



**Montrose Farmers Market
Operating Mar. 28, 2020 and Beyond**

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“Where does your food come from?” If it comes from a store, community members might want to check out the Montrose Farmers Market (MFM) operating this Saturday, March 28, 2020 from 10:00-1:00 in Centennial Plaza under guidelines recommended by Colorado Farmers Market Association, the CDC, and others. Farmers Markets were recently deemed a Critical Retail Infrastructure by the Department of Agriculture and Governor Polis. As a result, vendor booths will spread out for the next several weeks to facilitate recommended social distancing. The Winter Market operates every other week through the winter and will be moving outdoors this Saturday for the rest of the winter season. Approximately 10-15 Vendors participate during the winter months and products vary each week. Because of COVID-19 guidelines only meat and produce will be available. The winter market will be open on the following dates: March. 28, April. 11, and April 25, 2020. Beginning May 9, 2020, the Summer Market will operate weekly on Saturdays from 9:00-1:00. MFM accepts SNAP (food stamps) and offers Double Up Food Bucks to SNAP recipients for use in purchasing fruit and vegetables. Market patrons are encouraged to dress for the weather.

MFM will continue to operate subject to the City and County of Montrose, and the State of Colorado, according to CDC guidelines. Both vendors and patrons should engage in following:

- MFM is committed to keeping this a safe experience for all; therefore we are asking that any Vendors or Patrons experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, etc.) to please stay home.
- Practice safe social distancing: at least 6 ft between Patrons and 12-15 feet between Vendors.
- Patrons are encouraged to primarily shop and not linger and socialize.
- Please use hand sanitizer or the hand washing station when entering and leaving the market. The Market Manager and most Vendors will have sanitizer available at their booths.
- Please use CDC guidelines of washing hands for 20 seconds, sneeze in your elbow, and don't touch your face. A hand washing station will also be available for Vendors and Customers.



- Please limit the use of cash and provide exact change if possible. Checks and credit cards are preferred. Please allow Vendors to sign “X” on your behalf.
- No samples will be available.
- Please point to your needs and allow Vendors to package items for you. If you touch it – you buy it!
- All Montrose Farmers Market operations are subject to change. Updates will be shared on the MFM website www.MontroseFarmersMarket.weebly.com and Facebook page.

Montrose Farmers Market is a project of Valley Food Partnership (VFP), a local non-profit whose vision is a resilient regional food system that sustains the land, producers and healthy communities. Valley Food Partnership works to strengthen the regional food system and community well-being through education, access to quality local foods, and promotion of sustainable agricultural practices. VFP & MFM are looking into an online ordering system for prepared food boxes, however this is not available at this time. This is a good time to support the local Montrose Farmers Market as community members need a variety of ways to access healthy food sources. The City of Montrose, VFP, and other non-profits in the community are in communication on ways to increase access to local food resources for those in need. Visit VFP website: www.valleyfoodpartnership.org for more information and programs offered by Valley Food Partnership.

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