



The Growers Market – what I need to know and do if I intend to sell food?

****UPDATED – MAY 2012****

The Growers Market adopts the theme of “Make it, bake it, grow it, sell it” and provides opportunity for people to sell their foods to locals and visitors to the Huon Valley region. The Growers Markets located around the Municipal area, are run by the community and Council’s role is to ensure that safe food is sold at such markets and hence issue Certificates of Registrations to individual stall holders. In response to the increasing demand from local growers and makers (who do not have annual food business registration) for the opportunity to sell their wares directly to consumers, Huon Valley Council developed the Growers Market Food Registration.

Notification of intention to sell food under the *Food Act 2003*

In accordance with section 84 of the *Food Act 2003*, anyone intending to conduct a food business must first notify Council, regardless of the type of food/s to be sold.

Requirement to be registered to sell food under the *Food Act 2003*

Should you intend to sell potentially hazardous foods you must be registered in accordance with s.87 of the *Food Act 2003*.

What are potentially hazardous foods?

The following foods are examples of potentially hazardous foods:

- Raw and cooked meat (including poultry and game);
- Foods containing raw or cooked meat such as casseroles, curries and lasagne;
- Small goods such as Strasbourg, ham and chicken loaf;
- Dairy products, for example, milk, custard and dairy-based desserts such as cheesecakes and custard tarts (and cakes containing fresh cream);
- Seafood (excluding live seafood) including seafood salad, patties, fish balls, stews containing seafood and fish stock;
- Processed fruits and vegetables, for example salads and cut melons;
- Cooked rice and pasta;
- Foods containing eggs, beans, nuts or other protein-rich foods such as quiche, fresh pasta and soy bean products; and
- Foods containing any of the above-mentioned foods (for example sandwiches, rolls, cooked and uncooked pizza).

Changes to Registration in 2012

Previously, anyone selling non-potentially hazardous processed foods (including cakes, biscuits & slices, jams & honey, vinegars, relishes, preserves and other bottled goods) were required to have low-risk Growers Market Registration. From July 2012, anyone producing/retailing non-potentially hazardous processed foods will only be required to notify Council of their intention to sell their products at Growers Markets.

The application form is much the same however there is now only a once-off fee (unless product range changes to include potentially hazardous foods). Instead of being issued with a Certificate of Registration under the *Food Act 2003* you will receive an approval letter, requesting you contact Council should your circumstances change. There will be a once-off fee associated with this notification.

The process for notifying Council with intention to sell products at Growers Markets

Completing “Growers Market Notification Form” and obtaining approval from a Market Coordinator

A component of the application requires the approval from the Coordinator of the Market that you intend to sell food at. Therefore you must contact the Market Coordinator (contact details attached) and provide them with an idea of what you would like to sell. It is ultimately the Market Coordinators decision as to whether you can sell their food at their particular market. If the Coordinator approves for you to sell your product/s, they will provide their details and signature on the application. Alternatively the Market Coordinator may email Council to advise of this approval.

Submitting completed notification to Council

Once you have achieved approval from the Market Coordinator and you have completed your notification, the form can then be submitted to Council for approval by the EHO. Your application must be submitted **at least 14 days** prior to your first intended market, and be accompanied with payment.

Assessment of your notification by Council’s EHO

Council’s EHO will assess your notification to ensure that all relevant details have been provided, including the approval from a Market Coordinator.

Depending on the type of product you intend to sell, Council’s EHO may need to conduct an inspection of the kitchen where the products are intended to be prepared. Advice and/or requirements will be provided at this stage to ensure that the food is prepared in a safe manner and in an appropriate environment.

Approval of notification

If Council’s EHO is satisfied with your completed notification, and you are not selling any potentially-hazardous foods, you will be sent a letter advising that you are now approved to sell non-potentially hazardous foods at the Growers Markets listed on your notification form. Your approval letter will be accompanied by relevant food safety documents including labelling requirements.

Approval of Registration

If Council’s EHO is satisfied with your completed notification, and you are selling potentially-hazardous foods, you will be sent a letter advising that assessment is complete, notification has been approved and payment is now required (invoice will be attached).

Issuing of “Growers Market Certificate of Registration”

Once payment has been received your “Growers Market Certificate of Registration” will be posted to you. The registration will be provided as a ‘package’ that will include relevant food safety documents including labelling requirements.

PLEASE NOTE

- The intention of the Growers Market Notification/Registration is to promote local wares, producers and makers. Notification/Registration is not intended for the serving of 'take-away' food items, such as those that would be associated with food vans or temporary food stalls.
- The notification approval and Certificate of Registration only permits persons to sell their food at the Markets and Events within the Huon Valley Municipal area and does not allow persons to sell their product to businesses unless they have a separate Annual Food Business Registration.
- If you wish to sell food at other markets within the Huon Valley you will need to seek approval from the respective Market Coordinator. If the Coordinator approves you to sell your product at their market, they will provide their details and signature on the rear of your Letter of Approval/Certificate of Registration.
- The Growers Market Certificate of Registration/Letter of Approval enables the holder to sell food, within the scope of approved foods, at Huon Valley events without the need of obtaining a separate Temporary Food Registration. You will still need to notify Council of your intent along with contacting the appropriate Event Coordinator.
- The manufacture and sale of all foods must be in accordance with relevant provisions of the Food Standards Code.
- Fruit and vegetables **that have not been cut or processed (whole)** can be sold at Growers Markets without notifying Council.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE NOTIFICATION AND
REGISTRATION PROCESS PLEASE CONTACT COUNCIL'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH UNIT
ON 6264 0300.**