

# The Basics of Selling Food in the Youth Enterprise and Transition Zone

We're excited to welcome you to this year's Common Ground Country Fair! As a youth exhibitor who wants to sell food, there are some additional guidelines you're required to follow to make sure everyone has a fun and safe experience here at the Fair. Please look over this list and review the enclosed documents.

- All food items must be prepackaged. This means that they should be packaged in your kitchen, before being transported to the fair. No food should be cut, repackaged, bagged etc. at the fair. All food at the fair should be covered at all times.
- If you have pets you can still produce food for the fair in your home kitchen. However you must do this according to the Maine Department of Agriculture requirements. All pets must be removed and excluded from the kitchen/processing area prior to processing. After the pet is excluded all surfaces and utensils must be washed, rinsed and sanitized prior to processing for food safety.
- The kitchen you use to make your products MUST meet the Maine Department of Agriculture requirements for a Certified Home Processing Kitchen, however you are not required to obtain a Home Processing License to sell your products in the YEZ/YETZ area.
- You must practice safe food handling, taking care to sanitize all equipment and surfaces, washing hands thoroughly and frequently, and maintaining food at proper temperatures. More information on safe food handling and starting food businesses can be found on the Department of Agriculture Website - <http://umaine.edu/publications/3101e/>
- All food sold in the YEZ/YETZ area must be shelf stable. The food must not contain any meat, and no portion (filling, frosting, etc.) can be comprised primarily of dairy or eggs. Please see the enclosed sheet on Potentially Hazardous and Non-Potentially Hazardous food for more information.
- We prefer exhibitors to use Maine organic sweeteners. Please review the enclosed sheet for advice on substituting Maine produced sweeteners.
- You must adhere to any contract comments, and the Fair must approve each items Food Ingredients Form.

Remember that while we want you to take this process seriously, it's also important that you have a great time doing it, so get creative with your recipes and have a blast!