

Resources for Farmers' Market Managers

Starting, growing and maintaining a successful farmers' market is no easy feat. Farmers' market managers belong to a unique club, working to provide their communities with wholesome, locally grown foods. In addition to managing the daily grinds of the market, vendors look to market managers for advice on everything from processing regulations to how to become SNAP EBT certified. Included, is a list of links that will hopefully assist you, so that you can better serve your respective farmers' markets.

FARMERS' MARKET RESOURCES:

- ❑ **Iowa Farmers' Market Association** is formed exclusively for education purposes, including the promotion of interest and knowledge of farmers' markets in the State of Iowa and the sharing of information among individual farmers, farmers' market vendors, farmers' markets and consumers.

<http://www.iafarmersmarkets.org/>

- ❑ **Farmers' Market Coalition** works to equip market managers and farmers with the tools necessary to run successful markets.

<https://farmersmarketcoalition.org/>

- ❑ **Farmers Markets – Wallace Center | Winrock International** led a collaborative effort to develop resources for farmers and farmers market managers.

<http://www.wallacecenter.org/farmersmarkets/>

- ❑ **Farmers' Market Managers Training Manual**

<http://www.nesare.org/Dig-Deeper/Useful-resources/Northeast-guides-and-books/Farmers-Market-Managers-Training-Manual>

- ❑ **Iowa Department of Ag and Land Stewardship: Horticulture and Farmers' Market Program** (Make sure to register your farmers' market with the Farmers' Market Directory, which can be found on this website)

<http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/horticultureandFarmersMarket.asp>

FARMERS' RESOURCES

- ❑ **Practical Farmers of Iowa** was founded in 1985. Our mission is to strengthen farms and communities through farmer-led investigation and information sharing. (This is an EXCELLENT organization based out of Ames)

<http://www.practicalfarmers.org/>

- ❑ **Beginning Farmers** offers resources for beginning farmers.

<http://www.beginningfarmers.org/marketing-resources/>



- ❑ **Women in Agriculture** is under the umbrella of Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/womeninag/>
- ❑ **Farmers' Market Food Safety Training (free)** Four online modules have been designed to provide science-based information on safe food production and handling specific to farmers' markets, with a focus on specialty foods and good agricultural practices. Intended for farmers' market managers and vendors.
<http://www.safeproduce.cals.iastate.edu/training/>
- ❑ **Women, Food and Agriculture** exists so that women can give each other the information, connections, and encouragement they need to be effective practitioners and supporters of sustainable agriculture and healthy localized food systems.
<http://www.wfan.org/>

LICENSING, REGULATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

- ❑ **Iowa Laws: Sales of home prepared foods** (Look for an updated version of this publication in the near future.)
http://www.agmrc.org/media/cms/pm1294_f9a1b26af379b.pdf
- ❑ **The University of Nebraska Food Processing Center** serves as a major food processing and applied research hub because it integrates applied research with state-of-the-art pilot plants, laboratory services, a team of product developers, and a team that supports food entrepreneurship.
<http://fpc.unl.edu/>
- ❑ **Good Agricultural Practices and Good Handling Practices** are voluntary audits that verify that fruits and vegetables are produced, packed, handled, and stored as safely as possible to minimize risks of microbial food safety hazards. For more info on GAPS contact Dr. Angela Laury Shaw at Iowa State University Extension.
angelaml@iastate.edu
- ❑ **Iowa Department of Inspection and Appeals-Food and Consumer Safety Bureau** is responsible for licensing and regulations.
<http://www.state.ia.us/government/dia/page3.html>
- ❑ **Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship** is responsible for licensing and regulations.
www.iowaagriculture.gov
- ❑ **Farmers' Market Nutrition Program Certification** enables vendors to accept WIC and SFMNP vouchers from customers. To learn more contact:
paul.ovrom@iowaagriculture.gov
- ❑ **SNAP EBT Certification** enables vendors to accept SNAP EBT cards from customers.
<http://dhs.iowa.gov/food-assistance/related-programs/farmers-market>

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