

# Market Bucks and SNAP Service Program Vendor Agreement

*(All vendors must agree to these terms for acceptance to the LCFM!)*

The Larimer County Farmers' Market ("the Market") will continue with Credit, Debit and SNAP (the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly food stamps) Programs, supported by the Colorado Farmers' Market Association (CFMA). The program provides a wireless point-of-sale machine to our market, which will enable us to accept SNAP, debit and credit card transactions. The Market's goal, with our vendors as partners, is to provide an additional revenue source for vendors and to offer fresh, local food to community members who use SNAPs. In addition, because we are offering debit and credit card services, we are confident that the Market has increased its overall vendor sales through this program. Vendors will benefit from the program as if they had individual wireless machines, but without the expense and additional bookkeeping tasks that would be required.

The Market will process SNAP, debit and credit card transactions using a wireless machine and give customers coupons in return. SNAP coupons are \$1 denominations and can only be used to purchase SNAP-eligible items. Debit and credit card coupons, called "Market Bucks", are \$5 denominations and can be used to purchase any items at the Market. Customers will use these coupons to purchase vendors' products. **At the end of each market day, vendors will count the coupons they have received, and return them to market management for redemption at check-out.** Market Bucks will be reimbursed at each market. A check issued from Larimer County for collected SNAP coupons will be issued for all collected SNAP coupons at the end of the season; if reimbursement is needed prior, these requests will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

For consistency in the program and clarity for market customers, **all vendors will be required to accept Market Bucks; and all vendors selling eligible SNAP items will be required to accept SNAP coupons.** Please read the USDA SNAP rules outlined below. Due to Federal Regulations of the SNAP Program, we are asking **all vendors to agree to this document**, certifying that they are aware of the rules of the program. All information regarding individual vendor participation will be held confidential by the Market management.

I agree, on behalf of my business, to accept Larimer County Farmers' Market SNAP coupons for eligible items, and to abide by the rules described herein, regarding the acceptance of SNAP coupons and Market Bucks issued to customers by the Market for the purchase of my/our products. I/we agree to follow all USDA SNAP Program rules, outlined at the bottom of this agreement. I/we understand that this benefit offered by the Market to its vendors is a responsibility, as well as a privilege, which can be terminated immediately if any of the conditions stated herein are violated. Any one member of a business who signs this agreement agrees to hold all representatives of the business responsible to this agreement. I understand that the LCFM will *only* accept Market Bucks and SNAP coupons issued by the LCFM. Coupons from other markets will not be reimbursed, and it is the vendor's responsibility to accept the correct coupons for the LCFM.

**Agreement valid for the 2017 Larimer County Farmers' Market season.**

## USDA SNAP PROGRAM RULES

### SNAP Benefits can be used to purchase:

- Fruits, vegetables, meat, fish, poultry, dairy products, bakery items, seeds and plants intended for growing food (e.g. tomato starts and potted herbs)

### SNAP Benefits CANNOT be used to purchase:

- Non-food items; foods intended to be eaten on site (ready-to-eat) and hot foods; alcohol or tobacco products

You may NOT set a minimum purchase requirement for SNAP items, and NO cash can be given as change for the \$1 SNAP Coupons. (Change can be given for \$5 Market Bucks.)