

GUIDELINES OF THE 2026 SURRY COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
ELKIN/MT. AIRY/PILOT MOUNTAIN



The Surry County Farmers Market aims to create and sustain a vibrant and innovative market that supports our local farmers and artisans, while extending the benefits of local food to the greater community. To honor the rich heritage of the Market, we seek to work with:

Members- to provide the best venue and support to nurture and maintain healthy sustainable farms and artisan-based businesses

Customers- to provide access to the highest quality fresh local food in an environment that fosters the relationship between farmers, artisans, and customers

Community- to expand the reach of the Market and create a strong local food ethic for our community

All vendors of the Surry County Farmers Market are to always conduct themselves in an ethical manner at the markets.

- 1) Sellers must reside and produce the items they sell within a 50-mile radius of either the Elkin, Pilot Mountain, or Mt. Airy Market locations. Any vendor outside the radius will need to request participation to the Farmer's Market Board. Approval will be based on market needs.
- 2) Sellers must be the original producers of all items being sold. No buying or reselling of produce or other products is allowed. (Sellers may also be the family members, employees, or others directly involved in the production of the crop.) If a vendor purchases any item to resell, they will be asked to leave the market, and the market fee will be non-refundable.
- 3) Items that must be completed BEFORE selling at markets:
 - a. Farm inspections – Conducted by a member of the Market Board and may take up to 2 weeks
 - b. Application fees – Paid by March 20th. After March 20th, the fee will increase
 - c. Application certification – Meat handlers license, nursery certification, kitchen inspections, etc. Due with application
- 4) Sellers must attend WIC and Senior voucher training to accept WIC and Senior vouchers. The WIC and Senior voucher training will be given by the Program Administrator.
- 5) Sellers must pay an annual registration fee of \$175.00 with application by March 20th. After March 20th, the fee will increase to \$225.00. Checks should be made payable to Surry County Farmers Market, Inc. A Visitor Vendor Fee will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
- 6) Vendors are not allowed to smoke at market. If vendors smoke, they will need to smoke in designated locations.

Elkin Smoking Location:	Elkin is a NON-SMOKING market located on Town property and it is a non-smoking Town Hall Campus. Vendors and customers cannot smoke on Town property, in the market, in the parking lot, or on the sidewalks adjacent to the Market. This also includes vaping.
Mt. Airy Smoking Location:	Across the street
Pilot Mountain Smoking Location:	Outside of Market and Church Property boundaries

- 7) The ELKIN market will operate on Saturdays beginning in April and ending in November with a date TBD. Hours of operation are from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon April thru November. On June 6, 2026, the Elkin market will operate from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. for NC Trail Days.

There are plans to also have a Holiday market and Winter market opportunities available for 2026 SCFM vendors at the Elkin Heritage and Trail Center. Dates and times are to be announced.

The MT. AIRY market will operate on Fridays beginning April 17 and ending with a date TBD. Hours of operation are from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

The PILOT MOUNTAIN market will operate on Saturdays beginning in April and ending TBD. Hours of operation are from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

**** Selling not allowed after season closes.**** Vendors are not allowed to bring their pets to the market.

- 8) Set up for the market is from 8:15 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. (Elkin and Mt. Airy), 2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. (Pilot Mountain). Selling stops at close of market and vendors must be packed up and gone within one hour of market closing.

- 9) Products which can be sold include:

- a. Any vegetable grown by the seller from seeds, sets, or seedlings.
- b. Any fruits, nuts, herb seed (with a seed dealer license), flower seed (with a seed dealer license) or berries grown by the seller from trees, bushes, or vines on the seller's farm.
- c. Any plant grown by the seller from seeds, seedlings, transplants, or cuttings and bulbs propagated by the seller with a nursery certificate if required by NCDA.
- d. Honey and other by-products produced by the seller's bees
- e. Preserves, pickles, relishes, jams, jellies, made by the seller. "Low acid" canned foods such as green beans, corn, peas, carrots, or canned tomato products, etc. may be sold if prepared in a certified establishment by the appropriate State or County entity of North Carolina.
- f. Cut or dried flowers grown by the seller.
- g. Firewood cut by the seller on the seller's land.
- h. Bagged, certified composts.
- i. Straw baled by the seller
- j. Baked goods can be sold with a NCDA certified kitchen. The kitchen must be owned or rented by the vendor. Paperwork must be attached to application. If a commercial kitchen is used, all required paperwork must be submitted to the Board.
- k. Meat can be sold by Licensed Meat Handlers. Paperwork must be attached to application. Meat vendors must raise beef, pork, or lamb for 6 months minimum prior to selling at the market. Rabbit and fowl must be raised by vendor for a minimum of 50% of the animal's life.
- l. Dairy product can be sold with USDA approval. Paperwork must be attached to application.
- m. Organic growers must submit organic certification with application.

