Common Farmers market food items and who regulates them

Eggs
IDOA

Meats (and meat products)
IDOA
Meats – processed
General guidance for labeling guides from IDPH (Elizabeth Watkins) – name, address, distributor, net weight (both standard and metric)

Fresh fruits and vegetables
Whole, not cut, not frozen
Horseradish root (exempt)

Honey
Bee hives - IDOA
Extracted honey - IDPH
Sold in comb (exempt)

Nuts
In shell (exempt), raw agricultural

Grains
Whole grain (exempt)
Grinding and/or manipulating, need to follow regulations
Popcorn (exempt at farmers’ market)

Herbs
Fresh, raw (sprigs) Exempt
Dry, whole, in bunch (exempt)
Herbs in small bags, making it into a finished product need – considered “processed and so need to be processed in an inspected facility. Option – doing it in a local restaurant. Make an appointment with IDPH (have a process that is filed).
Blended herbs (non-exempt)

Vinegar/herbs (exempt). Vinegar of a known pH.

Lotions/creams Contact FDA (Chicago District Office) at 312-353-5863. Manufacture a cosmetic (when you call)

No home canning. Needs to be done in an inspected kitchen, and also approved process

Mushrooms
Technical release from IDPH.

Maple Syrup
Processed product (IDPH).

Apple Cider

Baked Goods
Inspected facility. Contact regional IDPH office. Bake sales are okay (no custard or cream-filled goods). Follow proper labeling laws. Local health department has jurisdiction for baked goods that are sold at the farmers’ market.

Milk and Cheese Products
Contact the regional IDPH office. Get this information from the Dairy Practices Council (http://www.dairypc.org). Cheese - Manufactured milk processing facility. Equipment has to meet 3A standards.