



Urban Harvest
FARMERS MARKET

Gardeners' Corner Rules

Updated 9/14/09

The “Gardeners’ Corner” is designed to promote interest in selling at the market for small and mid-size producers. Produce and herbaceous edible plants (herbs) may be sold in the Gardeners’ Corner. Transplants, starters, and seedlings are allowed to be sold, but containers larger than one gallon are not allowed. Plants larger than eighteen inches are not allowed. Soaps, prepared foods, crafts and woody plants (ie. Trees and shrubs) are not allowed to be sold at the Gardeners’ Corner.

The by-laws specify that persons with total sales under \$300 per market day would be eligible to sell in a co-operative manner. When your sales exceed that level for more than two consecutive weeks, you will be asked to apply to become a vendor. At the next Market Committee meeting, your application will be reviewed. You may sell at the Gardeners’ Corner until the meeting is held.

To increase your chances of success, and make the experience more enjoyable, you should attend a “selling at Urban Harvest Farmers’ Market” class to learn techniques for successfully selling your product, which is held once of month. Gardeners’ Corner participants may not use agents to sell your product, per Urban Harvest Farmers Market Rules.

You must contact the market manager by 5pm on Thursdays to reserve table space. We can only accommodate sixteen (16) gardeners. Tomato season (June) and citrus season (December, January) tend to be when we have the most people at the Gardeners Corner, so please plan accordingly. The first people that contact us are the ones that will be able to sell at the Gardeners’ Corner. We will have a waiting list, and the Market Manager will call you if space opens up.

Gardeners’ Corner participants must follow Urban Harvest Farmers Market Rules. Because Gardeners’ Corner participants are allowed to sell under Urban Harvest’s Certified Farmers Market Permit, we ask that you follow the rules accordingly. Since Gardeners’ Corner participants follow the Urban Harvest Farmers Market rules, they are subject to the same vendor citations that our regular vendors are subject to. Each participant of the market is subject to 3 strikes before they are asked to leave the market permanently. All vendors are regulated by the state, county, city, federal and UHFM regulations.

Producers must be at the market by 7:15, and will not be able to participate if you have arrived late. If you are unable to get to the market on time, contact the Market Manager

or coordinator, otherwise the table space will not be available to you. All Gardeners' Corner sellers are asked to not tear down or leave before market close at 12:00 noon. The history of the market is that people who left before closing has made the market look closed, and we ask all of our vendors to stay until the end of the market.

Urban Harvest will provide a booth space with cloth covered tables, a banner type sign, inventory control sheets and growing practices sign (please refer to the Glossary of Terminology). A Gardeners' Corner box is provided for participants and is located in the shed. You are responsible for helping other Gardener's Corner participants in setting up the tents and tables, and are also responsible for helping break down the Gardeners' Corner at the end of the market as well. You must fill out an inventory sheet – this will be used to calculate how much you sold, and how much you will pay Urban Harvest. Indicate on the inventory sheet whether your produce is sustainable, certified naturally grown, or conventional. If a farmer is making less than \$5,000 a year, it is allowed by state and federal law to use the word organic. However, Urban Harvest has decided to prohibit the use of the word “Organic” at our market unless properly certified by the state, the USDA or a third party firm. A growing practice sign will be provided for you to display at your booth in order for customers to understand your production practices. At the end of the market, you are responsible for total breakdown of the Gardener's Corner and returning it to the shed.

Provide your own product signage (include pricing), as well as a sign with your farm or garden name and location. If possible, produce should be identified by name & variety – i.e. Homestead tomatoes, Suvo Long cucumbers, not simply “snap beans.” Recipe cards or suggestions on how to prepare will enhance sales.

We have created a web page to showcase Gardeners' Corner Participants and their gardens on www.urbanharvest.org, and additional information about farmers markets and becoming a vendor can be found there. Please do not hesitate to ask the Market Manager any questions that you may have.

Provide your own pricing guidelines (nothing will be sold by weight – there is no scale available). You may not use a scale unless it is certified. Guidelines will be covered in the “selling at the Urban Harvest Farmers Market” class, which will give you an idea of the market prices for various retail outlets. Provide packaging (or pre pack) your produce; or have baskets or other containers. You should provide sacks (or recycled plastic grocery bags for your customers). You are responsible for having sufficient cash to make change for your customers.

Product inventory sheets must be filled out completely signed and turned in at the end of the market with your daily fee, and must be turned into the Gardeners' Corner coordinator or the Market Manager. For the participants in the Gardeners' Corner, the fee is \$2 to Urban Harvest for every \$30 that you make. Fees are subject to change.

For more information please call the Urban Harvest office at 713/880-5540, or email julia@urbanharvest.org