

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

501 N. THOMPSON, SUITE 100 CONROE, TEXAS 77301 (936) 539-7836 • (281) 364-4200, EXT 7836 • FAX (936) 788-8388

#### REGULATIONS FOR FARMERS' MARKET VENDOR'S PERMITS

## I. Definition of Farmers' Market and Applicability

Farmer's Market: a designated location used primarily for the distribution and sale directly to consumers of food products by farmers or other producers.

These Regulations apply in any unincorporated area of Montgomery County and cities whose food establishments are inspected and permitted by Montgomery County Environmental Health Services (MCEHS).

## II. When a Farmers' Market Vendor's Permit is Required

A Farmers' Market Vendor's Permit is required from MCEHS when a vendor that is located at a Farmers' Market (as defined above) provides:

- Yard eggs or any pre-packaged foods that requires temperature control and are sold or distributed; or
- Food that is prepared, processed, or sampled at the farmers' market.

A Farmers' Market Vendor's permit is not required for:

- Produce that is presented in its natural state (no cutting, peeling, slicing, etc.); or
- Pre-packaged foods that do not require temperature control and are prepared at a location permitted by regulatory authority. Pre-packaged foods must be properly labeled and meet state manufacturer's' license requirements.

### **III.** Requirements for Permitted Farmers' Market Vendors

Any preparation and distribution of food must be conducted according to the handout "Food Rules for Temporary Food Service Permit" which is available from MCEHS.

A farmer's market vendor's permit is valid for one year and only for one booth per location. Copies of the farmers' market vendor's permit will not be considered valid.

A valid and current manufacturer's license, when required, must be provided upon request.

### IV. Enforcement

Non-compliance with these rules could result in the immediate closing of the vendor's stand and/or a citation issued by MCEHS to the vendor.

## To obtain a permit:

• Permit may be purchased at our office at 501 N. Thompson St. Ste. 100, Conroe, Texas 77301, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The fee is \$125.00 and payment is only taken in form of cash, check, money order, or cashier's check. Must be purchased two (2) days prior to event to avoid a late fee.