**Food Sources**

Any prepared or packaged food must come from an approved source. Home production of food must be limited to cottage foods and baked goods coming from an Ohio Department of Agriculture (ADA) licensed Home Bakery.

Food items such as BBQ sauce, pasta sauce, dressing, salsa, herb-oil, etc. must be prepared in a licensed facility. If a food label does not indicate it was manufactured in a licensed facility, the food item may not be sold.

**Oversight**

The farmers’ market itself is not subject to inspection or licensure by any agency. However, the vendors may be subject to licensure based on the foods offered for sale.

The organizer of the farmers’ market has to register the farmers’ market with the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) if cottage foods are to be sold.

**Food Safety**

Never: Use a countertop for thawing; leave leftovers out too long; use unclean cutting boards; marinate at room-temperature; use the same platter for raw & grilled meats; use the same spoon for stirring & tasting; use the same knife for trimming raw meat and chopping vegetables.

**Food Safety Training**

Hamilton County Public Health offers a bi-monthly food safety training class. Classes occur on the first Tuesday of the month at 9 a.m. and the third Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m. The cost of these courses is $20 per person. Call (513) 946-7800 for more information or to register for classes.

**Contact us at**

513-946-7800
or on social media:  
@HamCoHealth

**Farmers’ Market**

A Farmers’ Market offers a location for several local vendors to sell their food and goods to the public. Some vendors may require licensure from the local health department based on the foods offered for sale.
What food vendors must obtain licensure from the local health department? Those selling any foods not listed in the exempt list including (but not limited to):

- Any food being handled without being pre-packaged
- Any food being prepared onsite
- Any food requiring refrigeration
- Cheese

What’s in a Name?

Farmers' Markets and Farm Markets are not the same. Farmers' Markets offer a location for several local vendors to sell their food and goods to the public. Farm Markets sell food items that are produced at the facility where they are sold.

Sample Label

Grandma's Granola
Ingredients: Oats, honey, dried apricots, sulphites, raisins, almonds, sesame seeds, sunflower seeds, wheat germ, vegetable oil.

This Product is Home Produced
This product contains: almonds, wheat

Grandma's Goodies
250 William Howard Taft Road, Cincinnati, OH 45219

NET WT. 10 oz./283 grams

Questions >>>

For questions regarding licensing, please contact the Environmental Health division of Hamilton County Public Health at (513) 946-7800.