



State of Utah

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UDAF Releases Farmers Market Guidelines for 2020 Season Local Health Departments Have Final Say if Markets Can Open

(Salt Lake City) The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) has released guidelines that will hopefully allow farmers markets throughout the state to open for the 2020 market season. Local authorities will make the final decision if markets in their jurisdiction may open.

“UDAF has received positive feedback from a number of health departments regarding the newly proposed COVID-19 guidelines for Farmers Markets,” said Travis Waller, Director, Regulatory Services Director, UDAF.

UDAF issues permits each year to all outdoor markets in the state that have processed food vendors. Local authorities additionally issue mass gathering or special event permits. This new guidance is designed to offer a possible path forward for markets while taking into account COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions.

“If executed diligently, thoughtfully, and methodically, there is no reason why steps cannot be taken to provide local producers an opportunity to remain viable and ensure an alternative source for the public to obtain food necessities,” said UDAF Commissioner, Logan Wilde.

Some of the new requirements include enforcement of CDC social distancing requirements of six-foot spacing between shoppers, market booths must be spaced 10 feet apart and a hand washing station is required for every five booths. Vendors and patrons should be encouraged to use cashless, online forms of payment. Vendors must wear gloves. If one person must handle payment transactions and food, gloves must be changed between every cross use. Additional requirements include no art/craft vendors and no food sampling.

Please see UDAF’s COVID-19 Food Establishment Permit Guidelines for Farmers Markets document on our website for a complete list of requirements and recommendations.

<https://bit.ly/2VSWsmm>

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