



# BELLAIRE FARMERS MARKET

## 2026 MARKET RULES AND REGULATIONS

This VENDOR AGREEMENT dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ between ASI (ASI Community, Inc.) a Michigan non-profit organization and \_\_\_\_\_

(address, city, state, zip code)

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Mission Statement**

The Bellaire Farmers Market provides Antrim County farmers with a retail market outlet for items grown or otherwise produced from items grown in Antrim County or on farms having a portion of their land in Antrim County. The farmers market allows for a community gathering place for local farmers and vendors to sell directly to the consumer to promote growth through economic development.

### **Market Location and Schedule**

The Bellaire Farmers Market is open Fridays from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. and is located in the ASI Pavilion in front of the ASI Community Center on South Maple Street. Subject to growing conditions, the market will operate mid-May through the first part of October. The ASI Farmers Market Committee (Market Committee) will determine the final operational schedule. All vendors participating in the market agree to accept and follow the rules established by the ASI Farmers Market Committee.

### **Producer Definition**

A producer is a person offering for sale articles for human consumption such as fruit, vegetables, edible grains, nuts, berries, honey, maple sugars, syrups, and breads, and non-edible articles such as plants, cut flowers, and handmade crafts. Only producers will be allowed to be vendors at the Bellaire Farmers Market.

All items sold must have been raised, prepared, gathered, or produced by vendors associated with farms or portions of farms located in Antrim County. Market eligibility is extended to growers from adjacent counties on a case-by-case basis determined by the Market Manager. If the Farmers Market Manager feels the producer's products will fill a void and/or niche in the market that has not otherwise been filled by any current vendors, the Manager, at his own discretion, may allow said producer, up to 35% of available space.

### **Synergistic Products**

Synergistic is defined as a product, which is not necessarily grown or produced by the vendor. For example, synergistic products include dried cherries and other value-added cherry products. Synergistic products are permitted as long as they are not competing with similar Antrim County produced goods and are consistent with the type of product grown in Antrim County. Eligibility of synergistic products is determined by the Market Committee. No synergistic products (i.e., blueberries) are grandfathered in to any Vendor. ALL synergistic products are to be disclosed on the application for review each year.

To qualify to sell a synergistic product at the market, a season vendor must:

- List the product(s) on their vendor application:
- Display a sign in a prominent location that is easily viewed by customers stating where the product was grown.
- Signs MUST be displayed and must be provided by the Vendor.

### **Annual Vendor Application**

Every vendor must make an annual application to participate in the market. When accepting vendors to the market, the Market Manager will consider the following criteria:

- Vendor's location or relationship to location in Antrim County.
- The vendor's record of attendance in previous years at the Bellaire Farmers Market.
- The amount of local ingredients used in baked goods, jellies, relishes, etc. (for example: a pie with local fruit is preferred over one with canned fruit);
- The number of vendors already selling the same fruit, vegetables, baked goods, etc. as the applicant.

### **Vendor Rental Fee & Application**

Vendors are required to submit an annual application to the Market Manager in order to be considered for space rental. Applications can be sent to the Bellaire Farmers Market address on the form or given to the Market Manager prior to the start of the selling season. Along with the application, all vendors must submit a copy(s) of all applicable licenses and permits pertaining to products that will be sold at the market. Applications will NOT be processed until all required documents have been submitted. An invoice for the vendor fee will be sent to the vendors upon close of the season, if the vendor requests an invoice.

### **The Fee is due before or on the first day of attendance.**

Seasonal fees for the 2026 season are:

- Entire Season \$250 **Paid prior to or the first day of season (May 15<sup>th</sup>). Postmark check to 5/29/26**
- Daily Fee \$25 each Friday

Market vendors fees for space rental are set by the ASI Farmers Market Committee and must be paid before offering products for sale.

### **Space Assignments for Seasonal and Daily Vendors**

- Priority will be given to those vendors selling edible products and/or plant products.
- In general, produce and craft vendors will be interspersed.
- To qualify for pavilion placement, the percentage of handmade crafts will not exceed 20% of booth space.
- Handmade craft items are allowed to be sold in addition to farm products as long as they represent less than 50% of product available for purchase.

The Market Committee reserves the right to hold sales areas for designated vendors who pay in advance for the entire season. **If said vendor fails to occupy their reserved area by 7:30 a.m. on market day, the Market Manager or designee may allow another vendor to utilize the sales area.** If a seasonal vendor does not attend the market three weeks in a row and fails to contact the Market Manager during that time, their space will be forfeited.

