

Good Earth Market Membership Policies and Rules

www.goodearthmarket.coop
Facebook.com/goodearthmarket

Mission Statement

Good Earth Market integrates local, sustainable food systems, cooperative values and environmental stewardship in a lively community marketplace.

The Good Earth Market was founded on a set of values that continue to guide the organization today and into the future:

We believe that the co-operative business structure is the most effective way of meeting consumers' needs.

We believe all individuals should be treated with respect. GEM exercises honesty and integrity in all relationships.

We believe that a healthy environment is vital to sustaining the quality of our lives and our community.

We believe in and value member involvement. It develops inner community and builds value to whole community.

We believe in education to understand and evaluate food systems, leading to healthy food and healthy choices.

We believe in supporting the local economy, allowing us to influence its sustainability and support environmentally sound practices.

MEMBER BENEFITS

- *Monthly discount* - Receive one 5% discount each month to apply to any **one purchase** during that month. Monthly discount not used is forfeited.
- *Senior discount* – Receive a 5% discount on qualified purchases for senior citizens aged 65 and over.
- *Student discount* – Receive a 5% discount on qualified purchases (student ID required)
- *Referral discounts* - Refer a friend to become a member and receive a 10%, non-expiring discount on any one purchase.
- *Sale prices* - Receive member-only specials.
- *Special ordering* – Order cases of product at reduced prices. (See below or a staff member for details.)
- *Get Fresh! GEM newsletter* – Receive our newsletter by post or email.
- *Working Member* - Become a working member and receive additional discounts for time worked. (Not required.)
- *Board of Directors Involvement* - Members in good standing may vote at the annual meeting and run for the Board of Directors.

MEMBER DUES

- Initial- \$10.00 Yearly - \$10.00
- Dues are non-refundable.
- A membership household may include up to three adults.
- Households may include more than one voting member if each person desiring to vote maintains their own membership.

MEMBER LISTS

It is the general policy of the Good Earth Market not to release its member list to other groups or individuals except under unusual circumstances with the concurrence of the Board. Members will be informed that they may request that their name not be used for such mailings.

SPECIAL ORDERS

- *Products* - You may order case lots from distributor catalogs or individual items of products not carried in the market.
- *Price* – For bulk/case orders, prices include wholesale costs, including freight, plus a small mark-up. Individual items are full retail price with applicable discounts (working member discounts, for example). Non-members pay retail prices at all times. Cost estimates given at the time of ordering may vary from actual delivered costs.
- *Pick-up* - Please pick up your order promptly after you've received a phone call notifying you of your order coming in.
- *Payment* - Pay in full at day of pick-up.

ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETINGS

Members may attend Board meetings. Members who wish to make a presentation at a Board meeting are requested to inform the Board president in advance of the Board meeting of the topic and the desire to be placed on the agenda. Members attending Board meetings must follow the established agenda and may be asked to leave when financial, personnel, or other confidential matters are to be discussed.

BULLETIN BOARD

Members may post items on the community or member board upon approval of the Front End Manager or Manager-on-Duty.

NEWSLETTER POLICY

- Members may submit articles for publication consideration in the Good Earth Market Newsletter.
- Such articles must be received by the first of the month prior to the month of desired publication (e.g. January 1st for the February newsletter).
- Articles must be on topics pertinent to the business of the Good Earth Market (e.g. nutrition, agriculture, organic standards, cooperatives, herbs, etc.).
- Articles selected for publication must have a byline to indicate the article's author(s).
- Articles may be edited as to length and content.
- Final decision for inclusion of articles rests with the newsletter's editor.

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS

Businesses may be members of the Good Earth Market, but may not run for the Board of Directors and vote at the annual meeting. Business members may not be volunteer working members nor receive working member discounts.

SUB-ACCOUNTS (Orders of \$500.00 or more)

- Wholesale costs including freight plus 20% mark-up
- Member must be at store to pick up order when it arrives.
- Only allowed with distributors who agree to set up sub-accounts, which are listed separately on invoices and delivered on separate pallets.
- Good Earth Market handles credits and returns.