The Nevada City Farmers Market will be open during COVID-19 with extra precautions put in place to ensure the health and safety of our community. The market will be following the strict protocols set in place by Nevada County Department of Environmental Health, California Department of Public Health and other various local and state departments.

The below is taken from Nevada County Environmental Health Department’s Farmers Market Toolkit.

What is coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)?
Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses. Many of them infect animals, but some coronaviruses from animals can evolve (change) and infect humans, then spread from person-to-person. Diseases from coronaviruses in people typically cause mild to moderate illness, like the common cold. Information to date shows this new virus causes symptoms consistent with a respiratory illness, such as cough, fever, and, in some, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.

How are coronaviruses spread?
Like other respiratory illnesses, such as influenza, human coronaviruses most commonly spread to others from an infected person who has symptoms through:
- Droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes
- Close personal contact, such as caring for an infected person
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes before washing your hands

What is a Certified Farmers Market?
“Certified farmers market” means a location that is certified by the State of California and the County Agricultural Commissioners to sell agricultural products. Only agricultural products such as fruits, vegetables, honey, CDFA certified eggs, and other applicable agricultural products are allowed at Certified Farmers’ Market. Temporary Food Facilities selling unpackaged foods or non-essential pre-packaged foods in conjunction with the Certified Farmers Market are not permitted at the Farmers Markets during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Recommended strategies to prevent exposures to respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19 at Farmers Markets:
- Space booths apart and displayed items to increase social distancing in line and while walking the market.
● Ensure social distancing of a minimum of six feet between for non-family members. Use markers to delineate six feet between customers. (ie. tape on the floor spaced 6 feet apart, “stop here” signs).
● Limit the number of customers allowed at any given time as necessary to reduce indoor/outdoor overcrowding and lines to meet social distancing.
● Increase routine cleaning and disinfecting on all frequently touched surfaces, such as tables, payment devices, tables and countertops. Use the CDC Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection guidance to clean and disinfect.
● Remove all public self-serve items (such as plastic bags, etc) and prevent public contact with these items to deter the spread of the virus.
● Remind employees to increase the frequency of handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
● If possible and supplies are available (this is not mandatory) provide gloves or produce bags for patrons to cover hands while selecting produce to minimize customer bare hand contact. Provide waste containers for discarding used gloves.
● Provide hand wash stations and hand sanitizer at least 60-95% alcohol for patrons in an area that encourages washing/sanitizing prior to shopping.
● Do not offer food samples.

Guidelines & Protocols Adopted by the NCFMA
NCFMA, Vendors and the Public

These guidelines, protocols, and strategies have been made by the NCFMA board. They have been built by reviewing information put out by CFM, CDPH, CAFF, Nevada County Environmental Health Department, and more.

Strategies the Market is implementing:
● Booths will be spaced out at least 6ft
● There will be x’s on the ground at a distance of 6ft to support customers in social distancing both in the market and in lines to enter market
● The amount of customers will be limited in market to reduce crowding and create space for social distancing
● Market employees and volunteers will regularly wash their hands and disinfect any surfaces including our EBT machine
● There will be a handwashing station at both entrances of the market as well as hand sanitizer
● Regular communication with vendors to review best strategies, new protocols, and concerns
**Guidelines and Protocols for Vendors (Required & Recommended):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Recommended</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● Do not offer food samples</td>
<td>● Have a designated money handler separate from the person handling food</td>
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<tr>
<td>● Remove all public self-serve items (such as plastic bags)</td>
<td>● Gloves</td>
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<tr>
<td>● Vendors must have visible some way to wash their hands and do so regularly</td>
<td>● Post what your offerings will be prior to market and encourage pre-sale to make shopping trips quicker for customers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Increase routine cleaning and disinfecting on all frequently touched surfaces, such as tables, payment devices, tables and countertop</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Display only tables for customers to view (not touch), having items for sale further back in the back that the vendor handles to prevent contamination. Pre-bagging produce/food as much as possible.</td>
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<tr>
<td>● Vendors and employees are to wear a mask while vending</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Guidelines and Protocols for the Public**

- Please stay home if you are sick or in a high risk group
- Customers age 60+ or in a high risk group should have someone shop for them when possible
- Wear a mask and/or gloves if possible. Wash your hands before entering the market. Hand washing stations will be provided at entrances and exits
- Customers are not allowed to handle produce/products before buying. Allow the vendor to bag purchases
- Keep 6ft distance from others at all times
- Make a shopping list and complete shopping as quickly as possible. Some of our vendors are offering pre-ordering which makes shopping at the market a breeze.
- This is not a social hour, please limit interactions with other customers and vendors
- Be prepared with small bills to offer exact change to vendors when possible
Resources

- Farmers Markets Nevada County Department of Environmental Health
- Keeping Nevada County’s Agricultural Industry Safe and Healthy Webinar
  https://zoom.us/rec/share/9ep3PonBrzJLWtLy-mzPWrRwR7jT6a8qCUY_aYJn0jdvBcjcV5c5WZJgYIDxWZ2 Password: O8^Rw0%e
- California Alliance of Farmers Market COVID-19
  https://docs.google.com/document/d/1W7lAQ5zuWqTBNg_FOEnuEHJnbptKCb_P1PFYNAJM1pw/edit?usp=sharing
- Maine Farmers Market Vendor Best Practices
- CDFA CFM Guidance: Pre-bagged produce & Best Practices
- CDPH Retail Guidance
- CDFA Guidance
- CAFF Response and Resources