

Information Regarding Processed Food Products

Potential vendors at the Hingham Farmers' Market often have commonly asked questions. In order to help you here are the rules that we go by:

The Hingham Farmers Market collects a fee from vendors in order to sell at the market – this fee goes towards the management of the market, publicity, and basic operations.

The Hingham Board of Health collects a fee for whichever necessary permits are needed per vendor. When applying to the Board of Health bring/mail copies of any permits you already have..for example, wholesale license from the state, liability insurance info, and any town or state permits.

In order to sell at the Hingham Farmers Market you need a Temporary Food Permit from the Board of Health the fee for this is **\$75**. The Temporary Food Permit must be on display at the market at all times – copies of other permits/licenses should be accessible. When applying for this permit, the BOH will be looking for some of the following items.

1. Residential kitchen license.
 - a. The Hingham Board of Health issues residential kitchen licenses to town residents for the preparation and sale of cakes, cookies, candies, breads, jams and jellies.
 - b. . It is advised that application be made at least one month in advance and there is a fee. Contact the Board of Health: 781-741-1466 for further information.
 - c. Hingham will recognize residential kitchen licenses issued by other towns for the above products.
 - d. The state wholesale residential kitchen license is accepted for the above items.
 - e. All ingredients must be labeled on products and the license must be with you at our market.
2. For established businesses/restaurants wishing to sell at the market.
 - a. An offsite license is required and available from the Board of Health for a modest fee.
3. Commercial kitchen licenses.
 - a. It is possible to prepare foods in a facility with a commercial kitchen license (rental facility or church) and resell it at the market..
4. All food products need label of ingredients or list of ingredients available, and location of preparation. Those not produced in a residential kitchen must also contain dietary information. (Some items, such as ice cream by the scoop, excluded).
5. Common types of products and license required:
 - State food processing license: dairy products and canned goods
 - Licensed food establishment: relishes, prepared foods, sandwiches, soup, pasta, fish and meat
 - Marine fisheries license and town food service permit: fin fish and crustaceans only. Shellfish is prohibited.

Some other items:

- Set up and be ready for your food inspection.
- Know where you can wash your hands...at the Hingham market there are no sinks available – hand sanitizer, thermos of hot water are options for hand washing.
- Know where the bathrooms are located....at the Hingham market there are only bathrooms at high tide when the Bathing Beach Bath house is open during the summer months.
- Know how to dispose of your rubbish, garbage & grease...there are limited trash cans at the Hingham bathing beach – if you can take out any waste it will be less of a burden on the facilities at the beach.
- Do not touch Ready to Eat foods with your bare hands.

- Wear single-use gloves to handle ready to eat foods.
 - Use spatulas, wax tissue or tongs to handle ready to eat foods.
 - Have sample supplies covered and do not to let customers prepare them or reach for them themselves. They could be touching more than one piece and others would be eating those pieces. Do not use latex gloves due to allergy concerns. Tongs, single use gloves are some ways to handle this.
- Have a food temperature measuring thermometer readily available at your work station.
 - Have a method to keep cold foods cold (41 degrees F or less) and hot foods hot (140 degrees F or more).
 - Wear a hat or hair covering.
 - Do not eat, drink or smoke behind the food serving table.
 - Have your Temporary Food Permit readily available for review by the Health Inspector.
 - Contact the Health Department if you have any questions. Hingham Health Dept # 781 741 1466