### **Eligible Items for Sale at the Market**

The farmers market will cater to high quality homemade and homegrown products. The following list of eligible items for sale may be expanded at the discretion of the Farmers Market Manager:

- Fruits, vegetables, field crops, herbs, nuts, berries, sprouts, and grains
- Plants, flowers (fresh or dried)
- Honey, maple syrup
- Baked and canned goods
- Eggs & meat products, dairy
- Handmade crafts (after approval of the market committee jury)

Displaying overripe, spoiled or unusable products is not permitted. No garage sale, rummage sale, antiques, or "flea market" items are allowed. No live animals are allowed to be sold.

All items for sale must be visibly labeled with prices and in accordance with state regulations. Vendors selling eggs, meat, or other perishable products must keep the products at an appropriate temperature in accordance with state regulations. Cottage Law requires a display of all ingredients for home baked goods.

Market vendors are required to comply fully with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Health Department Food Handling & Sanitation Rules and Regulations along with all federal, state, and local law regarding the sale of any item in the market and will hold the market harmless regarding the same.

### **Vendor Information**

- Market vendors must provide his/her own equipment, supplies and materials, such as their own tables, chairs and boards from which to sell their products. All vendors must supply sacks or other containers for product sales. Vendors must supply their own sun and weather protection.
- Parking behind tables is limited to one vehicle, IF you are selling out of your vehicle. If not, please utilize the parking lot located behind the Community Center.
- Market vendors are responsible for keeping their sales area in a clean and safe condition and shall remove any trash, by-products, equipment, or other items in their sales area within one hour following the close of sales each market day. NO tacks, NO nails, and NO staples shall be affixed to the pavilion. Only painters' tape may be used.
- No smoking will be allowed by vendors in the Farmers Market, or within 30 feet of the market, during Farmers Market hours.
- Vendors are not allowed to bring dogs or other pets to the market.
- Children under the age of 16 cannot sell products without adult supervision.
- Products and Signage are to be displayed within the boundaries of the vendor's space. No stakes are allowed.

### **Enforcement of Rules**

The Bellaire Farmers Market Manager or his/her designee has full and final authority to make market day decisions regarding interpretation of these rules, specific vendors, type and quality of goods that may be sold, and access to the farmers market by specific vendors. The Market Manager serves at the discretion of the ASI Farmers Market Committee and is expected to promote the rules, regulations and policies regarding the market. Decisions of the Market Manager may be appealed in written form to the Farmers Market Committee, which shall have full and final authority regarding the Bellaire Farmers Market.

Vendors must agree to and sign the Rules, Regulations, and Agreement prior to participating in the market.

### **Limitation of Liability**

ASI, its board members, members, and employees shall not in any manner be held responsible or liable for the safety, health, or well-being of any person(s) arising out of the use and/or operation of the Bellaire Farmers Market, ASI Pavilion, Park, Parking lot, or any and all other facilities on the property of ASI, or for the activities of vendors and/or vendor's guests and invitees.

Vendor agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless ASI Bellaire Farmers Market Manager or his/her designee, and ASI Farmers Market Committee from and against any and all claims, losses, liability, costs or expenses (including reasonable attorney fees) arising out of bodily injury of any person or persons, including death, or property damage, relating to the use of ASI property for the purpose of selling items at the Bellaire Farmers Market during its seasonal operational schedule.

Vendor retains receipt of the Bellaire Farmers Market Rules, Regulations and Agreement incorporated herein by and agrees to abide by the terms. Vendors participating in the Bellaire Farmers Market do so at their own risk and additionally agree that the person signing this agreement is fully authorized by the vendor to so execute and thus bind the vendor to these terms.

**Vendor/Market Advertising**

The Market Master emails/advertises a vendor map each Wednesday at 11 am via email and social media. Therefore, any vendor that will NOT be present at the following Friday morning market, should notify the Market Master by 10 am on the Wednesday before said absence. The vendor map assists our customers with located their favorite vendors and/or locating a new vendor that they may want to patronize.

**Date I will start selling at Market:** \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Vendor Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

(State, Zip Code)

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Bryan J. Hardy, Bellaire Farmers Market Manager

Updated: 04/06/26