

The Market Exchange



Lamparas County Farmers Market & Crafts Newsletter

Wrapping it Up and Looking Ahead

As we get close to the end of the 2025 calendar year, we need to be looking forward to what lies ahead for 2026!

The final quarter finds us with 1 known market closure. The Courthouse will notify us on very short notice of a closure to repaint the parking stall lines. This is something we have no control over and no negotiating power to change it, so we all will have to roll with the punches on that week. The Citywide Garage Sale will not happen this year. That program is currently under a revision, so we have an extra Saturday this year!

In addition to the closure we have two other shared days in our remaining quarter. The First is a share with Squared Silly on October 25. This is not a space constraint, but a time constraint. It is important we are out of their way by 1:15 to allow them to begin bringing in some of the displays that are generally on the East side. The second is the Carol of the Lights December 6, 2025. This one is a severe space constraint. There will have to be several concessions made for the large bump in vendors who sign up annually to fit into this tight space. Admin are working on a plan as we have never had so many 10x20 space vendors before and this generates a serious space problem as we have always had to cram 40-50 vendors into 3 rows. So stay tuned! **The last Market day for 2025 will be December 27.**

Looking ahead to 2026 There will be a few changes in the rules, but nothing earth shattering so far. The West wing should be open then, so there are plans to move food vendors to that area. The city will always have priority to that side for other community events, but those have been sporadic historically. 2026 may have outside challenges we have not ever faced before with the economy, so we will just have to see how the months ahead shake out.

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Rules Review

Did you read and agree to the 2025 Rules and Regulations?

This answer will serve as your signature for the 2025 Vendor Agreement and as acknowledgment that you will follow the Rules and Regulations.

Failure to agree to the terms of the Agreement will make your application Null and Void.

This is the wording of the Agreement box. Those rules give the hours, allowed parking, when you need to be set up and when you

can tear down among other things. If you just skimmed over those rules or simply went straight to the form, it might serve you well to go back and read the rules. Rules are posted on our website: https://www.lampasasfarmersmarket.com/files/ug-d/5f7f7a_08d978d5505e4b54a73dcad5127efdbd.pdf

Look up SB541 Texas for familiarizing the entire set of changes. All changes benefit both the vendor and the customer with few exceptions (like ice).



SB 541

The Texas Cottage Food law just got a major upgrade – see what changes are in store for September 1, 2025.

New Cottage Food Laws —A Snapshot

1. As of September 1, 2025 (the last update of the Texas Cottage Food Law) you may sell any homemade food items directly to consumers, EXCEPT:
 - Meat, meat products, poultry, or poultry products;
 - Seafood, including seafood products, fish, fish products, shellfish, and shellfish products;
 - Ice or ice products, including shaved ice, ice cream, frozen custard, popsicles, and gelato;
 - low-acid canned goods;
 - Products containing cannabidiol or tetrahydrocannabinol; or
 - Raw milk and raw milk products.

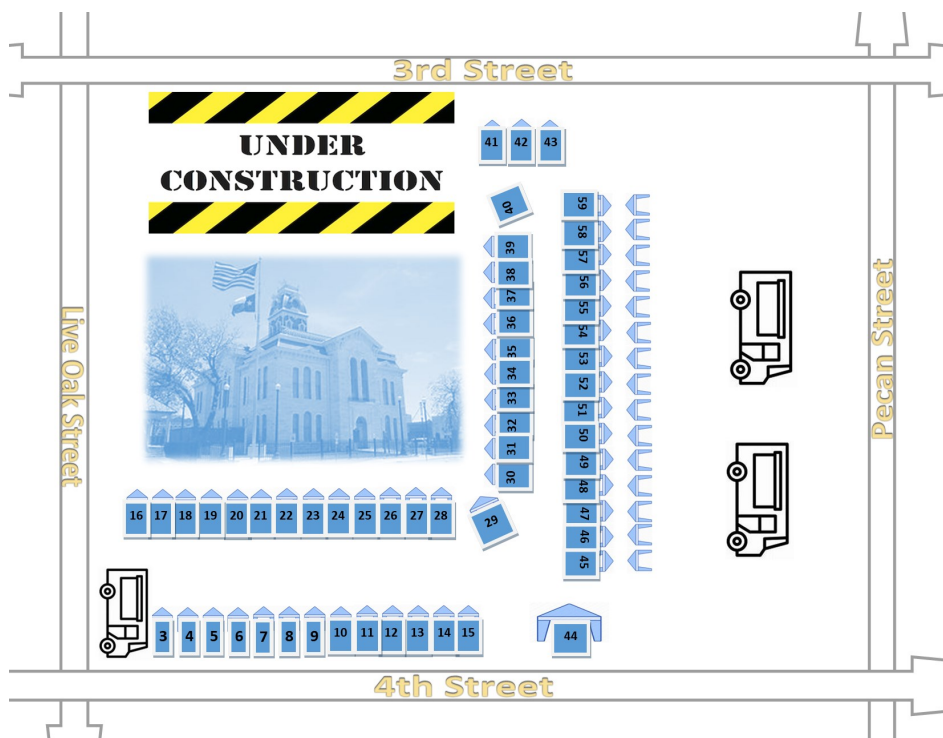
If you sell foods that require Time and Temperature Control for Safety (TCS foods, otherwise known as foods that require refrigeration) directly to consumers, there are some [additional requirements](#):

[You must register with DSHS.](#)

The food must be additionally [labeled](#) with the date the food was produced.

