

Tips and Tricks for first time farmers market Vendors and Non-profits

Setting up at a farmers market for the first time can sometimes be a daunting and anxious experience. So in order to help “Newbies” we have put together these notes to help make your marketing experience a little easier.

Helpful things to DO:

DO practice setting up and breaking down your tent and table/display once or twice before coming to market, Tents can be tricky and new tents can be stiff and feel awkward. Knowing where you want everything will help your set-up go smoothly and allow you time to tweak your set-up once you are there.

Do practice loading and unloading your vehicle.

Do load your vehicle the night before the market

Do Give yourself plenty of time to arrive, unload and set up

Do bring \$\$\$ and change (have enough to break a \$100.00 bill when you arrive or more, mostly ones, fives and tens as well as coins) and a money box or front pouch to put it in.

Do be prepared for inclement weather, tent sides are helpful when it is raining sideways, Tent Weights are a must even on the nicest of days. These can be water filled gallon jugs, sand bags, cement blocks or any variety of other things that can be used to securely weigh the tent down in a high wind. Waitsfield Market does not allow stakes longer than 10 inches. (HINT: the little stakes that come with the tent will not hold the tent down sufficiently)

Do Bring a chair.

Do bring yourself water ,coffee , soda, snacks etc . especially if you are manning your booth alone.

Managing a booth while watching your own children in a busy market is virtually impossible. If you must or wish to bring your own children **Do** have someone else caring for your young children and teach older children vendor etiquette i.e. Not to bother other vendors or hang out in their booths as this can distract and affect potential sales. Discourage running, screaming and other wild behavior as this can be potentially dangerous to kids, other people and displays at the market.

Non-Profit Soliciting and Raffle Ticket Selling: It is important to understand that the Vendors at the market pay for their space and have worked hard for their right to be there. Soliciting or Selling Raffle tickets within a vendors booth is rude and often affects vendors potential sales. Vendors themselves often purchase raffle tickets but Please delegate one raffle ticket seller to offer tickets to the vendors themselves so they don't get asked by every enthusiastic seller. Thanks!

Other items you may need: Scissors, tape, mirror, pens , paper towels, string, receipt book, garbage bag, umbrella, water-resistant shoes, sun-block, VT sales tax table, calculator, hammer

KID'S BOOTH: Parents, please stay with your children while they are at the market in their booth. Thank you

HAVE GREAT TIME AND GOOD LUCK AT THE MARKET!