



Dear Vendor,

The Town of Oakboro is excited to invite you to participate in the Oakboro Farmers Market for the upcoming season. Our market is a valued community event that supports local farmers, artisans, and small businesses while providing fresh, locally produced goods to our residents and visitors.

Please note that for the upcoming season, the Oakboro Farmers Market will move from Saturdays to Fridays. This change has been made to **allow both vendors and customers the opportunity to participate in and shop at various farmers markets throughout the county**, while continuing to support the Oakboro market.

The Oakboro Farmers Market will be held on **Fridays** from 8:00 am until 1:00 pm at the Oakboro Railroad Museum shelter, beginning on May 1st and continuing through October 31st. We welcome vendors offering locally grown produce, baked goods, specialty foods, handmade items, plants, crafts, and other approved market products.

Participating in the Oakboro Farmers Market provides an excellent opportunity to connect with the community, promote your business, and be part of a welcoming and family-friendly atmosphere. Vendor spaces are limited, and all vendors must comply with market rules, regulations, and applicable state and local requirements.

If you are interested in becoming a vendor, please complete the vendor application and submit it along with any required documentation. Additional information regarding fees, setup times, and market guidelines is included with the application.

Should you have any questions, please contact Town Hall at 704-485-3351 or TownofOakboro@oakboro.gov. We appreciate your interest and hope you will join us for a successful Oakboro Farmers Market season.

Sincerely

Town of Oakboro,



Oakboro Farmers Market 2026 General Regulations

OPERATIONS

1. The Farmers Market allows the selling of local produce, nuts, fruits, homemade crafts, and farm grown products only. Products must be of good quality and sold at a reasonable price.
2. Item categories generally permitted for sale:
 - a. Produce and meat items grown locally. If selling meat - a Meat Handler License is required by NCDA.
 - b. Potted plants, hanging baskets, vegetable plants and flowers may be sold as long as plants are free of insects and diseases and locally produced. (MUST obtain a Nursery Dealer's lic. By NCDA)
 - c. Local, home-preserved food items may be sold only if they meet NCDA Food and Drug Protections Division Regulations governing products exhibited at farmers markets and curb markets. A certified kitchen is required through NCDA.
 - d. Art and craft may include only articles that are handmade and legal for sale. (No resale of items manufactured that have not been crafted by the seller.)
 - e. Baked Goods – Baked from scratch by the vendor and in accordance to State and Federal regulations, www.ncagr.gov. This requires a certified kitchen through NCDA.
3. The Town of Oakboro may make management changes in terms of overall policy.
4. The Oakboro Farmers Market **SHALL NOT** be responsible for loss through theft or otherwise private property, personal injuries or damages to individuals or personal property.
5. Liability for all goods and food sold or traded lies on the vendor/seller. **It is highly recommended that each vendor of food items carries a \$1 million dollar liability policy.**
6. The Town of Oakboro exercises control of all concessions, vending machines, tables, coolers, furniture, power and facilities. The Town will enforce rules, handle fees and provide general information.
7. Vendors of locally grown crops that are labeled as such must be willing and able to prove the origination of product.
 - a. Those items labeled as "grown by the vendor" are susceptible to a farm visit to verify the originations.
8. Produce or items found to be of poor quality might be refused for sale at the discretion of the Town and/or Local Foods Agent based on the written STANDARDS OF QUALITY FOR MARKET.

SPACES

1. All vendors or users of space in the market **MUST** keep premises clean, sanitary and orderly. The market manager will report to Cooperative Extension requesting to prohibit vendors, if the vendor refuses to meet these standards.
2. Vendors are limited to **TWO** tables (if available). Use of wooden tables may be permitted to wrap around the sides of each space in order to expand vendor display.
3. Only **ONE** space is permitted to each vendor. Only the manager may give permission to utilize more spaces depending on the season and availability.
4. Market tenants must confine the piling and display of product to the space assigned to them and no higher than 3' from the table top.
5. No personal/farm sign shall be wider than a space. Personal/Farm signage may be no taller/higher than 5 ft. in front or beside of table signs at least 5 ft. behind a table may be no higher/taller than 4 feet and must be well secured.
 - a. All signage allowances are at the discretion of the Town and the Local Foods Agent.
 - b. No signage shall remain or be left after the market is closed.
6. No vendor is to falsely portray high quality food by covering inferior products beneath.
7. No salamander heaters will be permitted in the market without the approval of the market manager.
8. If a producer or dealer wishes to designate a person to represent him/her in their space, prior approval shall be obtained from the market manager and must be documented.