2. Label information has changed! Be sure to get your labeling updated!!! We will be a little lenient for a short while, but this is an imperative process. Perfect source for labeling: <https://homemadetexas.org/labels/>

3. Cottage food producers can donate non-time and temperature control for safety food for sale or service at an event, including a religious or charitable organization's bake sale, to the same extent an individual is allowed by law to donate food.



2025 Market Assignment Map. 2026 will look different. 2026 paid spaces may not be the same as were assigned in 2025.

Paid Spaces in the Market for 2026

Paid spaces...what is that? This was often the question in the later half of the 2025 year. Paid spaces are spaces in the market vendors paid for to have reserved for them assuring they have the same spot each market they attend as a vendor. This fee was an additional \$50 for the year.

There were both advantages and drawbacks to this method of assignments. The advantages were the number of people who could simply go to their assigned space without waiting to see where they were to set up. It gave continuity to their customer base making for a more positive customer and vending experience. The drawbacks were finding spaces for those who didn't pay for a space a place in the market where they were not on top of another like genre vendor. This was compounded when we seemed to have had an explosion of vendors upgrading to 10x20 spaces along with those who already were 10x20 canopy vendors. Add in the electricity need, trucks and trailers along with vendors who made requests for spaces for one reason or another who were unpaid space vendors and some Saturdays seemed impossible to map out. Not an easy task some weeks to be sure. Not all vendors were happy with where they were assigned, to be sure and special requests from unpaid vendors were often met with frustration to be sure.

Having experienced a year with this method, we will give this another go in 2026, but will hone the rules to make this a smoother and better set up for all vendors. 2026 will look different and the spaces may not be the same as those paid vendors had this year.

Money Talk

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find "filler" articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web publication. So, when you're finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.

Big Events Coming!

Vendor Booth Competition

3 winners!!!

- 1st Place = \$50 off 2026 fees
- 2nd Place = \$25 off 2026 fees
- 3rd Place = Gift Card



Costume Competition

**5 winners & 5 Prizes!!!
4 Age Groups**

- Infant/Toddler, Grades K-4, 5-8, 9-12
- Dogs
- Starts at 10:30 AM

Lots of Prizes and Goodies!

Vendor Booth Competition

3 winners!!!

- 1st Place = Turkey Dinner Box \$75 Value
- 2nd Place = Turkey Dinner Box \$65 Value
- 3rd Place = Ham Dinner Box \$45 Value



*Vision Lampasas
&
Courtyard Square Association
Present*

Carol of the Lights
2025

December 6, 2025 10 AM-10 PM
Courthouse Square, Lampasas, TX
Farmers Market: 9 AM-1 PM
Snow Queen Pageant: 2 PM
OFFICIAL LIGHTING CEREMONY: 6 PM at Bandstand
Ajinomoto Lighted Christmas Parade: 6:30PM at Courtyard Square
Fees:
* \$1.00 to get into the courthouse.
* Some fees for grown-up activities.
* All children activities are free

A Great day for Lampasas...a Great day for vendors with just the right amount of chaos to start the day! This is the one day of the year we bite our nails wondering if there will be enough room for all the vendors. The one day vendors give up several of their perks and comforts to be able to sell their wares. The one day we are crammed in like sardines in our relegated East wing. Truly an oxymoron kind of day!

All vendors will be limited to a 10x10 space. If you only have a 10x20 tent you may have to share your space with another vendor. Anyone who has attended one of these totally understands why. Vendors literally come out of the woodwork for this event. We are trying to get youth groups to help with unloading to help with the unavoidable bottlenecks.

Despite the chaos in the setups, this is one of the best days for vendors of the year and well worth the frustrations in the set up. More specific information will be coming soon, so stay tuned!!!

Christmas Stocking Drive

This year we will be getting most of the stuffers for the Kids Christmas stockings. Papa Smurf will be the Santa to hand them out. We need a few (about 5) volunteers to make about 6-10 stocking each...or, maybe a bunch of you to make a couple 3 each!. A pattern will be provided. We do have a few left from last year, so not so many to make this year.

This will also be my last year for this project, so would like another sewing elf to pick this up next year.

Available in *Patterns*
CLASSIC STOCKING

A Stocking Body

CUT 2

Cut 2 of this is Body Fabric
Cut 2 of Lining

1.4" (36cm) waist measurement

1.4" (36cm) waist measurement

ADD 1/2" ALL THE
WAY AROUND FOR
SEAM ALLOWANCE

