## **COUNTY OF BUCKS**

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

Neshaminy Manor Center, 1282 Almshouse Road, Doylestown, PA 18901 - 215-345-3318 FIELD OFFICES

Bucks County Government Services Center, 7321 New Falls Road, Levittown, PA 19055 – 267-580-3510 Bucks County Government Services Center, 261 California Road, Suite #2, Quakertown, PA 18951 – 215-529-7000

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3/8/24

## LICENSE REQUIREMENTS FOR FARMERS MARKET STANDS

Dear Market Manager,

The Bucks County Department of Health (BCDH) has been regulating farmer's market stands for more than ten years. While most market managers and stand operators contact our inspectors to discuss the licensing process and stand requirements, as a reminder, please continue to ensure that all food vendors contact their assigned inspectors to discuss licensing requirements.

Please know that even if a specific stand does not require a farmer's market license from BCDH, all food sold or offered including maple syrup, jams/jellies, etc., must come from an approved source. An approved source is defined as one that complies with Law, therefore is licensed to produce products for human consumption. Food prepared in a private home cannot be sold or given away at a farmer's market unless that residence is registered as a Limited Food Establishment (LFE) with the PA Department of Agriculture (PDA). Anyone selling or offering food from an unapproved source will be asked to leave the market, an unfortunate situation which did occur several times last season.

Please share with your vendors the attached recently updated farmer's market application and guidelines, a reminder of what is required to sell food at a farmer's market. Vendors are required to submit the applications 30 days in advance of the market opening to ensure a timely approval process.

License exemptions for intact produce and prepackaged non-time/temperature control for safety (TCS) products remain in place. Sampling of non-TCS products will also not require a license. Please call the nearest district office if you have questions or need to speak with an inspector. Phone numbers for each of our three offices are in the letterhead above. We look forward to working with you and your vendors this upcoming season.

Sincerely,

Richard Flack

**Environmental Supervisor**