CONDUCT

1. Vendors of the market must not approach a buyer that is in conversation with another vendor. Nor should a vendor approach/converse with another vendor while they are dealing with a customer.
2. Abandoned products and/or containers will be disposed of by the market manager. If this occurs on multiple occasions, a disposal fee of \$10.00 will be applied.
3. Children under 12 years of age are not permitted to roam and wander around the market unless accompanied by an adult. Wholesalers, retailers, truckers, farmers and buyers who have minors accompanying them shall abide by these regulations.
 - a. Bicycles or similar devices in use, under the covered portion of the market, are **STRICTLY FORBIDDEN**.
 - b. **PETS ARE ALSO FORBIDDEN**.



Oakboro Farmers Market

STANDARDS OF QUALITY

The following standards are a basic foundation for the level of quality expected at the Oakboro Farmer's Market. For further detail and explicit guidelines, visit the USDA website for fresh fruit and vegetable standards: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/standards>

1. All fruit, vegetable, bread, meat, cheese and plant material must be free from defect, disease, pest and foreign material (dirt, dust, debris, mulch, etc.)
2. All products sold should be of sound and ethical practices. No covering of poor quality, masking defects, intentional misinformation, etc.
3. Products should be held at proper temperature to sustain quality and meet State and Federal Law.
 - a. Eggs – on ice or between 34 and 40 degrees F.
 - b. Meat – Frozen or between 34 and 40 degrees F.
 - c. Cheese – as package requires
4. Open/Cut fresh food should be covered, wrapped, or contained and only for sampling or serving (kitchen certification required)
5. Fruit and Vegetables that are leaking, dripping and cracked must be discarded.
6. All fresh food should have proper coloring, texture, shape and smell (Based on USDA Standards and at the discretion of the Town/Local Foods Agent)
7. Meats should be free from freezer damage, have proper coloring, labeled and sealed without leaks. (Meat Seller should have Meat Handler License)
8. Plant Material:
 - a. Certification/License with the NCDA
 - b. Free from Pests
 - c. Not listed as invasive
 - d. Of good health and vigor
 - e. Labeled/identified on the contained/plant
9. Crafts must be:
 - a. Crafted by the vendor or have a representative
 - b. Free from obscene, provocative or questionable subject or reference
 - c. Signed or labeled by the crafter
 - d. At the discretion of the Town and local foods agent
10. Produce shall be transported and displayed in or on clean, safe boxes, tables, trays, trucks, etc. and may not be sold directly off of a truck or the floor.
11. Cut flowers should have turgid stems, semi-closed buds, displayed & stored in water.
12. Handling of samples and ready- to-eat foods should be done with food-grade gloved hands.
13. Personal clothing shall be clean.
14. Jams and Preserved foods must meet state law requirements and should be of good color, consistency, sealed and in a clear container. (A certified kitchen is required)
15. Old, poor quality products should be discarded and not sold at a discount.



Oakboro Farmers Market **Guidelines for Selling Eggs**

- All eggs must be produced by the seller
- All eggs must be labeled as “ungraded”
- Eggs must be transported and displayed under active refrigeration
- Thermometers must be displayed in your egg case
- All eggs must be stored at 45°F or less but not frozen
- Sellers must provide an invoice or receipt with the grower’s name, address, telephone number and date of sale with each purchase. The invoice must also include the name of the purchases and the quantity purchased. A copy of the invoice must be kept for at least 30 days.
- Sales of 30 dozen or more per week are subject to the NC Egg Promotion Tax.

