



**COVID 19 NOTICE OF SUSPENSION OF ENFORCEMENT OF CERTAIN
FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM AND SENIOR FARMERS MARKET
NUTRITION PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING PERMANENT
FARMSTANDS AND VENDOR CERTIFICATION**

Effective June 18, 2020

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (Department) is issuing this Notice of Suspension of Certain Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) Requirements (Suspension) in recognition of the extraordinary circumstances facing the state from COVID-19. Consistent with Governor Reynolds' numerous public health proclamations, the Department is attempting to provide regulatory relief and mitigate the economic effects of business closings, supply chain disruptions, and social distancing standards necessary to protect the public's health.

The Department is suspending enforcement of restrictions limiting the use of FMNP and SFMNP vouchers to only FMNP authorized farmers markets. For the effective period of this Suspension, FMNP and SFMNP vouchers may be accepted by any FMNP certified vendor at that vendor's primary grow site(s) within the state of Iowa. This Suspension does not impact the acceptance of FMNP and SFMNP vouchers at FMNP authorized farmers markets.

Furthermore, to facilitate this Suspension, the Department is suspending enforcement of those relevant provisions under Iowa Administrative Rules 21-50.8(5), 50.8(8), 50.8(8)(a), and 50.8(8)(b), which, among other things, mandate the use of permanent farmstands on vendor farms or other primary grow sites.

This Suspension shall extend from the effective date stated above through October 31, 2020, unless otherwise modified or terminated earlier by the Department.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Maury J. Noonan".

Maury J. Noonan, Division Director
Iowa Department of Agriculture
And Land Stewardship