

Windy Conditions Protocol



The foremost concern of VFM is the safety of our vendors, staff, shoppers and all other participants. At all times during operation in extreme weather conditions, safety should be of paramount concern.

Be prepared!

- Secure tent weights to tents as soon as tents go up
- Keep your setup simple
- Don't put out displays that will blow over easily
- Never leave your tent unattended

Don't setup:

- A frame signs
- Umbrellas
- Tent walls
- Anything that the wind will catch

Tearing down in the wind:

- 2 - 4 people per tent (ask your neighbour for help)
- Keep tent weights on until tent is completely lowered
- Take off canopy top, if needed, to avoid flipping or out of control tents

Closing a market early is viewed as a last resort. If unexpected weather conditions present safety hazards beyond what staff can handle, the market will be closed. All market sites are different and it may be possible that where you are situated in the market does not seem unsafe. Closing early is not a decision that is made lightly and requires everyone to work together for the safety of everyone. Your cooperation is required and rule violations will be issued for vendors who do not follow the market managers directions.

If calling a market early due to windy conditions:

- Follow the direction of the marker manager and market staff
- Staff will ring the bell to signify the close
- Finish the sale you are on and start end of day packing up procedures
- Instruct shoppers that the market is closed and they need to leave the site
- Volunteers/Staff will be at entrances preventing new shoppers from entering the site
- Staff will use a megaphone to alert shoppers of the closure and ask them to leave the site
- Skip end of day tasks (vendor reports, payments, market money - we will follow up later)
- End of day 20 minute rule doesn't apply in early closures, tear down, await further instruction
- When all shoppers have cleared the market, the market manager will green light for vendor load out to begin when it is safe

Thanks for helping keep markets safe!