



2027 Farmers Volunteer Friends Handbook & Food



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HALIFAX BREWERY MARKET



Welcome!

We are so incredibly grateful and proud of the volunteers who make the Halifax Brewery Market what it is. Those who give their time and energy to this market truly have our hearts.

Thank you for your interest in joining our community of customer-conscious, service-oriented volunteers. We strive to create a welcoming environment dedicated to a caring and worthwhile cause - and that all starts with YOU! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your interest and participation.

All personal information for volunteers will now be collected through our online form. Please ensure you have fully completed and submitted this form before your first shift.

The roles below are broad-brush descriptions of the volunteer opportunities currently available. As a community oriented co-op and non-profit, we're always changing, learning and growing, so if nothing below quite fits, don't be discouraged. We want to hear what you think you can bring to the market!

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How to Become a HBM Volunteer

Make sure you meet the requirements:

1. Be at least 16 years old
2. Be able to commit to a 2-3 hour shift once per season
3. Completed VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM
4. Once your application is approved by one of our Market Managers, you will be invited to an orientation meeting before your first shift.
5. Start volunteering!

Why Volunteer here?

Mission Statement

Farmers, friends, and food; bringing the best of Nova Scotia together.

Values & Objectives

The Halifax Brewery Farmers' Market is a non-profit member-run cooperative. Our Market brings people together to build community and a strong local economy. It makes a statement about how we want to live and interact. We operate to support and promote small-scale, local food producers and artisans of Nova Scotia, and to be a positive force in the growth and sustainability of our local economy. The aim of the Brewery Farmers' Market is to provide high quality goods produced in Nova Scotia, with an emphasis on food.

We value:

- Cooperation, recognizing strength in diversity;
- Community, celebration, civic participation & social gathering;
- Equitable access to good food;
- Strengthening Urban to Rural Connections and increasing transparency, traceability, and agricultural education

What it offers you

- A sense of community in a welcoming, understanding, fun and kind environment
- The satisfaction of helping a growing market and thriving public space
- Work experience. You'll gain confidence in areas like task completion, punctuality, working independently and social skills
- A potential reference for future employment
- Introduction to a new network of lovely people
- Room to grow your interpersonal skills

Why this market might be a good fit for you

- You care about community food security and food sovereignty
- You believe in the access to local food and goods
- You're interested in micro-economies and supporting local businesses
- You want to help build and protect public spaces and local community

If you want to be part of *building* that (not just benefiting from it!) but actively helping create it, volunteering is one of the most direct ways to do it.

Tell Us What Makes You, You!

The thing that makes you unique might be something we haven't even thought of before!

Maybe you have a skill that doesn't neatly fit into any category below. Maybe you've noticed something about the market that could be better and wondered why no one's done anything about it. Maybe you're not sure exactly what you have to offer because you know you want to be part of this wonderful community!

We're not asking you to fit yourself into a predetermined shape, we're asking you to come tell us what you're good at, what you notice, what you're curious about and we will figure it out together where you fit best.

Your hobbies count. So does your curiosity about local food, micro-economies, or how a public space comes alive. A knack for photography, a love of baking, a head for spreadsheets, a talent for making kids laugh: it all has a place here.

The market is always fluid and always changing, and we're better for it. What keeps it thriving is dynamic, interested, and engaged volunteers who bring fresh eyes and new ideas. If that sounds like you, we'd love to hear from you.

Shifts at a Glance

Below is an overview of the most popular shifts and roles at the market.

Shift Name	Time	Roles
The Early Riser	7:00 am to 9:00 am	Chalk Market set up Early vendor support
The Mid-Day Hero	9:00 am to 12:00 pm	Garbage and Sorting Kids craft tables Table watcher Market Walk Around Table cleaner
The Closing Aficionado	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Help Vendors put tables away Put away signage Take our garbage out Table reset
The Long Hauler	7:00 am to 2:00 pm	For volunteers who want to experience a full and busy market day!
Mid-Week Tasks	Wednesday to Friday, Flexible times	Weekly cleaning Advertisement/Posting Social Media Making flags, art or posters for the market
Creative Connoisseur	Flexible	Help create decorations, media, and art for our beautiful public space

Ongoing Volunteer Roles

Below is an overview of the most popular volunteer roles at the market.

