

2025 Mississippi Valley Growers' Markets Rules

Bettendorf Market Fees

	Monday & Thursday	Saturday
Daily	\$10.00 per stall	\$20.00 per stall
Seasonal	\$100.00 per season	\$150.00 per season
Seasonal	All three days	\$150.00

Definitions

Vendor: Herein applies to both seasonal and daily person selling in market – fruit/vegetable producer, floriculture/nursery crop producer, producer of wine, honey, jams/jellies, dried noodles, eggs, meat, or other farm products, baker, or artisan/crafter.

Stall: one parking space, nine feet wide.

Board: current Board of Directors for the Mississippi Valley Growers' Association, Inc.

Market Committee Chairperson: person in charge of markets at the direction of the board.

Market Representative: the person(s) designated on market committee in each location or hired personnel.

MVGA: Mississippi Valley Growers' Association, Inc.

1. Farmers' Markets are May 1, 2025 through October 30, 2025. The Saturday Hours are from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. with set up prior to 7:30 a.m. for seasonal vendors and after 7:30 a.m. for daily vendors. On Saturdays all vendors must be parked by 7:45 a.m. No vehicles will be allowed to move through aisles after 7:45 a.m.

The Bettendorf Farmers' Market at 2850 18th St. is from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays set up prior to 2:00 p.m. for seasonal vendors and after 2:00 p.m. for daily vendors. No markets will be held on Memorial Day and Labor Day.

2. The market has homegrown, home-baked, and home-crafted products sold by the producer or the producer's immediate family. **No brokered produce will be allowed in the market and no product may be sold on commission except as provided in rule #10.** 75% of an item offered for sale must be grown or made by the vendor or the vendor's immediate family. 25% allows for a baker to buy basic ingredients, a crafter to buy basic materials, and a grower to buy plant plugs or sell produce as a favor for a neighbor or another vendor in our market.

3. The Iowa Code provides as follows: "The following products may be sold at a farmer's market without being licensed under Iowa Code 137.4 at market location: 1) Baked goods except the following: soft pies and bakery products with custard or cream filling, as well as other potentially hazardous items. These products must be labeled in accordance with rule 481-34.3 (137D). 2) Wholesome, fresh eggs kept at 45 degrees ambient temperature. 3) Honey which is labeled per rule 481-34.3 (137D). 4) Prepackaged, non-hazardous food products

prepared in an establishment licensed under Iowa Code section 137F.4 as a food establishment or a food-processing establishment. 5) Fresh fruits and vegetables. 6) Jams, jellies, and dried noodles.”

“Specific items which cannot be sold at such a facility include: homemade butter, raw milk, home-canned fruits or vegetables, hermetically sealed containers, meats, meat products, or other potentially hazardous food unless mobile licensed or a farmers’ market license.” For questions, contact the Scott County Health Department at (563)326-8618.

Processed foods must be appropriately labeled including common name of the food, a list of ingredients if it is a multi-ingredient food, name & address of processor, and quantity in terms of net weight, volume, or numerical count (example: six cookies). All food must be placed off the ground.

Plants, flowers, Indian corn, gourds, decorative materials, and crafts, which previously have been approved by the market committee, may also be sold. Iowa sales tax numbers are required. Contact the Iowa Department of Revenue at (515)802-7002.

4. Items shall be sold by weight, measure, or count. Scales are subject to inspection by the market representative, the State of Iowa Inspectors, or any others with legitimate reason to inspect.
5. No vendor shall attract attention to products by outcry in a boisterous or annoying manner. Vendors shall not solicit customers who have not voluntarily approached their stall.
6. Vendors shall keep their space and surrounding area clean and free of debris. All walkways must be kept clean at all times. Clean up equipment is the responsibility of the vendor.
7. If a vendor does not adhere to these rules, the vendor shall be verbally warned and a report made to the board. Thereafter, the board may impose a fine of \$20.00 and/or a forfeiture of the vendor’s right to sell at the market as the majority of the board determines.
8. All Iowa Farmers Market Nutrition Program certified vendors must adhere to the rules and regulations of the program.
9. The Mississippi Valley Growers’ Association and/or their market representative(s) reserve the right to refuse any application and deny space to any vendor who does not conform to the rules, contained herein or in the vendor contract, or whose products are not suitable for market. Visits to vendors’ operations will be made by the Mississippi Valley Growers’ Association and/or their market representative(s).
10. A vendor who first meets the criteria for MVGA may seek permission of the market committee, one week in advance, to procure and sell produce not otherwise available locally or not in sufficient amounts so that the produce procured would be an asset to the market.
11. All vendors must fill out a registration form, sign a vendor agreement, and submit a certificate of liability insurance before selling at the markets.

12. All vendor stalls may display business name and price signage. Iowa Department of Agriculture, Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Department of Revenue, and Scott County Health Department signage such as Iowa Farmers' Market Nutrition Program sign, scale license, Electronic Bank Transfer sign, Iowa Sales Tax Permit, and mobile licenses shall be displayed as appropriate or shall be available upon request. No other signage will be allowed in vendor stalls on tables, awnings, or vehicles unless at the discretion of the board.

13. Vendors shall not distribute letters, pamphlets, magazines, petitions, etc. to other vendors or customers and shall not solicit vendors or customers to support other organizations or fund raising without prior approval by the board. Likewise, customers shall also be discouraged from soliciting and distributing.

14. Seasonal vendors will be assigned a location for the season. However, vendors may be required to relocate to accommodate special events.

15. Seasonal vendors must **pay the fee before October 31, 2025** to reserve the same stall for the 2026 season provided all conditions with leases stay the same. The MVGA treasurer may not reserve a vendor's stall until a certificate of liability insurance naming the Mississippi Valley Growers' Association, Inc. as a certificate holder is on file with the MVGA. The MVGA has a policy of no refunds. Credit for the following year may be given at board discretion for crop failures or vendor illnesses.

For your information: Stalls not purchased become open for paid vendors who choose to move. All paid vendors have the option to relocate to newly available stalls, with the newly available stalls offered to vendors in order of most attendance in the previous season. After paid vendors have selected stalls, unsold stalls are offered for sale. Non-seasonal vendors in 2024 may prepay for 2025 and will be considered in order of payment for available stalls.

16. Seasonal vendors shall notify market representative about starting dates and absences. Saturday daily vendors need to reserve in advance a stall by contacting the market representative.

17. Crafts must be approved by the market committee. Contact Michelle Carstensen at (563)386-5059.

18. At the discretion of the board, non profits are allowed one free space once a year to educate the public and must provide a certificate of liability insurance to the MVGA. Non profits that want to sell something must pay, their product must qualify for the market, and they must provide a certificate of liability insurance.

Board of Directors

President: Janice Claeys (563)381-3487

Secretary: Dave Carstensen (563)386-5059

Treasurer: Gary Weber (563)332-5529

Director: Bob Fielding (309)944-7900

Market Committee

Dave Carstensen

(563)386-5059

Michelle Carstensen, Craft Reviews

(563)386-5059