For a complete copy of the NC Egg Law, contact the Town (704-485-3351) or visit the NCDA&CS website at:

<https://www.ncagr.gov/fooddrug/food/egglaw.htm>

The Oakboro Farmers Market will open on May 1st for the new year.



Dues are \$25 per vendor and must be paid before you can set up at the farmers market. The dues cover the entire year (May 1, 2026-April 30, 2027). Applications/money will not be accepted on Saturday at the farmers' market.

Lanyards will be issued to each vendor once the application has been approved and fees have been received. Please wear these each week as identification.

Hours of Operation for the Oakboro Farmers Market - Friday: 8am-1pm

You are also allowed to set up on other days as well as long as you are registered with the Town. We do ask that you contact Town Hall at 704-485-3351 or email townofOakboro@oakboro.gov if you plan to sell on another day to ensure other activities are not scheduled.

Points of information

- There will be a maximum of six spaces for vendors allowed under the Railroad Museum Shelter. These spaces will be on a first come, first served basis.
- Please be prepared to set up outside the shelter if you are not one of the first six vendors on site.
- Vendors may plan to arrive as early as 7am on Friday to choose a spot under the shelter.
- Products being sold at the Oakboro Farmers Market must be grown or produced on your property. The buying and selling of any other products not produced on your property is prohibited.
- If scales are needed to weigh your produce, the scales must be certified and have a current HTEP certification. Any other type of scales will not be permitted. Should you decide not to use scales, you may sell your products by the piece.
- If your plan is to sell meat, a copy of your meat handlers license is requested but not required.
- If your plan is to sell baked goods, you must have a certified kitchen at your home. A copy of this certification is requested by the town, but not required. This has to be approved by the NC Cooperation Extension Service and should be included with this application.
- Selling of eggs is strictly enforced by the State of North Carolina. Please see the North Carolina Regulations if this applies to you. Eggs must be kept in a refrigerated state where the temperature is 45°F or less (but not at freezing temperatures) at all times. Please do not place eggs on the table for display. This is prohibited.
- **Parking on the grass around the Railroad Shelter is prohibited at all times.** The only time you may pull onto the grass is to unload your vehicle. Please do this as quickly as possible and then remove your vehicle from the grass.
- Obtaining your meat handlers license and certified kitchen classification protects you in case someone should get sick.
- Inspectors from the county or state can pop in at any time and request certifications/licenses. Please make sure to have those with you at all times. Fines can be up to \$1,000 if you do not have the proper certifications or licenses.

I have read and obtained a copy of the rules and regulations for the Oakboro Farmers Market and will abide accordingly. I understand what the requirements are for the town, county and state.

Signature _____ Date _____

Date Paid: _____



2026

Farmers Market Vendor Application
\$25.00 per year

Farm/Business Name													
Name(s) of Owner(s)													
Mailing Address													
Email Address													
Phone Number													
Website (if applicable)													
Address of production location (if different above)													
Do you own or rent the location of production?													
What vendor category are you applying for?	<input type="checkbox"/> Farmer <input type="checkbox"/> Prepared Foods/Baked Goods/Value-Added Foods <input type="checkbox"/> Crafter/Value-Added Products – nonfood												
Please indicate the months you want to participate:	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> January</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> February</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> March</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> April</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> May</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> June</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> July</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> August</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> September</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> October</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> November</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> December</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Typically, the months we hold the farmers market are May through October unless weather permits for the other months.</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> January	<input type="checkbox"/> February	<input type="checkbox"/> March	<input type="checkbox"/> April	<input type="checkbox"/> May	<input type="checkbox"/> June	<input type="checkbox"/> July	<input type="checkbox"/> August	<input type="checkbox"/> September	<input type="checkbox"/> October	<input type="checkbox"/> November	<input type="checkbox"/> December
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Additional name(s) requested for lanyards													

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