

# Attention Headhouse Customers

**Starting March 2, 2025, no pets (except trained service animals) are permitted under the Headhouse Shambles during farmers market hours.**



We are implementing this policy to follow both the City of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania Health Codes.

We know many customers are accustomed to bringing their furry friends to Headhouse Farmers Market. However, we must implement this City- and State-mandated policy to ensure food safety, as well as the accessibility of the market. We want our market to be welcoming to all, and we must follow legal and ethical standards to do so.

## Why Headhouse, and why now?

### Food Safety

- The City of Philadelphia has a long-standing policy under Chapter 46 of its Health Code, which states that live animals, such as pets, are not permitted in food facilities.
- The Headhouse Shambles is a unique structure that only allows 6.5 feet of two-way traffic. This means that, even if owners are in complete control of their pets, they are still within close proximity of prepared food and fresh produce tables, presenting a food safety hazard.
- Dog waste (i.e., feces and urine) has been found at or near vendor stands, which is an immediate health hazard.

### Accessibility

- Given the narrow walkway underneath the Shambles, plus heavy foot traffic during busy seasons, dogs and leashes ultimately contribute to the clogging of walkways, making it challenging for people who use wheelchairs or walking assistance devices to navigate the market. Several customers have lost their balance or been injured by a well-meaning dog at the market.

**Other Food Trust farmers markets will not be implementing this policy, because they are located in wide spaces with ample room for foot traffic and areas for pets.**

## What are my options for bringing my pet to Headhouse?

- Pet owners are welcome to walk their pets along either side of the Shambles, or to rest with their pets in the seating area on the south side of Lombard Street. Anywhere outside the Shambles, pets are welcome on leash!
- We recommend bringing a buddy to hold your pet while you shop in the market.
- Consult the Food Trust table about where we recommend you hang out with your pet during market hours.

### Questions?

For more information, please visit [thefoodtrustmarkets.org](https://thefoodtrustmarkets.org).

