

Downtown Sandersville

Farmers Market Operating Rules 2026



Mission statement:

To provide a Downtown Farmers Market dedicated to the sale of agricultural products and home baked foods. The Market will provide a foundation for building partnerships among farmers, agriculturalists, consumers and the business community.

1. The **Market** will operate from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays on the square in downtown Sandersville from the first Saturday in March- the first Saturday in December.
2. Participation is open to any person interested in its promotion and who abides by the market regulations. All vendors must complete an application for participation in the **Market** and must agree in writing that they will abide by market rules or be subject to expulsion from the market (see attached **Market** application).
3. It is the responsibility of each vendor/producer to abide by all state/federal/county regulations which govern the production, harvest, preparation, preservation, labeling or safety of the product the vendor offers for sale at the **Market**.
4. From the first weekend in March until the last weekend in December, Washington County vendors will have priority signage and location at the **Market**. ALL items to be sold by these vendors must be grown or made in Washington County by the vendor. Trailers, out of county vendors, those reselling products and those requiring more than one space may be parked in the spaces adjacent to the courthouse. Vendors MUST be in place by 7:30 a.m. If there is a late arrival, vendor MUST park at the end, regardless of space.
5. All vendors are allowed to use the **Green Market Umbrellas** furnished at the **Market**. These will be placed for you by our Farmers Market Supervisor. Should a vendor park in a space that is not "set-up" for the Market Umbrella or if the supply of market umbrellas is exhausted, the vendor is allowed to use their own umbrella or 10x10 tent. Only one **Market Umbrella** will be allowed per vendor. **Market Umbrellas will not be used in inclement weather.** **Market Umbrellas** are to be put up and taken down only by authorized **Market** personnel.
6. There is a \$35.00 fee attached to the application. This fee is an annual fee and must be paid before your first sale date.
7. Each vendor will be responsible for setting up, displaying and packaging their products, as well as protecting those products from the elements. Vendors must leave their selling area in a clean and orderly condition. All trash and unsold goods must be removed from the **Market** area by the vendor.
8. Vendors may sell produce purchased elsewhere as long as they are parked in the appropriate areas of the **Market**.
9. Home baked and processed foods such as sausage, bread, jellies, jams, preserves, sandwiches and pickles are welcome but they all must adhere to all regulations from the Georgia Department of Agriculture / Georgia Department of Health (Washington County Health Department). This includes having product labels that list product name, vendor telephone number and ingredients of the product. Honey and syrup must also have product labels.

10. **Sale of flea-market/garage sale items is not allowed at the *Market*.** Arts and crafts are permitted for sale at the *Market* if they are made from agricultural products or handmade, one- of-a-kind traditional crafts such as soap making, candle making, quilting, spinning, and weaving. Arts and Crafts are subject to review and approval by the *Market* committee. Special events and sales can be approved by Main Street. T-SHIRTS are NOT allowed. Exception is the Guild for Kaolin Festival t-shirts.
11. Prices should be fair market value negotiated by the vendor and the customer. Undercutting other vendor's prices and ruining the profit margin for everyone is a problem at some markets and can lead to the failure of the entire venture. This *Market* will not make rules about this until it becomes a problem. For the time being courtesy and neighborliness will rule. Supermarket prices and the Farmers and Consumers Market Bulletin are two common sources of fair market value. The *Market* is not responsible for arrangements made between customers and vendors. No warranty of any sort, expressed or implied, is made by the *Market*.
12. Please call Carson Daley at 478-357-4025 with any problems that arise.
13. Any accident or injury must be immediately reported to a *Market* volunteer or called in to the Main Street Director. Anyone who comes to participate in the *Market*, vendor or customer, comes at their own risk. **The *Market* is not liable for an injury to person or property.**
13. **Because of Department of Agriculture concerns, vendors may not bring pets or touch animals while at the *Market*. All visiting pets must be on a leash.** Owners of unruly animals will be asked to leave the *Market*.
14. Only whisper soft or quiet generators will be allowed at the *Market*. Vendors operating generators judged excessively loud by the *Market* committee may be asked to leave.
15. Any cooking to be done at the *Market* must be done in a mobile unit approved by the City of Sandersville and present a ServeSafe certificate.
16. Egg sales are allowed at the *Market* as long as the vendor has a license from the Georgia Department of Agriculture and adheres to the training requirements of that organization.
17. The purpose of the *Market* is to promote local agricultural producers and handmade/ home grown items. For this reason, we ask that no *political or religious booths* be set up at the *Market*.
18. Willful violation of the *Market* rules may subject a vendor to exclusion from further participation in the *Market*. All violations will be reviewed by the *Market* committee.
19. **Vendors must remain in their assigned *Market* parking spot throughout the entire *Market* season. Exception to this rule is if an existing vendor plans to be absent from the market and gives another vendor permission to sell in their parking spot.**
22. The rules are intended to be fair and in the best interests of all who participate in the *Downtown Farmers Market*. The *Market* committee may, at any time, modify or add to these rules to better serve those interested or ban members not adhering to the rules.
23. All vendors will be held responsible for any damage to *Market* property and will be required to pay for damages.
24. **Junior Market will run from May 1-August 1. Applications must be completed along with a \$10.00 annual entry fee.**

For any questions or concerns, please reach out to our Main Street and DDA Director, Carson Daley: cdaley@sandersvillega.org or 478-357-4025

We look forward to a successful 2026 Market!