

Second Congo's Farmers Market

Good Food - Good Neighbors - Good Faith

2nd & 4th Saturdays, June - September
9AM - 2 PM

1080 Pleasant St.
Palmer, MA

secondcongo1847@gmail.com



Second Congo's Farmers Market

Rules



The Second Congo's Farmers Market is a ministry of the Second Congregational Church to provide a community for small-scale, local agricultural and artisan products. We strive to provide an environment that promotes wellness in a wholesome, social gathering place.

Second Congregational Church (hereinafter referred to as Market) provides the following rules that it expects all vendors to adhere to while participating in the Market.

If you have any questions or concerns about these rules, you can email them directly to the Market at secondcongo1847@gmail.com.

PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY

The Market is open and available to all Farmers (one who grows or harvests their own product) or Producers (one who makes their own product) in the local region. Preference will be given to vendors based on proximity to Palmer and product offerings. Any items sold at the market must have been grown, raised, harvested, or primarily made by the vendor.

PERMITS AND LICENSING

Vendors are required to have applicable permits if they are selling/handling food products. Information on permits can be found on the Palmer Board of Health website at www.townofpalmer.com/health or by calling the Board of Health at (413) 283-2606.

Vendors are also required to obtain permits if they use propane tanks in any capacity. Information on permits can be found on the Palmer Fire Department website www.townofpalmer.com/palmerfire

All permits and licenses *MUST* be kept current for the entire Market season, and copies of permits *MUST* be provided to the Market upon request. Failure to adhere to all aspects of this section will result in suspension from the market.

INSURANCE

The Market requires all Vendors hold their own liability insurance, and that they add "Second Congregational Church" at 1080 Pleasant St., Palmer, MA 01069 as additionally insured. An Insurance Certificate naming the church as "Additional Insured" for general liability with limits of \$1,000,000 Occurrence and \$2,000,000 General Aggregate *MUST* be submitted to Second Congregational Church before the market begins. Failure to provide this document will result in a rejection of the applicant.

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APPLICATION PROCESS

All vendors must complete the Market's registration form. Only completed registrations submitted by May 4, 2026, will be considered.

The Market will review all applications fairly and give equal consideration to all vendors who submitted registrations before the deadline. When reviewing applications, the Market will consider the following for vendor selection:

- Does the vendor meet/or support the Vision and Mission of the Market?
- How many similar/conflicting products are or may be sold at the Market?
- If a vendor has participated, have they adhered to all Market Rules and Policies?
- Proximity to Palmer, MA

The Market reserves the right to use these and other criteria not listed when considering a potential vendor for the Market.

The goal of the Market is to highlight our local farmers and producers in Palmer and the surrounding communities. The Market reserves the right to seek out vendors to increase the diversity of products or increase the supply of high demand product at any time. The Market will make every effort to provide a variety of vendors.

FEES & EQUIPMENT

Vendor fees are collected by the Market as a fundraiser for Second Congregational Church. The church uses the funds for operational expenses and community outreach.

In 2026, the fee is \$20 per market, per 10' x 10' space. This applies to all vendors. Fees are payable to Second Congregational Church, 1080 Pleasant St., Palmer, MA 01069.

- Full-Time Vendors: Fees are non-refundable, and payment is due by May 22, 2026. Notification must be emailed to secondcongo1847@gmail.com by 12:00 PM on the Thursday before the market if you will not be attending. If you fail to attend 2 markets, you will lose your permanent space and will be moved to an undesignated space.
- Part-time Vendors: Fees must be paid on the day of the market **before** setting up. Notification must be emailed to secondcongo1847@gmail.com by 12:00 PM on the Thursday before the market if you are attending to assure a booth space.

Note that there are fees related to licensing in the Town of Palmer, which vendors **MUST** have before they arrive at the Market, as well as insurance requirements listed above.

Each vendor will be responsible for bringing canopies, tables, signs, and all supplies necessary to participate in the market. All canopies must be staked or weighed down properly.

The Market does not supply electrical, water, or internet services.

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MARKET COMMITMENT

It is expected that any vendor who signs up for, and is confirmed to be at a given Market date, will be there for the duration of that Market. The Market expects vendors to arrive 30 minutes prior to the opening of the Market and stay set up until closing. Vendors are expected to maintain their booth area, keep it clean, and carry out any items that are carried in. Failure to comply with these commitments shall be subject to a warning and or dismissal from the market. That decision will be at the discretion of Second Congregational Church.

In the event there are extenuating circumstances beyond the Vendor's control that cause the vendor to arrive late or leave early, please contact the Market via email at secondcongo1847@gmail.com as soon as possible to discuss the situation.

SAFETY

The Market adheres to all appropriate Federal, State, and local health regulations and standards. The Market expects all of its vendors to adhere to the same codes and standards. If a vendor is selling products that require Board of Health licensing, the vendor is responsible for obtaining the required permits and licenses and may be subject to periodic inspections. Failure to meet these requirements will result in dismissal from the Market.

The safety of the Market patrons and vendors is a top priority. All participants are required to act in a safe manner and mitigate any potential risks while on site. The Market representative will monitor and ask for corrections to unsafe behavior or practices. Failure to comply will result in dismissal from the Market.

DISPUTE & RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

The Second Congo Farmers Market is meant for all residents, visitors, and vendors in and around Palmer. It is the Market's goal to resolve all issues swiftly and fairly. If you have a dispute with something or someone at the Market that cannot be resolved on your own, please direct your concerns to the Market Representative onsite.

The Market will strive to resolve complaints through mutually agreed upon dialogue among all parties involved. The Market will take immediate action.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

The Market is a "rain or shine" event, but the Market Representative may cancel by 8:00 AM in the case of severe weather. A cancellation notice will be emailed and posted on social media once the final decision is made. If lightning occurs during the Market, it will pause immediately, and everyone must seek shelter. The Market may reopen once conditions clear. If it cannot reopen within an hour, the remainder of the Market will be cancelled. The Market is not responsible for income loss, equipment damage, or weather-related injuries; participants must use their own judgment regarding safety.

Second Congo's Farmers Market Application



| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Contact Name | |
| Name of Farm or Business | |
| Address | |
| Town & Zip Code | |
| Phone | |
| Email | |
| Website | |
| Product(s) to be sold | |
| | Full-time: \$160/Season Single Space |
| | Part-time: \$20/Day Single Space |
| | Single Space: 10 ft. x 10 ft. (approx.) |
| | Double Space: 10 ft. x 20 ft. (approx.) |

Part-time vendors, please indicate which dates (if known) you will be attending.

| | | | |
|--|-------------|--|-------------|
| | 6/13 | | 8/8 |
| | 6/27 | | 8/22 |
| | 7/11 | | 9/12 |
| | 7/25 | | 9/26 |

All vendors must enclose a copy of their current Certificate of Liability Insurance for Commercial General Liability (see above) and a copy of relevant certificates issued by the Palmer Board of Health.

Mail completed applications to:
Second Congregational Church
1080 Pleasant St.
Palmer, MA. 01069
Attn: Farmers Market