- 10) Prices must be posted for all items sold.
- 11) All food must meet State and Local Health regulations. All produce must be of top quality.
- 12) No animals may be sold or given away at the market.
- 13) Each seller is responsible for cleaning up the area around his/her vehicle.
- 14) Sellers should not move their vehicles in or out of the market during times when such movement would pose a danger to people in the shopping area.
- 15) Market is run by the Board of Directors who is active producing members of the market. Officers include: President, Vice president, Secretary, Treasurer, Board Member(s) at Large, FMNP Program Coordinator, Town Representatives from each town, Town Advisor, and one Extension representative (serving as an advisor). The Market will be managed by the Board or someone appointed by the Board. The Board of Directors have the right to interpret the rules.

2026 Board of Directors

Mark Patterson, President
 Lauren Schultz, Vice President
 Mary Nay, Secretary
 Michael Messick, Treasurer
 Amy Bryant, Assistant Treasurer
 Kevin Campbell, Board Member at Large
 Joanna Radford, Extension Board Member

2026 Market Advisors

Joanna Radford, Extension Agent
 Laura Gaylord, Town of Elkin Advisor
 Jenny Kindy, Town of Pilot Mountain Advisor

2026 Market Managers

Kevin Campbell – Elkin
 Mary Nay – Mt Airy
 Kate Wilkosz – Pilot Mountain

- 16) Selling spaces, dates, rules, on-site governance (i.e., decision-making) to be determined by the Farmer’s Market Board of Directors. Look back at previous guidelines.
- 17) All sales must be from designated sales space.
- 18) Non-farm crafts (produced by materials not grown or harvested by the crafter) must be approved by the Surry County Farmer’s Market Board prior to being sold at any market operated by the Surry County Farmer’s Market. The Board has the final determination as to whether or not a craft item can be displayed and sold. Vendors will not be present at the approval process.
- 19) New non-farm craft applicants must submit applications for review to the Surry County Farmer’s Market Board at least one month prior to selling at the market. After approval, vendors must pay the application fee of \$175.00 if paid by March 20th. After March 20th, \$225.00 must be paid. Checks made payable to Surry County Farmer’s Market.
- 20) Farm crafts are value added farm products produced predominately from materials grown or harvested by the crafter. These crafts do not have to be approved by the Surry County Farmer’s Market Board BUT must pass all other farm inspections.
- 21) Crafts must be the project of an “Artesian” type. To be considered “hand crafted,” the item must show evidence of manual skill obtainable only through a significant period of experience and dedication.

Examples of unacceptable items would be, but not limited to: tracings of paint by number, ceramics or pottery from commercial molds, wood carvings using duplicating machines, kits in any form, and other items which clearly do not reflect originality of design.

- 22) All crafts must be of excellent workmanship both in quality and design.
- 23) Homemade crafts may be sold by a vendor if approved by the Board of Directors. Pictures should be sent in with application. The market will have a ratio of 1/3 craft vendors to 2/3 farmer vendors. To be considered a farmer, 70% of your table must be classified as harvested non-taxable product. All crafts must be hand crafted by the vendor or a member of the vendor's farm.
- 24) The Market Board has the discretion to immediately remove any craft item that he/she considers is in violation of the rules.
- 25) Farm visits will be scheduled prior to vendor's first Market. Vendor spaces will be on a first-come, first-serve basis but may be assigned if spaces become limited.
- 26) A selling space is no larger than a 12" X 12" area depending on the market, shelter, etc. This includes walk space between tents. No items can be placed in walkways. Vehicles must be small enough to fit into a normal parking spot. If this is not possible, vehicles will need to be parked elsewhere. Vendors may purchase one (1) vendor slot per year unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors.
- 27) Vendor spaces and parking for the market will be as follows but is subject to change:
- Elkin: Vendors will be given assigned selling spaces under the shelter. The Board of Directors will assign spacing.
 - Mt. Airy: Vendors will set up their selling space at 138 Virginia Street in Mt. Airy. Vendor spaces will be assigned.
 - Pilot Mountain: Vendors will set up their selling space at 300 South Key Street in Pilot Mountain, NC 27041. Vendor spaces will be on a first-come first-serve basis.
- 28) Participating farms have 1 ballot for BOD for application.
- 29) Three (3) **unexcused** absences from any market and you will lose your position and it will be provided to someone on the waiting list.
- 30) Three (3) **excused** absences from any market and the Board of Directors will have the discretion to move you to another vendor location.
- 31) Any vendor under the age of 18 must have a parent or legal guardian with them at all times.
- 32) All vendors must comply with and abide by all Rules used to govern the Surry County Farmers' Market or they will be subject to ejection from the market.