



1006 Peachtree Street  
Rocky Mount, NC

# Vendor News

January 2024

## 2024 Market

April through November - Saturdays 8:00 am to 1:00 pm  
November through December - Saturdays 9:00 am to 1:00 pm  
May through July - Tuesdays 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

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### Upcoming Dates

- **Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> 1pm – 3pm at Nash County Farmers Market - Safe Plate Training and Tour of updated kitchen in progress.** Safe Plates at Farmers' Markets is designed for farmers market managers and vendors. Information will be provided to enhance the safety of food products sold at farmers markets across North Carolina. This curriculum teaches basic food safety principles, personal health and hygiene, and safe sampling practices. Participants are taught through real world examples, activities and discussion.
- **Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup> - Durham County Cooperative Extension Center, 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701 Produce Safety Alliance Training with Chip Simmons - Cost is \$50** This is a one day training course for growers on the Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) standardized curriculum that meets the regulatory requirements of the FDA's Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule. This training will enable vendors to participate in the CSA box program. Please sign up at: <https://ncfreshproducesafety.ces.ncsu.edu/2021/11/produce-safety-alliance-trainings-2/>

### One-time Payment Offer

Nash County is offering 2024 vendors an opportunity to pay upfront fees for the discounted fee on the payment schedule. Please submit full payment with your 2024 Vendor Certification Form Due March 25, 2024 to take advantage of the reduced rate. After this deadline no discount will be applied.



1006 Peachtree Street  
Rocky Mount, NC

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Sandy Hall  
*NC Cooperative Extension  
County Extension Director*

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## Upcoming Dates

- **Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm - Applications and payment due.** Tenured vendors - please send applications and payment or bring it to the Nash County Cooperative Extension Office located at 1006 Eastern Ave. Nashville, NC 27856.
- **Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm at Nash County Farmers Market Free Concert with Miss Mini and the Sandman Band – Free Food & Free Live Music!**
- **Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm – Mandatory Market Vendor Meeting –** Come and hear our exciting plans for the 2024 season!
- **Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm - Weigh Scales Inspection -** Annual inspection of your weigh scales is required for market participation for produce vendors who sell produce by weight. An inspector from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Sciences will be at the market to certify the accuracy of your weigh scales. If you do not bring your scales to the market during this time, you will need to make other arrangements to certify your scales for accuracy with NCDA.
- **Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm - Vendor Setup -** Please plan to set up for Opening Day during this time. If you are unable to set up at this time, there will be ample time to setup on Opening Day.
- **Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> 8am to 1pm – Opening Day!** Vendor setup can begin at 6:30 am. We are looking forward to a fantastic season at the Nash County Farmers Market!



## 2024 Farmers Market Advisory Board

Kenneth Baker

Tim Bass

Fred Belfield, Jr.

Daniel Bissette

Kevin Bullock

Stephanie Collins

Evan Covington Chavez

David Farris

Bobby Joe Fisher

Freddy Howell

Sue Leggett

Sue Moore

Ricky Parks

Joshua Parvin

Jan Warren

Karen White

Don Williams

Stacie Shatzer

*Nash County Manager*

Sandy Hall

*NC Cooperative Extension  
County Extension Director*

Colby Griffin

*NC Cooperative Extension  
Horticulture Agent*

Maurine Brown

*Farmers Market Manager*

## Free Concert – Miss Mini and the Sandman Band

The Nash County Farmers Market will host the Annual Free Concert on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. The event will begin at 5:00 pm and will feature Miss Mini and the Sandman Band. This free indoor event is open to the public and we will offer complimentary BBQ with fixins, desserts, and hot dogs for the kids, plus door prizes.

NC Arts Council, Nash County Arts Council, Nowell Family Farm and Brian Robinson (winner of the Nash County Farmers Market 2023 People's Choice BBQ Competition) are the primary sponsors for this event. This event is free and helps to kick-off the upcoming market season. As a Market vendor you are invited to support this event - see enclosed Free Concert Sponsorship. Please return this completed form by March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Volunteers are needed to help with set up, serving, desserts and clean up. Please indicate on the sponsorship form if you can volunteer and/or provide desserts. Thank you in advance for your support.

## CSA Box Program

The Nash County Farmers Market implemented a pilot CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) program in 2020. Due to the pandemic, this program proved to be very beneficial to market customers. Beginning in 2021 and continuing until June 2024 the CSA program greatly expanded due to grants awarded in the amount of \$202,373, \$181,716 and \$460,000. The Market will continue to fulfill the CSA grants until June 2024. In order to participate, vendors will be **required** to provide a \$500,000 liability insurance certificate. Produce vendors also **must** complete Food Safety Training or GAP certification. Other food vendors must have all certifications required by local, state and federal laws regarding the products to be included in the CSA box program. Please fill out the attached CSA application, if you are **new** to the program and are interested in participating in the CSA box program. Please submit copies of requested forms and certifications with application.

## Vendor Certification Applications

For returning vendors - completed 2024 Vendor Certification forms are due by March 25<sup>th</sup>. If you are planning to take advantage of the discount with the One-time Payment Offer, payments must be included with your Vendor Certification Application form **by March 25, 2024**. For your convenience, a copy of the updated Market Operational Guidelines for Vendors, market information are included in this packet. If you have questions, please contact the Market Manager, Maurine Brown at 252-904-3250 or the NC Cooperative Extension office at 252-459-9810. If you need additional forms they can be found on our website at <https://nash.ces.ncsu.edu/> under the Farmers Market tab.