



Food Trucks

Do you know Fairfax County's rules for Food Trucks?

FOOD TRUCK: Any readily movable mobile food service establishment, to include any vehicle that is self-propelled, pushed or pulled to a specific location.

General Food Truck Regulations:

- ◆ Article 4 of the Zoning Ordinance regulates food trucks.
- ◆ Chapter 82-1-30 of the Fairfax County Code regulates the sale of food from vending trucks on Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) roadways, which is enforceable by the police. VDOT allows food trucks to operate along designated streets. Contact the Health Department to learn where street sales are allowed.

Permits required for opening a Food Truck Business:

- ◆ Business, Professional, and Occupational License (BPOL) from the Fairfax County, Department of Tax Administration (DTA) – only needed if the food truck is headquartered in Fairfax County with an annual revenue in excess of \$10,000. Contact DTA at 703-222-8234, TTY: 711.
- ◆ Food Establishment Permit from the Fairfax County Health Department. Contact the Health Department at 703-246-2444, TTY: 711.
- ◆ Food Truck Operation Permit from the Zoning Administration Division (ZAD) in the Department of Planning and Development (DPD), if the food truck will operate on private property. Contact ZAD at 703-324-1314, TTY: 711.
- ◆ Solicitors License from the Fairfax County Department of Cable and Consumer Services, Regulation and Licensing Branch, 703-324-5966, TTY: 711.

Permits to vend on an approved property:

- ◆ To vend in selected Fairfax County Parks, a Mobile Food Vendor Permit must be obtained from the Fairfax County Park Authority. Contact the Park Authority at 703-324-8702, TTY: 711.

Turn Over



- ◆ A Food Truck Location Permit must be obtained from DPD, in addition to the Food Truck Operation Permit.

Use Standards for Food Trucks:

- ◆ Food trucks must be in conformance with any proffered conditions, development plans, special permits, or special exception approvals. If there are no proffers or other approvals that preclude or further regulate food trucks, the following applies:
 - Food trucks are a permitted accessory use in industrial districts, commercial districts, and in the commercial areas of planned (P) districts, if there is a principal use consisting of a minimum area of 25,000 square feet.
 - Food trucks are a permitted accessory use on any construction site with an active building permit AND on-going construction activity.
 - On residentially zoned properties with nonresidential uses, such as community pools, food trucks are a permitted accessory use, up to 12 times per calendar year.
 - Food trucks may be associated with a use, like a farmers market, that is separately approved by administrative permit (DPD approval of food truck permits not required in this case).
 - Food trucks may operate for a maximum of four hours in any one day at any one location, including set-up and break-down.
 - A maximum of three food trucks are permitted at any one location at the same time, provided that additional food trucks may be permitted in conjunction with special events regulated by any proffered condition, special exception, special permit, or other administrative permit.
 - Food trucks must not be located in any fire lane, travel lane, entrance/exit or any required parking space.
 - Food trucks must be located on a level, paved, or gravel surface with safe pedestrian access. The vicinity around the food truck must be kept clean and free of debris. Trash receptacles must be provided.

Prohibition on Storage of Food Trucks

- ◆ Food trucks are prohibited from being stored in any residential (R) district or residential area of a P district and will constitute a violation of the Zoning Ordinance if they are found on these residential lots.



To report a possible violation OR for more information contact:

Fairfax County Department of Code Compliance
12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035

Phone: 703-324-1300, TTY 711

Web: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code



To request this information in an alternate format, call the Department of Code Compliance.

This Fairfax County, VA Publication (published July 2021) summarizes a few regulations. See relevant codes for specific requirements.