

Sweetwater Verified Questionnaire for Value Added Products

Definition of Key Terms

Value Added: A value added product is any product that has had value added to it by additional processing, ingredients, or creative process. This includes all processed food products including jams, jellies, preserves, smoked or dried meats, baked goods, body care, cleaning products and all products considered to be arts and /or crafts.

Contract Vending: If you are intending to sell a product not made by you, you must request permission from the market first. In general, items not made locally (within 50 miles) must still be made within the State of Michigan, they must be certified organic, and there must be a demonstrated need for them at the market. An example would be Higher Grounds coffees, Light of Day teas, and Food for Thought jams and preserves.

All Vendors:

Please give us a general idea of what products you intend to sell at Sweetwater, where you produce them (i.e. your own home or licensed facility) and a bit of the history of your business including how long you have been making these products. If a license is required for this product, please include a copy of your license with your application.

Baked & Processed Goods:

Do you source local, organically grown ingredients where possible?

If you cannot source an ingredient locally, how do you choose another source?

Do you avoid use of ingredients with GMO's? (genetically modified organisms, i.e. RoundUp Ready Soybeans & Corn are genetically modified to accept glysophate/RoundUp).

What type of sweeteners do you use? Do you avoid use of HFCS (high fructose corn syrup)?

Are your products labeled completely as to ingredients?

Are you familiar with the recently enacted Michigan Cottage Food Law & its labeling requirements?
http://www.michigan.gov/mdard/0,4610,7-125-50772_45851-240577--,00.html

Body Care & Cleaning Products:

Do you avoid the use of synthetic ingredients?

Do you source local organically grown ingredients where possible?

If you cannot source an ingredient locally, how do you choose another source?

Are your products labeled completely as to ingredients?

Arts & Crafts

Do you make all parts of your crafted items? Which are pre-made? Do you source locally for your art or craft items if possible?