



Steve Troxler
Commissioner

Tad Atkinson,
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North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

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Peter Thornton
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Dear Valued Vendors,

We'd like to start by wishing all of you a Happy New Year. We are excited to kick off the 2026 season and look forward to working with both new and returning vendors in the year ahead. The 2025 Season was a great success. We attribute this success to the contributions of every vendor.

There is a lot of change on the horizon for the PTFM in 2026. The most notable change will take effect on April 1, 2026, with the Market's space rental fees. Rental fee changes were approved by the NC Board of Agricultural for all farmers markets within the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA & CS). Rental fee changes for the PTFM include:

For *Farmer* vendors who **are present and actively selling for at least 6 days during any calendar week** (i.e., Sunday through Saturday), the day rates for Saturdays and Sundays will continue being:

- \$25 for an A Space per day. *Out-of-State Farmers: \$50 for an A Space per day.
- \$10 for a B Space per day. *Out-of-State Farmers: \$20 for a B Space per day.
- \$6 for a C Space per day. *Out-of-State Farmers: \$12 for a C Space per day.

For *Farmer* vendors who **are not present and actively selling for at least 6 days during any calendar week** (i.e., Sunday through Saturday), the day rates for Saturdays and Sundays will be:

- \$50 for an A Space per day. *Out-of-State Farmers: \$100 for an A Space per day.
- \$20 for a B Space per day. *Out-of-State Farmers: \$40 for a B Space per day.
- \$12 for a C Space per day. *Out-of-State Farmers: \$24 for a C Space per day.

In effect, if a farmer vendor retains space and is actively selling at least 6 days during a calendar week, they will be exempt from the rate increase applied to Saturdays and Sundays. Attendance will be taken daily by a PTFM associate to document which vendors qualify for the attendance-based rate reduction.

Also taking effect on April 1, 2026, the space rental fees for Non-Farmer vendors and Concession vendors will be:

- \$75 for an A Space on Saturdays and Sundays; \$45.00 for an A Space Monday - Friday
- \$10 for a B Space in Farmers 1 and Farmers 2, Sunday - Saturday
- \$6 for a C Space in Farmers 1, Sunday - Saturday
- \$15 for a B Space in Concession Row, Sunday - Saturday



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Starting March 2, 2026, the PTFM will begin closing all gates to the Market at 10:00 pm. The gates will reopen the next morning at 6:00am Monday through Friday. Effective on March 7, 2026, the market gates will open at 4:00am gates on Saturdays and Sundays.

In 2026, we will continue to use **Marketspread**. Every prospective vendor is required to sign up for this program and apply for the 2026 season through this portal. Follow this [link](#) to apply for the 2026 Season. Please find attached a step-by-step tutorial that will assist with signing up. You are more than welcome to come to the office and we can walk you through the process while also completing your annual vendor meeting.

Grower's Certifications along with Kitchen Inspections and Meat Handlers Licenses, etc., will also need to be uploaded to the Marketspread platform as they apply to the products you intend to sell. This year's Grower's Certifications can be conducted by Market Management upon request or your county's Agricultural Extension Agent. Any new farmer wishing to sell on the Market will be required to have their grower certification conducted by PTFM management.

After your application is received, Market Management will review it and contact you with the status of your application via messaging through Marketspread. Management will schedule an office meeting for all promising prospective vendors as well as returning vendors to discuss your plans for 2026. All vendors are required to meet with PTFM Management as part of the approval process to sell at the Market in 2026. Meetings will be scheduled Monday through Friday between the hours 7:30am and 4:30pm. During the meetings, vendors will be informed if your application is approved and if you are permitted to sell at the Market during the 2026 season.

Please take time to review the 2026 Market Guidelines prior to submitting your application. These Guidelines include the parameters with which you are expected to comply when selling at the PTFM.

If you have any questions regarding the application process, please feel free to contact us at (336) 605-9157.