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## Farmers Market Phase 2 in Response to COVID 19 Reopening Strategy

June 3, 2020

Montanans have succeeded in limiting the spread and impacts of COVID-19 by working together and following guidance that has been provided. This has presented an opportunity to move to Phase 2 of the Reopening the Big Sky strategy. A directive issued by the governor on May 19 specifically allows for expansion of retail business operation with reduced capacity and strict physical distancing protocols in place. Please note the following **requirements** for Phase Two beginning **Monday, June 1, 2020**:

1. Conduct health assessments of all vendors and market staff as they arrive at the market. Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 must be sent home. These include cough, difficulty breathing, fever, repeated shaking with chills, chills, body aches, headache, sore throat and new loss of taste or smell.
1. Post signs to exclude any customers with signs of illness. Posters are available at [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).
2. Maintain physical distancing of at least 6 feet between groups.
3. Strongly encourage or require all vendors and customers to use cloth face masks.
4. Follow frequent sanitizing protocols.

Lewis and Clark Public Health has the following **additional guidance** to help protect staff and customers from disease.

2. **Develop a written plan** to manage Phase Two operations. Be sure to address any issues unique to your operations and location.
3. **Use cloth face masks** that fully cover the mouth and nose.
  - a. A cloth face covering will help contain any respiratory droplets from the wearer and protect other people. You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick.
  - b. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing and good personal hygiene.
  - c. You can make cloth face coverings at home or purchase them. If you want to make your own face mask, links to reliable sources for patterns can be found on our web page. [www.lccountymt.gov/covid-19](https://www.lccountymt.gov/covid-19)
4. **Promote physical distancing** by requiring at least 6 feet of physical distance between vendors.
  - a. Provide signs, cones, flagging, chalk lines, market volunteers, or other means to maintain 6 feet of distance between non-congregate (household) customers.
  - b. Maintain a 6-foot space between vendors and customers.
  - c. Create a plan to limit customers, to reduce crowding and lines. This could include a single entrance to the market and one-way traffic flow within the market.

## 5. Prevent contamination.

- a. Advise those attending the market in any capacity — customer, vendor, worker, volunteer — to wash their hands upon arrival and upon returning home.
- b. All prepared foods must be prepackaged and labeled. No sampling is approved. Direct customers to take prepared foods home and avoid crowds.
- c. Post signs that direct customers to not touch products.
- d. Recommend additional staff so that the same staff are not handling money and products.
- e. Consider the addition of shielding, such as a sheet of plexiglass, between the vendor and the customer.

## 6. Support respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene for vendors, customers, volunteers, and others.

- a. Provide tissues and no-touch disposal receptacles throughout the market.
- b. Provide hand-washing facilities with soap and water and single-use towels. If soap and water are not readily available, provide an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- c. Place hand sanitizers in several locations to encourage hand hygiene.
- d. Discourage handshaking.

## 7. Routinely clean and sanitize all surfaces touched by vendors and customers.

- a. Provide surfaces that can be easily cleaned.
- b. Use the cleaning agents that you usually use in these areas, and follow the directions on the labels.
- c. A list of sanitizers effective for COVID-19 is located on the EPA website: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>. e Be sure to **strictly follow specified contact times and mix rates.**
- d. **Food contact surfaces** must be sanitized with approved sanitizers at the concentrations required in the food code.

If you have questions or need technical assistance, please call Lewis and Clark Public Health at 457-8900. Thank you for protecting our community from COVID-19.

**If you suspect Coronavirus, contact your medical provider.**

**For a link to this document and other local information: [www.lccountymt.gov/covid-19](http://www.lccountymt.gov/covid-19)**