

Unprocessed Fruits and Vegetables

Unprocessed, whole, raw fruits and vegetables shall be wholesome, free from spoilage, and otherwise deemed safe for human consumption based on generally recognized industry standards. Fruits and vegetables that have been cut, peeled, dried, pickled, packaged, or modified from their natural state in any way are no longer considered a raw fruit or vegetable and may be subject to licensing in order to sell or sample at a farmers' market.

Food safety concerns are at an all time high. There are several on-farm food safety audits that are available on a voluntary basis. Currently, there are no mandatory on-farm inspections for fruits and/or vegetables. Please take great pride and careful consideration when preparing fields, picking product, packaging product and delivering it to your customers. Cooperative Extension and the Agriculture Experiment Station each have a staff of professionals available to make recommendations to make your operation safer and more profitable. Fruits and vegetables make up the backbone of every farmers' market, and in Connecticut we pride ourselves in being able to provide the freshest and safest fruits and vegetables to our faithful consumers.

Please remember, any farmers wishing to sell fruits or vegetables at a FMNP authorized farmers' market must contact the Connecticut Department of Agriculture prior to participating in the market. A short training/certification meeting is required for participation in an authorized farmers' market.

For more information please see WIC/Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program chapter.

For further information contact the Connecticut Department of Agriculture. Richard Macsuga ,richard.macsuga@ct.gov or 860-713-2544

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