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Environmental Health
Fort Bend County, Texas
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Farmers' Market Policy

Policy Title: **Farmers' Markets Approvals**

Overview/Purpose: To provide guidance for the identification and approval of a Farmers' Market to identify the locations where Fort Bend County Environmental Health (EH) issued Farmers' Market Vendor Permits are valid. A Farmers' Market is defined as a "designated location used for a recurring event at which a majority of the vendors are farmers or other food producers who sell food directly to consumers" in §437.020 of the Texas Health & Safety Code as amended in the 87th Texas Legislative Session effective 6/15/2021.

Policy

1. A Farmers' Market Vendor Permit application must be submitted, along with applicable fees.
2. This permit is only valid at an approved Farmers' Market.
3. Farmers' Markets must be certified [by the Texas Department of Agriculture](#).
4. Events that do not have EH approval to operate as a Farmer's Market will be determined to be a Temporary Event and EH issued Farmers' Market Vendor Permits will not be valid for operation at any Temporary Event.
5. Temporary Event permits will not be issued for any vendor at an EH approved Farmers' Market.
6. Food prepared offsite must have manufacturers food license.
7. Manufacturers must provide a manufactures license upon request.
8. No permit is required for Cottage Food Vendors. If samples are given, the vendor must adhere to the required sanitary requirements to attend a Farmers Market, as stated in THSC 437.020(c).