

Volunteering at the Chapel Hill Farmers' Market

Thank you for your interest in volunteering for the Chapel Hill Farmers' Market! We are a small non-profit with a single part-time employee, so we really appreciate your time and dedication to helping our market prosper. There are many ways that you can be involved at the market, including helping set up and break down the market and lending a hand at special events. Our Board of Directors also has a number of committees who work hard to forward the missions of the Chapel Hill Farmers' Market and make lasting ties with our community. If you are interested in serving on a committee please speak with our Market Manager, Ali Rudel.

Volunteers are an incredible asset to the market, but please keep in mind that your presence reflects upon the market. We ask that volunteers be courteous and respectful of our customers and vendors. We encourage our volunteers to be engaged, active and present and to keep up a professional demeanor. This means keeping cell phones tucked away, saying hi to our customers. If in doubt, always refer questions to the Market Manager. A list of frequently asked questions about the market is available on the reverse side of this document.

If you would like to volunteer for a Saturday Set Up Shift or a Saturday Break Down Shift please review the responsibilities described below. If you are unable to complete all of these tasks please speak with the Market Manager, Ali Rudel, about how we might adjust these tasks to meet your abilities or to discuss other volunteer opportunities.

Saturday Set Up Shift Responsibilities & Duties

7:00am- 9:30am

The main responsibilities of the first volunteer shift are to help the Market Manager set up the farmers market for the day. This involves putting up signage, tents, tables. If you are unable to stand for the duration of your shift please consider bringing a lawn chair with you to market. Market is held rain or shine so make sure to dress weather-appropriately (think layers, rain boots, sunscreen, etc.)

Some examples of duties include:

- Helping the Market Manager set up the Chapel Hill Farmers' Market tent and tents for any events that morning
- Bringing out our rolling road sign on the sidewalk along Estes Drive
- Adjusting the traffic cones surrounding the market to fit the size of the day's market
- Setting out the "Service Dogs Only" sandwich boards at either end of the market
- Helping to hang banners along Estes Drive
- Taking a head count of customers every half hour
- Referring customers to our newsletter sign up sheet
- Answering questions about the market or referring questions to the market manager
- Assisting with helping any events going on that morning run smoothly

Saturday Break Down Shift Responsibilities & Duties

10am- 12:30pm

The main responsibilities of the second volunteer shift are to help the Market Manager take down the farmers market for the day. This involves collecting signage, taking down tents and tables. If you are unable to stand for the duration of your shift please consider bringing a lawn chair with you to market. Market is held rain or shine so make sure to dress weather-appropriately (think layers, rain boots, sunscreen, etc.)

Some examples of duties include:

- Helping the Market Manager take down the Chapel Hill Farmers' Market table and tent and tents for any events being held that morning and storing them in the market van.
- Bringing our rolling road sign on the sidewalk along Estes Drive back to its home in the back of the mall.
- Collecting traffic cones surrounding the market and stacking them neatly on the two sides of the market
- Gathering the two the "Service Dogs Only" sandwich boards at either end of the market to store in the market van
- Checking the area for any trash/debris that may need to be disposed of
- Taking down the banners along Estes Drive to store in the market van
- Taking a head count of customers every half hour
- Referring customers to our newsletter sign up sheet
- Answering questions about the market or referring questions to the market manager
- Assisting with helping any events going on that morning run smoothly

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the market hours?

The market is open year-round on Saturdays and Tuesdays April-Thanksgiving
Saturday Summer Hours (March-November) 8am-Noon
Saturday Winter Hours (December-March) 9am-Noon
Tuesdays 3-6pm

Can I buy something before market begins? Is there a bell?

On Saturdays you make purchases whenever a vendor is ready. However on Tuesdays we ask that you wait until the 3pm market start time when we ring the bell. This ensures that vendors don't compete and show up earlier and earlier to get early sales.

How can I sell at market?

All information about applications can be found on our website at www.thechapelhillfarmersmarket.com under "Become a Vendor"

Like most of the markets in the area we have a competitive application process that runs for a short period each winter. Applications are generally available around November and are due at the end of January. New applicants must fill out an application and submit an application fee and a membership fee (the membership fee is refundable if you are not accepted).

We do take vendors for our Craft Markets (held 6 times per year) on a rolling basis.

We also have a Specialty Vendor Application, for applicants who have missed the regular application season but have a product that the market does not have, or for vendors who are unable to meet the minimum number of markets per year due to short season of their product.

Are dogs allowed at market?

Though we love your four-legged companions for health reasons only service animals are allowed at market.

How long have you been here?

The Farmers of Orange has been around since 2008 and we've been housed in the University Mall parking lot for several years. We moved to our current location along S. Estes Drive in March of 2014.

How can I contact the Market/Market Manager/Board of Directors?

You can email us at farmersoforange@gmail.com, which goes to our Market Manager, Ali Rudel. She can direct any emails to the appropriate persons from there (there is also a contact form on our website that goes to this same address).

You can also reach Ali Rudel, the Market Manager, at (919) 533-9496

How can I find out who/what will be at market? If there are any special events?

We have a regular email newsletter that goes out before each market with events, a list of products available as well as individual updates from our vendors themselves. You can sign up at market or on our website www.thechapelhillfarmersmarket.com

We also have an active social media presence. You can find us on Facebook (Chapel Hill Farmers Market), instagram and twitter (@chfarmersmarket) and Pinterest (Chapel Hill Farmers Market).

Are you associated with any other farmers' markets in the area?

The Chapel Hill Farmers' Market is the sole market run by the non-profit organization The Farmers' of Orange. We are not associated with any other markets in the area but some of our vendors do sell at other markets and we love that other area markets are also working to give local people access to local foods!