



Bridge to Phase 5: OUTDOOR Farmers Market Guidelines

Updated May 20, 2021

Updates and changes affecting farmers markets in 5-17-2021 Executive Order 2021-10



Market Management

- Farmers market managers should consult their local health departments and the State of Illinois for the latest information on COVID-19 and current conditions in their community.
- Communicate with customers and vendors regularly about market practices and expectations.
- Farmers Market management will establish a wellness screening program and require all vendors/volunteers/staff to participate in a market day wellness screening upon entry to verify no presence of COVID-19 symptoms.



General Guidelines

- Communicate with customers regularly about market practices and expectations.
- Unvaccinated customers, volunteers, vendors, and staff must wear face coverings at all times over nose and mouth as per state guidelines. *****
- Social distance of at least 6-ft. should be maintained between non-household individuals.
- Farmers markets should have employees/volunteers monitoring the venue to ensure customers are social distancing.
- Eating and drinking is recommended to be in designated spaces as outlined in the Restore Illinois Bridge to Phase 5 outdoor dining guidelines. *****
- All vendors and community groups are welcome as long as space allows for appropriate social distancing.
- Communicate with signage, expected customer behavior, throughout the market.
- Consider adding a designated shopping time or other delivery services for vulnerable patrons, the elderly, and disabled.



Masks

- Farmers Market operators should work with local jurisdictions in setting policies.
- Any individual who is not fully vaccinated, over the age of two, is required to cover their nose and mouth with a face covering when in a public place unless appropriate social distancing can be maintained at all times. This includes indoor and outdoor spaces. *****
- Customers who are fully vaccinated are no longer required to wear a mask. (Fully vaccinated means "persons for whom at least two weeks has passed after receiving the final dose of an FDA-approved or authorized COVID-19 vaccine).
- Post signage notifying everyone that wearing a mask is required unless a person is fully vaccinated. This includes children.
- Farmers market operators can require masks for all vendors, staff, volunteers, and/or customers while at the market.
- Eating and drinking is recommended to be in designated spaces as outlined in the Restore Illinois Bridge to Phase 5 outdoor dining guidelines.*****



Enhanced Sanitation

- Continue to provide hand sanitizer and practice enhanced sanitation.
- Farmers Market management will establish a wellness screening program and require all vendors/volunteers/staff to participate in a market day wellness screening upon entry to verify no presence of COVID-19 symptoms.



Customer Guidelines

- Do not enter if sick
- Wear face coverings as per state or local jurisdiction guidelines
- Maintain social distance
- Use touchless payments if possible



On-Site Food Consumption

- Farmers Markets that offer food and beverage should follow the Restore Illinois Bridge to Phase 5 outdoor dining guidelines.*****



In addition to following the retail guidelines, farmers markets should follow these extra precautions:

CAPACITY

- Restore Illinois Bridge to Phase 5****
 - 30 people/1000 sq. ft outdoor
 - 15 people/1000 sq. ft indoor

SET UP MARKET FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Any individual who is not fully vaccinated must maintain social distance of at least 6 feet from anyone that does not live with them.
- Consider adding entrances and exits to regulate flow through the market
- Monitor attendance to ensure social distancing requirements are kept
- Set up booths a minimum of six feet apart
- Set up market aisles to be one-way where practical to maximize spacing between customers and identify one-way aisles with conspicuous signage and /or floor markings
- Ensure 6 foot social distance is maintained within booth space, while customers are shopping, and waiting in line

VENDOR GUIDELINES

- Maintain social distancing at all times and employ enhanced sanitation procedures.
- Follow prescribed state and local food safety procedures for all products offered for sale.
- All stands must have approved farmers market portable handwashing stands** or approved CDC hand sanitizer.***
- Set up to ensure vendors/staff have adequate social distance between themselves and customers.
- Ensure 6 foot social distance is maintained within booth space, while customers are shopping, and waiting in line.
- Recommend touchless transactions.
- Follow market guidelines for handling Link tokens, nutrition incentives and other nutrition assistance coupons.
- Vendors should not touch customer's reusable bags.
- All vendors must sanitize their booths every 2 hours; wiping down tables, terminals, cash boxes, and other high touch surfaces.
- Recommend sampling be limited to individually packaged servings.

VENDOR OPERATIONS

- Each vendor must have a handwashing station or CDC recommended hand sanitizer inside the booth.
- If possible, implement touchless transactions. If not possible, clean transaction equipment and area after each transaction.
- Clean and disinfect common areas and surfaces which are touched by multiple people (e.g., entry/exit doorknobs, stair railings) every 2 hours with EPA recommended procedures and cleaners and disinfectants.
- Follow market guidelines for handling Link tokens, nutrition incentives and other nutrition assistance coupons.



RESOURCE LINKS

***Illinois guidance on the Use of masks**

https://www2.illinois.gov/dhr/Documents/IDHR_FAQ_for_Businesses_Concerning_Use_of_Face-Coverings_During_COVID-19_Ver_2020511b%20copy.pdf

****IDPH Portable Hand Washing Station**

<https://www.dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/publications/Farmers-Market-Food-Product-Sampling-Handout.pdf>

*****CDC Hand Sanitizer Guidelines**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/hand-hygiene.html>

******Restore Illinois A Bridge to Phase 5**

<https://dceoresources-ss-assets.s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/public/Restore-Illinois/A-Bridge-to-Phase-5.pdf>

*******Executive Order 2021-10 5-17-2022; Bridget to Phase 5**

<https://www2.illinois.gov/Pages/Executive-Orders/ExecutiveOrder2021-10.aspx?fbclid=IwAR2MgQcQFWFXWYJ7svTYJo8JP8AaqVPKWZ4PGCxiaTc3byqUHAPdbdcEtIA>