

Vermont Specialty Food Association Membership Application

Regular Membership

is open to Vermont specialty food companies that manufacture or contract for the manufacture of specialty foods, and have their corporate offices located within the State of Vermont. Each member shall have one vote. Membership includes a featured page on vermontspecialtyfoods.org and many more benefits. As a member of the VSFA you become connected to a network of other Vermont food producers who share the vision of promoting Vermont's specialty foods. Membership is currently 200+ and growing.

Associate Membership

is open to any individual or company with interest related to the Vermont specialty food industry that is not a producer or manufacturer. Associate members will be subject to approval by the Board of Directors. Associate members have no voting privileges.

Membership Dues

are based on annual gross sales. VSFA membership dues also include associate membership in the Vermont Retail & Grocers Association (VRGA), a state wide trade association of 700 stores and over 200 suppliers in the industry. Dues are billed in January of every year.

Business Name:	Primary Contact Name:	
Email:	Phone:	Website:
Street Address:		
Town:	State:	Zip code/ County:
Mailing Address (leave blank if same as street):		
Brief description of business for VSFA website:		

What are the top four issues facing your business?

- | | |
|----|----|
| 1. | 3. |
| 2. | 4. |

How did you hear about VSFA? mail / email / social media / current member / events / staff person

How would you like to receive information from VSFA? mail / email / constant contact / phone call / listserv

<i>Select your membership dues based off your annual sales:</i>	\$260 for \$100,000 - \$500,000
\$140 for < \$25,000 (new business)	\$350 for > \$500,000
\$190 for \$25,000 - \$100,000	\$340 Associate Member

☐ **I will pay online via VSFA website**

☐ **I will pay over the phone**

☐ **I will mail a check**

Once your application is received by our staff and you receive your welcome packet, check your company listing at www.vermontspecialtyfoods.org to add/update additional information. Your welcome packet will provide username and password information to set up and maintain your member page and access to members only information on the VSFA website. **Be sure to review these throughout the year for any necessary updates.**

☐ **Email my Welcome Packet**

☐ **Mail my Welcome Packet**

Thank you for your interest in the Vermont Specialty Food Association (VSFA)!

We are pleased that you want to learn more about the nation's oldest and most highly regarded specialty food association. We're eager to learn more about you to see how we can support your business by helping you take full advantage of VSFA's comprehensive array of benefits, services and resources.

VSFA incorporates many of the small family owned and operated businesses that sustains the working landscape of Vermont that visitors seek. With more than 385 businesses, specialty food producers strive for excellence in providing their customers with high quality, innovative products made with a distinctive Vermont touch.

What does it mean to be a part of VSFA?

VSFA is your association, staff & members are here to help you in many ways and we are always evolving.

- Connect with fellow members using our Listserv, a group email discussion list. Your message will go out to all of membership. You can also view past postings for relevant information and choose how often you receive messages from fellow members. This should be used to post inquiries and interesting information your fellow members can benefit from or assist you with. *This should not be used to solicit members or as a sales tool.*
- Connect with fellow members & potential clients: via the listerv, at a networking events such as our new virtual bi-weekly Member Lounge, or through social media.
- As a member you can manage your own business page on vtspecialtyfoods.org. You can supply images, update your contact information, business description and submit events and/or recipes through our member only portal.
- Reach members & potential clients by advertising in the monthly *Food For Thought e-newsletter*, on our website or by sponsoring an event.
- Be a speaker or suggest to us a topic you would like to see offered at an event or as a webinar.
- Use the VSFA logo to show potential clients that you are part of a larger network that has been around for 30+ years and continues to grow and evolve. **Let us know what file format you need.**
- VSFA membership includes associate membership into the Vermont Retail & Grocers Association. Utilize your VRGA associate membership by networking with over 600+ retailers & service providers as well as by enrolling in one of many money saving programs listed on vtrga.org benefits & services pages.
- As a member you can add info@vermontspecialtyfoods.org to your press list! We review your news for inclusion on our website, in our monthly e-newsletter and also as potential social media content. **Let us support you in being visible, accessible, and ready to positively engage with the VSFA community.**

We have a very talented & engaged board who are a strong resource for members of the association

Calley Hastings of **FAT TOAD FARM** - Francie Caccavo of **OLIVIA'S CROUTONS**

Mark Elvidge of **VERMONT NUT FREE CHOCOLATES** - Jen Neary of **CABOT CREAMERY**

Rob Hausslein of **SUGAR BOB'S FINEST KIND** - Patrick Crawl of **WOODSTOCK FARMERS MARKET**

Mimi Buttenheim of **MAD RIVER DISTILLERS** - Cassandra LaRae-Perez of **GRAVEL & SHEA PC**

Bill Kuhnert of **VERMONT FAMILY FARMS** - Lauren Masseria of **VT AGENCY OF AGRICULTURE**