

# **FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM**

## **Grower Program Sanctions**

Federal laws require sanctions be applied when non-compliance to FMNP policies and procedures is found. The following violations are classified into three levels of non-compliance: Class I, Class II and Class III. If a violation is found to be valid, the sanction below each violation will be imposed.

**The following sanctions apply to the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program only.**

### **Class I Violation**

1. Accepting one or more WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) Checks outside the redemption dates of June 1 through October 31, 2009.
2. Failure to display “*WIC & Senior Farmers Market Checks Welcome Here*” sign.

**Sanction:** Class I violations result in a warning letter from the Program Coordinator to the Grower.

### **Class II Violation**

1. Accepting FMNP Checks for ineligible items.
2. Accepting FMNP Checks at an unauthorized market.
3. Depositing or cashing FMNP Checks without a valid grower identification number stamped in the appropriate box on the check.
4. Discriminating actions demonstrated against a WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program customer.
5. Two Class I violations.

**Sanction:** Class II violations result in a non-compliance letter from the Program Coordinator to the Grower. In addition, technical assistance is provided by telephone followed by a verbal test of information provided.

### **Class III Violation**

1. Providing drugs, alcohol or cash to a customer for WIC FMNP Checks.
2. Charging WIC FMNP customers more than the current price charged other customers.
3. Attempting to collect or collecting sales tax.
4. Providing money back to customers for purchases where the amount of the purchase is less than the value of the checks.
5. Two Class II violations.

**Sanction:** Class III violations result in the Grower’s suspension from the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

### **SUSPENSION:**

The length of suspension for a first time offense is three months. The length of suspension for a second time offense is six months. If an offense occurs at the end of the program season, the remaining length of time will be carried over to the following program season. A grower who is suspended must reapply to participate in the WIC FMNP after the end of the suspension period.