



FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM

FARMERS AGREEMENT

(Valid January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015)

County of Residence

Print Name

FMNP I.D. #

I understand and hereby agree to abide by the Rules and Procedures as printed on the reverse side of this form and in the Farmers Market Nutrition Program Training Manual or amendments to rules that may be promulgated at markets and/or mailed to me. **In compliance with USDA's regulations, I acknowledge that I have received training by submitting this completed form and a current year's growers' permit each year to the Farmers Market Authority. I understand and agree that it is my responsibility to submit these forms.**

Farmer's Signature

Date

Home Address

City/State/Zip Code

Telephone Number (including area code)

E-mail Address

Race:

- _____ American Indian or Alaska Native
- _____ Asian
- _____ Black or African American
- _____ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- _____ White or Caucasian

Ethnicity:

- _____ Hispanic
- _____ Non-Hispanic

Roadside Stand/U-Pick: NO YES If yes, _____
FMNP Authorized Roadside Stand/U-Pick Name

Markets:

FMNP Authorized Market Name

Please notify the Farmers Market Authority at 1-877-774-9519 or (334) 240-7247 if any of the above information changes.

All farmers will be inactive each year until FMA receives a new farmer's agreement and grower's permit. Any checks submitted by a farmer that is inactive will be returned to your bank and you will not be allowed to redeposit those checks.

Therefore, verify with FMA by calling this toll free number 1-877-774-9519, that you are eligible to accept FMNP checks before making any deposits.

You must stamp the front of each check with the FMNP certification stamp that is issued by the Alabama Farmers Market Authority (FMA).

- If you failed to stamp the front of the check or if the number is not legible, the check(s) will be returned to your bank. If you are active, you will have the opportunity to stamp the checks and redeposit them. Be sure to keep your stamp filled with ink and apply a generous amount of pressure when stamping the checks to avoid returned checks.
- Only a bona fide producer of fresh fruits, vegetables, herbs and honey can be certified for the FMNPs.
 - The producer may send a family member, employee or designated agent registered with the market manager to sell his goods. **(If you have ever been disqualified from the FMNP's, you cannot be a designated agent.)**
- First time participants must receive interactive (face-to-face or web-based) training on program rules.

It is the farmers responsibility to make sure that FMA has received the farmers agreement and growers permit prior to accepting FMNP checks.

- Assure that checks are redeemed for programmatic eligible foods;
- Clearly mark each check with a farmer identifier;
- Make regular deposits as you accept FMNP checks and do not wait until the end of the program to make one large deposit;
- Provide training to any employees on program rules and procedures;
- Accept FMNP checks only at sites authorized by the Farmers Market Authority. (If you have questions regarding authorized sites, contact the FMA.)
- Farmers may accept **WFMNP** checks only for locally grown fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs **which they grow themselves. Honey is not an eligible item in the WFMNP!**
- Farmers may accept **SFMNP** checks only for locally grown fresh fruits, vegetables, herbs and honey **which they grow themselves.**
- Farmers may purchase produce and accept FMNP checks for the purchased product **only** if:
 - 1) the market rules permit,
 - 2) the farmer submits a completed "Request to Purchase Form" to the Farmers Market Authority (FMA) to purchase products with justification for the need to purchase products, and
 - 3) permission is granted from the FMA.

FMNP checks **CANNOT** be redeemed for nuts, jelly, jam, eggs, baked goods, plants, flowers, or other non-food items, or items not produced on local farms.

- They are good **only for fresh, locally-grown, unprocessed fruits, vegetables, herbs (*herbs must be cut, cannot be potted*) and honey (*honey - SFMNP only*)**. Produce may be cleaned, trimmed and packaged but not otherwise processed, heated, or cooked.
- Checks **cannot be** exchanged for cash, **cannot be used to buy produce from another farmer** or given away.

PERMANENT DISQUALIFICATION: Upon the second disqualification in a three (3) year period beginning Jan 1, 2008, the disqualification will be permanent.