

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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For more information, contact Rachael Kinnick: 641-236-6555,
events@getintogrinnell.com.



Grinnell Farmers Market, Presented by Grinnell Mutual, to Open for Season May 14

GRINNELL, IA — The Grinnell Farmers Market opening weekend will kick off in Central Park (on the corner of 4th Avenue and Broad Street) on Thursday, May 14, 2026, from 3-6 p.m., and Saturday, May 16, 2026, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The Grinnell Farmers Market will then run every Thursday and Saturday through October 17, 2026. The Grinnell Farmers Market is organized by the Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce and is presented by Grinnell Mutual. This year, Grinnell Farmers Market is sponsored by Unity Point Health — Grinnell, Grinnell College, and Community 1st Credit Union.

“Every year, we are excited to bring the Grinnell Farmers Market to Central Park,” says Rachael Kinnick, president and CEO of the Grinnell Chamber. “The Market is a prime example of our strategic plan in motion: highlighting our local entrepreneurs, promoting community vitality, and overall bettering the community with offerings and access to locally grown, high-quality produce.”

On opening day, May 14, the Grinnell College a cappella group Con Brio will perform a set of songs at 5 p.m. near the corner of 4th Avenue and Broad Street. Throughout the season, the Market will host a number of options for live entertainment, family-friendly activities, and opportunities to connect with sponsors. The Grinnell Farmers Market ultimately aims to integrate Iowa farmers and producers with area artists and community members interested in supporting local.

As a continuation from last year, the Grinnell Farmers Market is adopting similar Saturday hours (9:30 a.m.-noon) in response to survey feedback taken in 2024. Throughout the season, customers will be able to provide feedback and ideas for the Farmers Market via a survey to be released on the Grinnell Chamber website on opening day.

The Grinnell Farmers Market will also continue to host its annual loyalty punch card program for shoppers. For each purchase made with a different vendor, a customer's card will be punched. Once customers receive 10 "punches" on their loyalty card, they are eligible to enter a Farmers Market giveaway, to be hosted once a month. Giveaways prizes include a goodie basket with a variety of market items, made possible by the generosity of market vendors.

Grinnell Farmers Market announcements, events, and information will be shared on their social media channels (@grinnellfarmersmarket on Facebook and Instagram), the Grinnell Chamber website, and bi-weekly email newsletter (available to sign up online): https://www.grinnellchamber.org/events/grinnell_farmers_market/.

Throughout the season, community members are asked to avoid parking in nearby parking spaces after 1 p.m. on Thursdays and after 6:30 a.m. on Saturdays to allow vendors adequate time to set up.

Buying at Market

The Market will accept cash transactions. In addition, the Market will have a card reader available at the corner of 4th Avenue and Broad Street for those wishing to purchase debit/credit tokens for market purchases. Tokens can also be purchased with SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) EBT cards for food products.

The Double Up Food Bucks (DUFb) program will continue for the 2026 season, as well. Customers can earn DUFb when using their SNAP cards, or spend DUFb earned at Fareway and Hy-Vee for qualifying products at Market. For help on how to purchase food products and goods at Market, contact the Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce, 641-236-6555.

Participating Vendors

Farmers Market shoppers can expect to find a variety of goods and products with this year's line-up of Grinnell Farmers Market full- and part-time vendors. This year's vendors hail from 8 counties (Poweshiek, Polk, Jasper, Tama, Black Hawk, Iowa, Grundy, and Benton) and will be selling an array of high-quality, fresh produce, baked treats and pastries, eggs, plants, handmade crafts, and more.

"The Grinnell Farmers Market continues to be an affordable, healthy, and socially fun option for the greater Grinnell community," says Kinnick. "We hope to see our shoppers excited about the fresh foods and fun activities the Market will host throughout the season."

The Grinnell Farmers Market is a 100% producer-grown or made market, meaning that all items for sale must be entirely grown or made by the vendor or immediate family members in the state of Iowa.

Below is a current list of participating vendors for the 2026 season. Vendors listed with an asterisk (*) indicate a new vendor. Farmers Market vendor applications will be accepted on a rolling basis throughout the season for those wishing to join mid or late season. New vendors throughout the season will be announced via the Grinnell Chamber website and the Grinnell Farmers Market newsletter.

Thursday Vendors:

- Brynn & Co by Third Day Garden Farm: Lavender and botanical products, teas, syrups, and lemonades.
- Dolezal Honey Bees: Honey, beeswax, and honey-based body products.
- Katie's Mini Donuts: Mini donuts and soft serve ice cream.

Saturday Vendors:

- *Bloomin Bakery: Artisan sourdough breads and baked goods.
- Brobst Signs by Design: Woodcrafted items like flags, boards, and smokers.
- Grinn Open Studio: Makerspace-crafted items.
- Grinnell Pastry Peddler: Pastries and focaccia breads.
- Kate's Kitchen Creations: Sourdough, scones, cookies, and gluten-free baked goods.
- *Lit by Champagne: Handmade scented candles.

Thursday and Saturday Vendors:

- *Adventurer's Warehouse/Slapdragon Productions: Books, crafts, and craft supplies.
- A.T. designs: Handcrafted jewelry and accessories.
- B&J Vegetables: Fresh produce, preserves, freeze-dried goods, and fermented items.
- Circle W Acres: Baked goods including breads, pies, and pastries.
- Compass Plant CSA: Meats, eggs, vegetables, and breads.
- *Dream State 3D: 3D-printed gifts, collectibles, and decor.
- *Handmade: Crocheted items like bags, scrunchies, and keychains.
- Olson Garden Market: Wide variety of fresh vegetables, herbs, and plant starts.
- Prairie Produce: Produce, jams, salsa, and freeze-dried goods.
- Rose's Art Stand: Painted rocks and art items.

A number of part-time vendors will be joining the Market throughout the season. A few signed up to date include:

- Aaron Sande: Plant starts and fresh produce.
- *Bitsy Bakery: Macarons and assorted baked goods.
- Cassy's Crazy Creations: Crocheted items, drawings, and stickers.
- Claude W. and Dolly Ahrens Foundation: Free fidget items and mental health resources.
- Crafts of Passioner: Ceramics, art prints, jewelry, and crochet items.
- *Fried Sweets & Treats: Funnel cakes, fried Oreos and Twinkies, fried cheesecake, corn dogs, cheese curds, and fried pickles.
- Golden Pear Kitchen: Baked goods, jams, and preserved foods.
- Krumms Crafts: Resin art and paintings.
- *Nummies by Jenna: Baked goods.
- *Personalized Pages & MoSips: Activity books, drinks, and slime.
- *Ruth and Rhae's: Handmade soaps, salves, and bath products.

Visit https://www.grinnellchamber.org/events/grinnell_farmers_market/ for the most current list of vendors.

About the Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce

The Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce is an independent, 501©6 non-profit organization focused on the Grinnell community. The mission of the Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce is to support development and growth of our members, help advance economic growth, and foster community vitality. For more information on how to join the Chamber or get involved, please visit www.grinnellchamber.org or call 641-236-6555.

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Photo Cutlines:

- **2026 Grinnell Farmers Market Logo:** The official logo of the Grinnell Farmers Market. A round circle with blue edges and white silhouettes of vegetables overlaid. Green text in the middle reads, "Grinnell Farmers Market."
- **Ann Brau:** A smiling Ann Brau, a Grinnell Farmers Market vendor, smiles in her yellow Compass CSA shirt as she holds a market token.
- **Asparagus:** On a plaid tablecloth, rhubarb is laid out on the table next to bundles of asparagus.