



May 1, 2017

Hello Farmers' Market Vendors,

The 2017 Alamosa Farmers' Market season will soon be upon us and we have lots to share with you. We will continue with your help to offer fresh Colorado and regional produce, hand-crafted goods, and properly certified honey, animal products, bakery items and other permitted cottage foods. We are excited to announce the beginning of two markets in Alamosa this season. Our Downtown Market will continue on Saturdays from July 8 to October 14. Additionally, we will offer a Weekday, produce only market at the Rio Grande Farm Park on Wednesdays from August 2 to September 20. This will allow our customers two chances each week to stay in Alamosa and have access to amazing, local produce!

Due to vendor and customer comments the Downtown market will be 15 weeks this season. Operating hours in July and August will be 8 am – 1 pm and in September and October we will push them back an hour (9 am – 2 pm). Our Weekday market will be on Wednesdays from 4 to 6 pm at the Rio Grande Farm Park (off the corner of Highways 17 and 160) and will allow farmers and backyard gardeners to have a second option to sell produce in Alamosa each week. This produce focused market will have low fees to allow us to test the waters this season. There is a discount for reserving your space for the season for each market individually and for reserving a season space for both markets.

We are partnering with the Local Foods Coalition and the Rio Grande Farm Park to be a part of their annual Harvest Soiree on September 9. On this date, we will move the Downtown Market to the Rio Grande Farm park space. Basically our market will move out to the park to be a part of the Soiree that day. All our regular rules will apply. We expect roughly 200 people to attend this event from the Soiree alone so it will be well worth your time to participate. Advance sign up is required to make sure we can accommodate all vendors. You will be expected to be at the market your regular hours (9 am – 2 pm). Vendors wishing to continue selling goods for the remainder of the Soiree will need to be juried by the Harvest Soiree Planning Committee. More information will be given once our season starts.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the market rules and regulations including insurance statements. The Downtown market packet is blue, Weekday market packet is green. Complete either or both depending on your market participation and availability. Remember that the Weekday market is produce only. Please read the information carefully, **fill out the registration form** for one or both markets, and **return it in the included envelope along with payment** if applicable. The Alamosa Farmers' Market holds general liability insurance for market owned equipment. You are encouraged to purchase your own liability insurance. **All whole foods** sold at the market **must be from Colorado or bordering state**. Crafts must be made locally by those selling them and prepared foods should be sold by the individuals who are selling them.

Some information and reminders for the 2017 season:

1. **All vendors must weigh down their tents.** Contact the Market for more information.
2. **Produce** sold at the Market must be **sold by the growing farmer** or **bought directly from the growing farmer.**
3. Vendor placement is done by the Market staff when we receive your completed paperwork and payment.
4. Please note that **vendor booth fees have increased to \$13** per week to help us to meet market costs. We have sought a variety of outside sources of funding to help us keep costs as low as possible. Vendor fees for the Weekday Market are \$7 a week.
5. Vendors can donate extra goods to our local food bank at the end of each market day. You can bring items to donate to the Farmers' Market booth upon check out each week. It is another way to support our local Valley community and support local foods.
6. If you are interested in being a market underwriter, I have included a form for that as well. This is a great way to help support the market and advertise your farm/ business. You can also share the form with other business owners who might want to help support our market.
7. The Health Department has reminded me that anyone who sells prepared food must show proof of completion of a Food Safety Handling Class every 2 years. If you did not take a class last year, you must take on this year. Free Classes are being offered on May 22-25 throughout the SLV. See enclosed flyer for more details.

Have a great spring and see you in July!



Mandy Pittman, Director  
Alamosa Farmers' Market

**2017 Alamosa Farmers' Market Schedule**

**Downtown Market**

***Corner of State Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street***

Saturdays, July 8 to October 14

15 weeks

July 8 through August 26 – 8 am to 1 pm

September 2 through October 14 – 9 am to 2 pm

**Wednesday Market**

***Rio Grande Farm Park (Old Polston School)***

***East Entrance of Alamosa on Highway 17 just north of Highway 160***

Wednesdays, August 2 – September 20

8 weeks

4 pm – 6 pm

**Alamosa Farmers' Market**

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