Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
WIC Nutrition Program

Effective: October 1, 2011
Revised: December 1, 2017
Policy No. FMNP-3

High-Risk Farmer Identification Systems

Authority
7 CFR §248.4(a)(10)(iv) and §248.10(e);
22 MRSA §255 and §1951

Policy
1. Maine CDC attempts to identify farmers who are at a higher risk for non-compliance with the terms of their Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) Authorization Agreement and FMNP Policies. Farmers in the first year of FMNP operation are automatically considered high-risk. Other indicators of high-risk include, but are not limited to, the following:
   1.1. Participant or State or Local Agency staff complaints or observations;
   1.2. Suspicious patterns or volume of redemption;
   1.3. A history of program violations/non-compliance;
   1.4. Previous WIC, SNAP, or FMNP suspension; or
   1.5. SNAP determination of high risk.

Procedures
1. Maine CDC maintains a formal system for receiving complaints about farmers through the following:
   1.1 A toll-free number handled by Maine CDC staff;
   1.2 A standard complaint form that the complainant sends to Maine CDC; and
   1.3 E-mail.
2. In its high-risk vendor analysis, Maine CDC shall use:
   2.1 Participant complaints; and
   2.2 A three-month aggregate of the vendor’s redemptions.
3. Farmer redemption patterns are compared to patterns of other farmers.
4. The Maine CDC shall identify high-risk farmers and generate high-risk farmer reports at least once per year.