

Community Fruit and Veg Stands – General Guidelines

Our Koupapa (values and ethos behind our stands)

Our stands are for everyone. We ensure that while all our stands benefit people in need we include the whole community in our initiatives. For our stands to be sustainable it is important that everyone in the community benefits from them and are able to share and enjoy the excess fruit and veg that is generated in our backyards. We have discovered that there is an abundance of fresh fruit and veg in backyard gardens that is going to waste and sharing this excess will help not only prevent food waste but also help build relationships and communities. Our stands are focused on Fresh Fruit and Veg but we are also happy to take a small amount of non-perishable foods too, especially when there is limited fruit and veg available in the community.

Finding an appropriate site

Finding a right site is very important. You want a site that is easy for the public to find and has some easy on street parking.

To avoid vandalism it is a good idea to avoid placing it on a main road or a place that is busy at night such as near shops, bars, parks and parking lots.

A site that is visible to the person managing the stand is a good idea if and will also make it easy to manage and keep clean.

Placing the stand on private property is always best. The next best place is a Berm outside the property of the stand manager. Please remember that a Berm is Council land and so having a stand on it can be a sensitive issue with a few important things to remember. Stands on Berms should always be designed as to be a manageable size that is easy for one or 2 people to move and they should always be removable (bolting them to a fence is a good way to keep them secure but removable) if requested by the council. As Berms are public land it is important to check with your neighbours about it as their support is very important. Any complaints to the council about a Berm side stand and it will need to be moved immediately. A Berm side stand should be described as a small, temporary structure which is able to be moved when needed.

Other sites such as parks and walkways are not recommended but could be used after getting appropriate council consent.

Avoid placing the stand near shops such as dairy's, fruit shops and supermarkets as they could clash with the products that they are trying to sell.

If you have any concerns about placement of a stand always feel free to contact your local council for their feedback.

Once you have a great site in mind please contact Mark Dennis to get it confirmed. We will add it to our map and let you know if there any other stands under construction that it might clash with.

Building a Stand.

Building a stand can be as fun and creative as you like but as a guide they should be a decent size, strong and weather proof to keep the fresh fruit and veg dry. Any wood used will need to be treated as our stands are normally outdoors. If you are unable to build your own stand then it is a great idea to try and find a local handyman/women or builder to sponsor the build and we can always add their logo to the stand as a thank you for their support. Contact us if you would like any advice on designs that have worked well for other communities.

Signage

Once you have a great site confirmed and a build underway contact Mark Dennis for your signage.

Food Safety

Food safety is always a priority for our stands. A good stand manager should try and check the stand every day or two for old food and to make sure the stand is in good condition and clean. Our food safety policy is below:

Our Food Safety Policy:

Any one dropping any food off must ensure that it is fresh and suitable to eat at the time it is dropped off.

If you drop off eggs please write the date on them that they were collected.

If you drop off any baked goods please clearly write the time and date it was made.

Please do not drop off any cooked meals.

Anyone collecting food from the stands must make a reasonable attempt to check that they are happy with the quality and freshness of the food before they eat it. No responsibility is held by the person managing the stand or the person dropping off the food to the stand for the safety of the food once it has been collected.

Managing a Stand

Managing a stand is really easy. All you are required to do is monitor the stand every day or two or as required. This might mean a little more work in summer when it is busier.

Remove any old fruit or veg (please try and compost waste food when possible).

Check dates on any non-perishable food and remove anything past its best before date.

Check the stand is clean and looking tidy.

Provide photo updates to our Facebook page. This helps locals and the wider community know how the stands are going and what is available.

If there is any damage to the stand to ensure it is repaired ASAP. Feel free to message Mark Dennis if you need any help or advice.