



History of Parramatta Farmers' Market

The first growers markets were established only three years after the British arrived in Parramatta. In 1788 the successful experiment of growing wheat in Parramatta led to the production of food which saved the British colony from starvation. This significant event led to the development of farms which established the European agricultural industry in Australia. From the desperate attempts to sow the first seeds, to the healthy crops that quickly dominated the landscape, a market place was created opposite St John's Cathedral at the Town Hall in 1791 to distribute the produce to the infant colony.

In 1813 Macquarie ordered that two fairs were to be held annually on this site which allowed for the sale of cattle and sheep. There is evidence that the shows were held here for 12 years and **from then developed the famous Sydney Royal Easter Show.**

Parramatta Farmers' Market purpose in the community

The re-opening of Parramatta Farmers' Market in August 2008 was designed to have a major positive impact on the Parramatta community by revitalising the Parramatta CBD retail precinct, create a weekly outdoor event, and provide a safer community environment and most importantly offering a fresh and unique shopping experience.

How do you become a stallholder

To become a stallholder you will first need to obtain a Stallholder Application Form fill it out and return it to Parramatta City Council. To get an application form you can either download the PDF from http://www.parracity.nsw.gov.au/farmers_markets , or pick one up from our customer service counter at 30 Darcy street Parramatta or Parramatta Town Hall.

Or alternatively you can approach the Market Manager while the markets are in progress or call on 02 9806 5098. Once Council has received your application form you will be contacted to discuss your product and a potential starting date.

Set up

Set up commences at 6am with stallholders bringing their vehicles into The Church Street Mall via Macquarie Street or Darcy Street for stalls 1-16. Once you enter the mall wait for a staff member to approach and show you to your stall location. Any vehicle driving within the mall must drive at no more than 5km per hour and always have hazard lights flashing, at your stall location unload your goods and equipment and proceed to Civic Place via Parramatta Town Hall prior to setting up.

Pack up / shut down

Stallholders may commence packing up their stalls after 1pm each market day, stallholders must first break down their stall before bringing their vehicle into the mall. All vehicles at pack up time must enter the mall via Macquarie Street but may leave from their nearest exit, as in set up all vehicles must drive at 5km per hour with hazard lights flashing.

Stallholder parking

After dropping off equipment/ goods and leaving the mall past Parramatta Town Hall, proceed to Civic Place Carpark (i.e. the Council carpark behind the Post Office building). The carpark is located about 150m from the mall for easy access to your vehicle and parking is provided on a pay and display basis. Stallholders can expect to pay \$8 for a full day of parking.

Power

Power is available if required, although prior notice is needed to provide access to this service for stallholders.

Waste

All stallholder waste is to be taken off site when leaving. All waste generated by the public will be cleaned by Council's City Care Team.

Wet weather

The markets will operate in the event of rain. In the event of exceptional weather conditions, Please contact the Market Manager on 02 9806 5098 to be advised on attendance. Fees will not be charged for that day if markets are not held.

Notification of absence

In the event that you are unable to attend the market 24 hours notice is required for the manager to make other arrangements. If you fail to attend without notice you will be charged that days stall hire fee.

Acceptable sale items

Parramatta Farmers' Market is currently approved to host 45 stalls; this is divided into three categories;

5 x foods for immediate consumption (hot food)

20x fresh food and food related products

20x other goods

Other goods include arts, craft, jewellery, fashion and home wares. Other items will require advance approval by the Manager based on its quality and individuality. The Market Manager's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into with unsuccessful applicants.

Site fees

The fee structure is currently under review, please contact the Market Manager for information.