may participate in Clear Lake's Harvest Fest on Saturday in October, within the designated Farmers Market area, at no charge if the vendor has participated in a minimum of 4 weeks of the CLFM. Regular market at the Surf Ballroom will not be held on the day of Harvest Fest. Space at this event is limited - priority will be given to full season vendors.
- Vendors may not sell, sub-let or rent stall space. Stall fees are non-refundable.
- Vendors who are accepted for the full season will be assigned a permanent fixed spot. A full season vendor may miss a maximum of 3 weeks of market. The Market Manager will be tracking weekly attendance so changes to your schedule should be reported via email one week in advance. Be aware that if more than 3 weeks are missed a vendor may lose their assigned stall and could be converted to a weekly vendor at an additional charge, at the discretion of the Market Board. Others will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis. The Market Manager may change stall assignments at their own discretion.
- All absences must be communicated to the Market Manager in writing.
- A vendor's stall is considered to be their personal storefront to display and market their products as they see fit so long as the market rules are followed. Once a vendor is approved, they may add, change, or modify their product offerings, subject to written Market Board approval.

Conflict Resolution

- Complaints against any vendor must be filed in writing and submitted to the Market Manager and/or Market Board for investigation.
- Violators of market rules will be sent a warning in writing and may be charged a \$20 fine at discretion of the Market Board. This fine must be paid before the vendor is allowed to attend future market weeks.
- Complaints related to product quality and origin will be responded to with corrective recommendations and the vendor will be responsible for demonstrating that they have made those corrective measures.
- After 3 violations of the market rules or for extreme offenses a vendor may not be allowed to attend future market weeks. Stall fees are non-refundable.