

Good Earth Market Membership Policies and Rules

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. This allows us to influence a sustainable economy and supports environmentally sound practices.

MEMBER BENEFITS

- Each month, every up-to-date member gets one 5% discount that they may use on any one purchase that month.
- Members 65 and older receive a 5% on qualified purchases.
- Sale prices for member only specials
- Special ordering is available at reduced prices
- Receive all published newsletters
- Opportunity to become a working member and receive additional discounts for time worked.
- Members in good standing may vote at the annual meeting and run for the board of directors.

MEMBER DUES

- Membership 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

- You can order: case lots from distributor catalogs or individual items of products not carried in the market.
- What you pay: for bulk/case orders, wholesale costs including freight plus a small mark-up. Individual items are full retail with applicable discounts. (volunteering for example) Non-members pay retail prices at all times. Costs estimates given at the time of ordering may vary from actual delivered costs.
- 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; those members who wish to make 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, ect)
- Articles selected to be published 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 editor.

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS

Businesses may be members of the Good Earth Market

Business members 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.