Role	What it involves
Market Greeter	Welcome shoppers and make sure everyone feels at home. Alternate between doors to help hold them open and point people in the right direction.
Market Set-Up	Help set up tables for the market and vendors, put out signage, chalk sidewalks
Market Tear Down	Help vendors and market staff put tables away, bring in signs
Morning Chalking (Warm Months only)	Help bring people to the market! Chalk the sidewalks near and far to point new customers and tourists in the right direction.
Table Assistance	Cover vendors while they grab food, use the bathroom, etc.
Market Beautification	Help make decor for the market, help clean and create a tidy space
Garbage & Waste Sorting	Monitor bins, help shoppers return dishes and sort garbage properly
Durable Dish Washing	Help us keep the market green and clean by washing our reusable mugs, cutlery and dishes

Ongoing Volunteer Roles

(Continued)

Role	What it involves
Kids Craft Table	Plan and run craft youth activities!
Table Wiping and Reset	Keep customer tables clean and free of dishes
Parking Lot Attendant	Help watch the parking lot while vendors are loading out for the day.
Coffee Runner	Keep vendors caffeinated and cared for! Take coffee orders and offer to bring water
Market-Day Walk Around	[Maybe wear a special shirt??] chat with customers, get vendor information as directed by Market Managers, be a friendly and identifiable face during market days
Photographer	Capture the market's vibe!
Vendor Satisfaction Surveys	Check in with vendors and get feedback
Customer Conversations	Chat with shoppers and note what you learn. We want to hear about how long people have been coming to the market, how they found us, what they think we could improve, etc. We want to keep building a market that reflects what our community wants.

Role	What it involves
Postering	Poster around town! Ask local businesses if they will hang some of our posters inside.
Button Making	Design and press buttons for the market!
Social media	want to do some fun, whimsical or even silly stuff?

Leadership and Committee Roles

The Board is responsible for ensuring that the cooperative fulfills its legal obligations, managing upper-level HR matters, directing the future of the market, approving annual budgets, providing business support and guidance, creative vision and direction, the overarching look and feel of the market space and brand, and ensuring adequate financial resources are made available, and supporting the Program Coordinator.

Board members commit to:

- Attending meetings having read and understood any relevant materials, and prepared to participate in discussion and comment critically.
- A three-year term
- Representing the market positively in the community
- Directing potential opportunities back to the market management for continued research

Email: board@halifaxbrewerymarket.com if you would like to learn more.

Our Code of Conduct

It is the responsibility of all Vendors, Staff, Volunteers, and Board Members to:

- Foster cooperation and communication among each other
- Treat each other in a fair manner, with dignity and respect
- Promote harmony and teamwork in all relationships
- Strive for mutual understanding of standards for performance expectations, and communicate routinely to reinforce that understanding
- Encourage and consider opinions of other employees or members, and invite their participation in decisions that affect their work and their careers
- Encourage one another's growth and development by helping them achieve their goals at the market and beyond
- Seek to avoid workplace conflict, and if it occurs, respond fairly and quickly to provide the means to resolve it
- Administer all policies equitably and fairly, recognizing that jobs are different but each is important; that individual performance should be recognized and measured against predetermined standards; and that each participant has the right to fair treatment
- Recognize that our personal lives may experience crisis and show compassion and understanding

Our Communication and Commitment Expectations

We understand that life, like the seasons, changes all the time, and we're glad to have you as part of our team. Because our work depends on volunteers showing up, we rely on steady, open communication to keep things running smoothly.

If you can't make a shift, please let us know as soon as you can. A quick text or email (to community@halifaxbrewerymarket.com) goes a long way, even if it's last-minute. It helps us adjust the schedule, find coverage, and make sure the people we serve are supported.

Please note that if you are a no-show for more than two shifts in a row without contacting us, you will be sent a termination notice. We don't want it to come to that, so if something comes up, a busy stretch, a family matter, or a need to step back for a while, just reach out and we'll work with you.

Thank you for your time and commitment. We truly appreciate everything you do!